

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON COOPERATION IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING
BETWEEN
THE AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE
RELATIONS
AND
THE VIETNAMESE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, INVALIDS AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

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Considering the cooperation between Australia and Vietnam, and the desire for strengthening the comprehensive partnership and cooperation between the two countries, the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) of Australia and the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA) of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam hereinafter referred to as "the Parties" have reached the following understanding:

I. GENERAL OBJECTIVES

This Memorandum of Understanding provides the framework within which detailed proposals for programs of cooperation in vocational education and training are to be jointly considered between the Parties, on the basis of long and sustainable cooperation, reciprocity and mutual benefit.

II. FRAMEWORK

1. The Parties will endeavour to encourage and facilitate, as appropriate, the development of contacts and cooperation between government agencies, vocational education and training institutions, organisations and other entities of Australia and Vietnam, and the conclusion of arrangements between such bodies to carry out cooperative activities. In particular, Australia will facilitate the coordination of targeted activities of Australian vocational education and training institutions in Vietnam.
2. Cooperative activities under this Memorandum will be subject to the respective laws and regulations of Australia and Vietnam.
3. With respect to cooperative activities under this Memorandum, each Party will use its best efforts to facilitate prompt entry into and exit from its territory of education equipment and personnel of the other Party and also to provide access to relevant institutions, personnel, data and materials.

III. FIELDS OF COOPERATION

1. The Parties will encourage cooperation to establish partnerships, share best practice, build capacity, strengthen professional skills and improve outcomes in agreed fields of

cooperation.

2. Fields of cooperation identified as priority areas include the following:

- a) vocational education and training management (including systems and governance);
- b) teacher education (including initial preparation and upgrading and in-service trainings);
- c) quality assurance (including assessment of student progress, course standards, vocational training accreditation and performance reporting);
- d) transnational partnerships between Australia and Vietnam in vocational training;
- e) collaboration between industry and vocational institutions;
- f) vocational education and training for vulnerable groups (including minority population groups, poor people in rural areas, women, adolescents, and the disabled);
- g) development of national skill standards;
- h) English language training, development and delivery;
- i) cooperative research and development;
- j) distance education at all levels (including course materials, pedagogy and modes of delivery).

IV. FORMS OF COOPERATION

Cooperation under this Memorandum may include:

- a) exchange of information on
 - i. vocational education and training policies, systems and standards in each country, including vocational education and training accreditation, quality assessment and assurance systems;
 - ii. recognition of qualifications both for educational and employment purposes; development of national skill standards;
 - iii. study opportunities in each country for nationals of the other;
- b) exchange between vocational education and training institutions in the national vocational education and training system;
- c) exchange between policy and technical experts, education management staff and administrators, teaching staff and students in areas of mutual priority;

- d) exchange of teaching and curriculum materials and information; collaboration on curriculum development and policy developments;
- e) exchange of experience in human resource development including information on labour market and labour demand forecasting;
- f) development of collaborative training, joint research and development, technology transfer and joint ventures between appropriate authorities and institutions;
- g) development of appropriate bridging courses to facilitate entry by nationals of one country to institutions of the other at appropriate levels;
- h) interaction through meetings, conferences and symposia; and
- i) other forms of vocational education and training cooperation as may be mutually determined.

V. PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

Vocational education and training cooperation under this Memorandum includes cooperation and exchanges between government and non-government institutions mutually determined by both Parties.

VI. FUNDING

The costs of cooperative activities will be funded as mutually determined. All cooperative activities under this Memorandum will be subject to the availability of funds.

VII. IMPLEMENTATION

1. The Parties will make detailed arrangements for the implementation and development of specific programs through diplomatic channels, meetings, exchanges of letters or other instruments. Each Party will be responsible for coordinating the implementation of its side of such plans and programs.
2. The principal responsible Vietnamese ministry is MOLISA, which will be responsible for coordinating the implementation of programs on the Vietnamese side.
3. The principal responsible Australian ministry is DEEWR, which will be responsible for coordinating the implementation of programs on the Australian side.
4. The Parties will work together to implement this Memorandum through the General Department of Vocational Training, as part of MOLISA, and Australian Education International, representing DEEWR at the Australian Embassy in Hanoi and through exchanges and delegation visits to each country.

VIII. CONSULTATION

The Parties will consult together upon request of either Party regarding any matter relating to the terms of the Memorandum and will endeavour jointly, in a spirit of cooperation and mutual trust to resolve any difficulties or misunderstanding, which may arise.

IX. DURATION

1. This Memorandum will come into effect on signature and will remain in effect for five years from the date of signature.
2. This Memorandum may be modified or extended by mutual determination of the Parties and may be terminated by either Party by giving six months' written notice to the other Party.

SIGNED in duplicate in Hanoi this, 25th day of January, two thousand and eleven, in the English language and the Vietnamese language, both versions being equally valid.

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE
RELATIONS OF AUSTRALIA**



HE Mr Allister Cox
Australian Ambassador to Vietnam

**MINISTRY OF LABOUR, INVALIDS AND SOCIAL
AFFAIRS OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
VIETNAM**



Mr Nguyen Ngoc Phi
Vice Minister of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs

Witnessed by



Ms Sally Burnard
Counsellor (Education)
Australian Education International

Witnessed by



Dr Duong Duc Lan
Deputy Director General
General Department of Vocational Training