



Vietnam – Education & Research Partnership Opportunities

Vietnam Government priorities

- Improve the quality of higher education institutions in Vietnam, increasing the number of lecturers with a PhD and building research capability through Government scholarships.
- Strengthen collaboration in science under the treaty agreement with Australia ratified in 2014.
- Increase the number of twinning programs related to science and technology fields.
- National Qualifications Framework (NQF) finalisation and implementation.
- Develop the Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector to address critical skills needs, especially standards development and engagement with industry.
- Textbook and assessment reform for more enquiry based learning in schools.
- Increase the number of Vietnamese able to communicate in English, with a focus on testing and up-skilling teachers.

Emerging trends

- Population of 90 million people, 60 per cent are under 30 years of age; and a rising middle class.
- High demand for education and training services, including English language.
- In December 2014, over 30,000 Vietnamese enrolments in Australia, 16.2% growth, moving Vietnam up to third market position. Some pockets of visa integrity issues being addressed.
- Around 7,600 students studying an Australian qualification delivered by an Australian provider in Vietnam, predominantly RMIT. Reduced experience requirements for foreign teachers.
- Approximately 35 joint twinning programs with Australian providers. Increasing interest in joint PhDs and programs delivering STEM qualifications.
- High numbers of unemployed graduates, with up to 160,000 reported.
- New internal and external quality assessment requirements on Vietnamese universities.
- Increasing number of higher education programs delivered in English, including 35 advanced programs funded by the Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training (MOET).
- In 2015, 460 Australian students will travel to Vietnam under short-term mobility programs.
- A third of the workforce has no formal training and a lack of quality 'in-market' education to fill this gap. Employers are increasingly looking for a mix of higher quality cognitive, behavioural

and technical skills. Culturally VET qualifications hold low prestige. New VET law being finalised to give one Ministry lead responsibility.

- The British Council and increasingly the United States are active in student recruitment and English language training in Vietnam.

Opportunities for Australia

- Further strengthen institutional partnerships to expand and diversify twinning programs, support two-way student mobility, and explore innovative and blended delivery models.
- Build on alumni base to foster research collaboration.
- Supporting higher education reforms to improve teacher training and quality assurance, such as curriculum development, and training QA assessors.
- Provide expertise in VET system, standards development, train the trainer and VET delivery.
- Professional development short courses e.g. management and leadership.
- Greater share of market in English language teaching and testing.
- Possible emerging opportunities to deliver international school education in Vietnam.

Our key goals

- Maintain and grow Australia's place as a destination of choice for Vietnamese students.
- Mature institutional partnerships including research.
- Showcase Australian expertise and quality, and open up transnational education opportunities.
- Help build a quality and compatible Vietnamese tertiary education system.
- Good uptake of scholarship and mobility programs for greater two way mobility of students.
- Engage with Alumni to support education goals.

Key activities and events 2015–16

- Launch a guide for Australian universities and students profiling around 35 Vietnamese universities which deliver programs in English and are best placed to host Australian students; available from March 2015. Follow up mobility forum being planned in Hanoi later in 2015.
- Host a number of VET projects involving benchmarking, developing and validating industry occupational standards in targeted industry sectors, including Sydney workshop March 2015.
- Australia is providing practical and technical support to implement Vietnam's NQF.
- Vietnam is participating in an online learning forum in Kuala Lumpur in May 2015 and Australia may assist Vietnam develop tools for recognising blended learning programs.
- TEQSA is finalising an MOU on higher education quality assurance cooperation with Vietnam.
- Regional University Network visit to Vietnam 20–27 April 2015 with a focus on agricultural research partnerships, and related alumni event in Can Tho.
- Possible symposium on building research capacity in 2015.
- IDP Study in Australia exhibition Ha Noi, Ho Chi Minh City and Da Nang 14, 15 & 16 March.
- Australia Future Unlimited Education Roadshow Da Nang, Ha Noi, Ho Chi Minh City 5, 7 & 8 November.