

Annual Report 2024–25



The British Council in Viet Nam

Report to the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on activities between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025.

In accordance with Decision 4789/ QĐ-BGDĐT (dated 13 December 2019) and official note 7900 BGDĐT-HTQT (dated 12 December 2024) issued by the Ministry of Education and Training on the status and operation of the British Council in Viet Nam.

Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Foreword | 04 |
| About us | 05 |
| Summary | 06 |
| Performance and Achievements | |
| Arts and Creative Industries | 10 |
| Higher Education | 17 |
| Study UK and Alumni | 25 |
| International Science Partnership Fund (ISPF) | 28 |
| Youth Connect Programme | 33 |
| English and School Education | 35 |
| Teaching Centre | 40 |
| Examinations | 41 |
| Administrative Management | 46 |
| Fostering a safeguarding culture at the British Council in Viet Nam | 47 |
| Our staff | 48 |
| Annex | 49 |

Foreword

This report highlights the British Council's key activities and achievements in Viet Nam during the 2024–25 reporting year. Building on many years of strong partnerships and successful programmes, the British Council has continued to advance collaboration between the UK and Viet Nam across arts and culture, education, and English language teaching, learning and assessment, aligning with Viet Nam's development goals and helping to deepen mutual understanding and trust.

Viet Nam is a priority country for the British Council, reflecting our strong economic, educational, cultural and diplomatic connections. We leverage our significant audience reach, especially among young people, alongside our expertise in arts, education and English, to create platforms for dialogue, collaboration and innovation on shared priorities such as climate change, sustainable development and cultural heritage. By facilitating sustained people-to-people connections and institutional partnerships that bring together experts, artists and educators from both countries, we continue to lay the groundwork for a broader, strategic UK–Viet Nam relationship.

Indeed, our long-term commitment to mutuality and partnership with Viet Nam was underscored by the opening in February 2025 of the new British Council head office in the Lancaster Luminaire Building, Ha Noi. This state-of-the-art facility is designed to enhance the overall experience for our customers, candidates, students, stakeholders and staff. With upgraded facilities and a more convenient location, we are positioned to support ongoing collaboration and innovation in the future.

This report covers all three areas of Arts and Culture, Education, and English Language. Throughout the 2024–25 reporting year, our initiatives have supported the development of creative skills, employability, leadership, and research capacity among thousands of young people, while also enhancing the capabilities of institutions and organisations. Our work remains informed by up-to-date research and market insights ensuring relevance and impact for both Vietnamese and UK partners.

During the 2024–25 reporting year, the British Council has strengthened its engagement with key stakeholders, including government ministries and cultural institutions, to align our programmes with Viet Nam's development priorities. We have also continued to foster inclusive and sustainable growth by nurturing cross-sectoral networks and supporting emerging leaders.

Following the enormous success of the 2023 UK/Viet Nam Season, we have continued to engage with partners and audiences in the UK and Viet Nam throughout 2024–25, with 13 UK/Viet Nam Season Legacy Projects, notably at the Glasgow International Jazz Festival, the London Design Festival, and the Ha Noi Festival of Creativity and Design.

As we prepare for the renewal of our operational status later in 2025, we express our gratitude to the Government of Viet Nam, the Ministry of Education and Training, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, and all our partners for their ongoing support and collaboration. Looking to the future, the British Council remains dedicated to delivering high-quality programmes that deepen UK–Viet Nam relations and contribute meaningfully to Viet Nam's future development.

About us

About the British Council

The British Council is the UK's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. Our mission is to promote peace and prosperity by fostering connections, mutual understanding and trust between people in the UK and around the world. We achieve this through our work in arts and culture, education and the English language. Operating in over 200 countries and territories, we maintain a presence on the ground in more than 100 countries. In 2024–25, our programmes reached 599 million people globally.

About the British Council in Viet Nam

The British Council has a well-established and growing presence in Viet Nam, delivering a vibrant portfolio across the arts and creative industries, education (including higher education, vocational training and non-formal learning), and English language teaching, learning and assessment. We also deliver a wide range of exams services for UK academic and professional qualifications tailored to the Vietnamese context and helping young people achieve their educational and professional ambitions.

In 2024–25, we employed a total of 431 staff operating from nine offices and teaching centres in Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City, including three UK-appointed staff, 250 local staff and 178 foreign staff (mainly teaching staff). Over the years, we have cultivated extensive networks and partnerships linking UK and Vietnamese individuals, organisations and institutions across all sectors of our work. We remain committed to strengthening and expanding these connections to support deeper collaboration and shared growth between the two countries.



Summary

Arts and Creative Industries

350,000

audiences were reached face to face

1,500

UK and Vietnamese artists, creative professionals, and art and cultural organisations were engaged

50

organisations and institutions received grant support

Higher Education

3,375

UK and Vietnamese higher education leaders, academics, researchers, students were reached face to face

17

active partnership grants across two nations in the UK and seven cities and provinces in Viet Nam were engaged

1,100

QA leaders, managers and practitioners engaged in quality assurance and accreditation activities

Study UK and Alumni

12

scholarships granted to Vietnamese students

269

agents and counsellors attended the agent briefings and trainings

900+

students and alumni in Viet Nam engaged in Study UK related online and face to face activities

International Science Partnerships Fund (ISPF)

£1.4m

financial contribution

29

UK and Viet Nam universities and organisations participated

20

government officials from Viet Nam ministries and relevant departments joined UK Study Tour

English and School Education

4,300

teachers engaged in online CoPs

994

teachers in seven provinces participated in CPD activities (TAGs model)

600

practitioners and policy makers participated in thought leadership events

Youth Connect programme

880

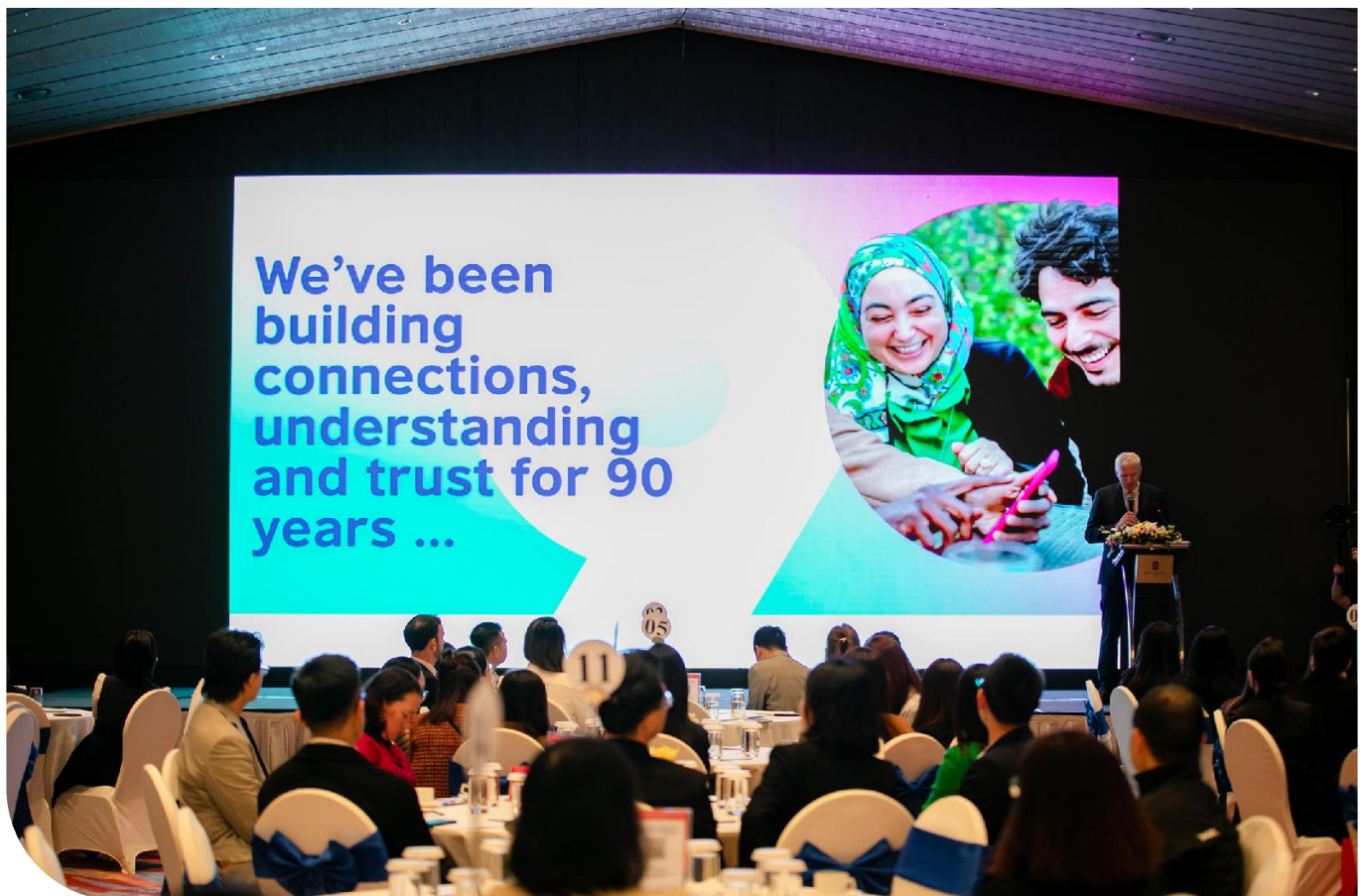
Mekong Delta youth trained on climate skills

8

social action projects

30

national and international dialogues and trainings



Performance and Achievements

Arts and Creative Industries

Aim

- To strengthen connections between the UK and Vietnamese arts and cultural sectors – involving artists, creative professionals, heritage practitioners, arts and cultural policy decision makers – through collaborations and partnerships in the arts, creative industries and heritage work.
- To engage Vietnamese and UK artists, creative professionals, and organisations in mutually beneficial collaborations, creating opportunities for greater partnership. This will lead to more inclusive communities, sustainable heritage and a more developed creative economy.
- To provide the audience with opportunities to participate and enjoy UK–Viet Nam collaborative arts and cultural activities and events, thus having more positive attitude towards UK arts and culture.

Partners

- Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism
- Viet Nam National Institute for Culture and Arts Studies and Tourism (VICAST)
- Centre for Cultural Heritage
- European Cultural Institutions (EUNIC)
- City governments in Ha Noi, Hue, Hoi An, Da Nang, Da Lat, and Ho Chi Minh City
- Arts, cultural and creative organisations and institutions across Viet Nam



Symposium and Showcase Programme Living Heritage and Sustainable Development, Heritage of Future Past Project.



Ha Noi Nghệ Văn exhibition, supported by Culture Connects Small Grants



Audience at Our Place in Space public event, a collaboration by Ha Noi–based Think Playgrounds and Nerve Centre from Northern Ireland, supported by the UK/Viet Nam Season

Achievements

- We provided opportunities for 350,000 people in Viet Nam to participate and enjoy art and cultural activities face-to-face, from visual art exhibitions to music festivals, theatre and dance performances, film screenings, and creative talks and workshops.
- We connected and facilitated exchange and collaboration for over 1,500 artists and creatives, and 50 art and cultural organisations in the UK and Viet Nam, leading to long-term partnerships in cultural exchange, the creative economy and heritage safeguarding.
- We supported government and cultural industry leaders from Ha Noi, Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City in our Momentum Delegation Programme, facilitating connection and exchange with governments, festivals, and creative organisations in Edinburgh.
- We presented the Scottish band The Big Day at the Hozo International Music Festival to an audience of 20,000, before touring to Da Lat, Da Nang, and Ha Noi.



Circus theatre performance and training from The Rest of Our Life in Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City.



Scottish band The Big Day headlines at Hozo International Music Festival, Ho Chi Minh City

350,000

**audiences were reached
face to face**

1,500

**UK and Vietnamese artists,
creative professionals, and art
and cultural organisations were
engaged**

50

**organisations and institutions
received grant support**

“

The STEAM and Ecology event at Phuc Tan Forest Park has the potential to create a significant and long-lasting impact on the community. The event has sparked a greater awareness of environmental issues among participants, particularly local residents, and empowered them to take action through hands-on activities like tree planting, and eco trail exploring. This increased environmental consciousness can inspire participants to adopt more sustainable practices in their daily lives, such as reducing waste, conserving water, and choosing eco-friendly products. Beyond environmental impact, the event has fostered a stronger sense of community and collaboration among diverse groups of people.”



Chu Kim Duc, Founder of Think Playgrounds, Viet Nam on a STEAM project supported by the Culture Connects Small Grant

“

Through the British Council Legacy support, UK audiences were introduced to Quoc Trung's brilliant music and were given a cultural context to Viet Nam, introducing not only Ha Noi but the beautiful Highlands and the ethnic Hmong singers. We hope The Field of Heritage not only increased people's curiosity about Viet Nam but also gave a greater understanding and appreciation of its cultural heritage.”



Cathie Boyd, Artistic Director of Cryptic/Sonica, UK on collaboration with Vietnamese music composer Quoc Trung supported by the UK/Viet Nam Season Legacy Grants

“

The Cities in Sync project has had a significant impact in strengthening the partnership between Sensoria and Ha Noi Rock City, while also establishing valuable connections between the music communities of Ha Noi and Sheffield. Through the visit of Ho Tram Anh and Ross Orton, we facilitated a cross-cultural exchange that highlighted the shared challenges and opportunities faced by artists and music communities in both cities, despite being separated by thousands of miles.”



Duc Anh (DA), Founder of Ha Noi Rock City, Viet Nam on collaboration with Sheffield-based Sensoria, supported by the UK/Viet Nam Season Collaboration Grants

“

The long-lasting impact of the Land, Water, Heaven: Cross Encounters, Joining Threads project lies in its ability to foster cross-cultural collaboration and dialogue among artists from diverse regions, enriching their individual practices and creating a shared knowledge base that extends beyond the exhibition. By focusing on sustainable, local tree-derived materials like wax, resins, and dyes, the project emphasises the importance of environmentally conscious design, which will continue to shape future work within these creative communities. Looking ahead, there is strong potential for the project to continue. We envision adapting the theme to a local context in Viet Nam while maintaining WAX Atelier’s approach of showcasing artworks in outdoor and urban spaces.”



Lola Lely, Founder of Wax Atelier, UK on collaboration with Ha Noi-based sustainable fashion brand Kilomet109 supported by the UK/Viet Nam Season Collaboration Grants

The extended UK/Viet Nam Season project series

Achievements

- Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United Kingdom and Viet Nam, and the 30th anniversary of the British Council's presence in Viet Nam.
- Honouring successful cooperation, promoting opportunities for connection and fostering new creative partnerships.
- Laying the groundwork for future partnerships between the UK and Viet Nam to contribute to the common progress of both nations.
- Sharing the UK's experience in cultural and artistic solutions to address creative social issues and sustainable environmental challenges in Viet Nam.
- Introducing contemporary Vietnamese art to a wide audience in the UK, offering a new perspective on a modern, dynamic Viet Nam that values its cultural heritage.

For more information about the program, please visit: <https://www.britishcouncil.vn/en/programmes/uk-vietnam-season-2023>



UK/Viet Nam Season Opening ceremony – June 2023



UK/Viet Nam Season Closing ceremony – April 2024

Art for Social Development

- Think Playground, in collaboration with Nerve Centre from Northern Ireland, implemented a STEAM (Science – Technology – Education – Arts – Mathematics) programme for children. The programme includes many interactive activities for over 500 participants, contributing to raising awareness and interest in sustainable environmental issues.
- Life Art, in collaboration with PAN Intercultural from London, conducted a series of forum theatre training sessions, equipping young people with skills and methods to discuss and address social issues such as school violence and gender equality for diverse groups, ranging from teachers to university students, psychological counsellors, etc.
- Matca, in collaboration with IC Visual Lab, launched a photography training programme to help young visual artists access new methods of thinking and photography skills. The programme contributes to nurturing a new generation of photographers with advanced approaches to and practices in photography.



Contemporary Vietnamese Art in the UK

- The performance exchange programme of the indigenous jazz group *Đàn Đố* and saxophonist *Quyen Thien Dac*, along with Scottish jazz artists, took place in three cities in Scotland, including on the opening night of the Glasgow Jazz Festival, bringing contemporary Vietnamese music to British audiences.
- Artist and musician *Quoc Trung* performed for the first time at the Sonica Music and Sound Festival in Glasgow.
- The *Star Nhà Ease* film screening programme introduced five classic Vietnamese black-and-white films in the United Kingdom with 42 screening and discussion events in London (Rich Mix, Garden Cinema, Curzon Dothouse, Museum of the Home), Birmingham (MAC), Liverpool (FACT, Pagoda Arts Centre), and other cities in England and Northern Ireland.
- Hackney Archives, in collaboration with *Luru Chũr*, completed research on the Vietnamese cultural archiving practices in London, connecting with the Vietnamese community living in the United Kingdom.
- Wax Atelier, in collaboration with Kilomet109, held an exhibition and introduce new designs from traditional handicraft products and methods of Vietnamese ethnic minorities at the London Design Festival.
- Ha Noi Rock City, in collaboration with Sensoria Festival, brought young Vietnamese experimental music artists to participate in workshops and perform at the Sensoria Festival in Sheffield, United Kingdom.



Higher Education

Aim

Provide ongoing support to Viet Nam's Education Strategy 2030 toward 2045 under the framework of the Memorandum of Collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Training, and the International Education Strategy of the UK. This is delivered through the Going Global Partnerships programme that enables knowledge sharing and UK–Viet Nam sustainable higher education partnerships in the following key priority areas in Viet Nam:

- enhancing quality assurance and accreditation for higher education for international integration
- supporting transnational education (TNE) development through research for better data and insight; dialogues to facilitate discussion on strengthening TNE and partnership development; and the TNE consortium to build capacity, enhance TNE quality and enable new TNE partnerships
- supporting digital transformation in higher education
- addressing the underrepresentation women in higher education leadership, and development of gender-based curriculum for pre-service teachers (trainee teachers)
- empowering women in research, and research development for early career researchers and potential PhD candidates.

Partners

- Ministry of Education and Training: International Cooperation Department, Higher Education Department, Viet Nam Quality Assurance Agency, Information and Technology Department.
- UK and Vietnamese universities and businesses.
- UK governmental departments and professional bodies: Department for Business and Trade, Quality Assurance Agency (QAA), Jisc (UK digital, data and technology agency).



Training on quality assurance and accreditation



Gap analysis at a Viet Nam higher education institution



Roundtable on Innovating TNE: Building stronger UK–Viet Nam partnerships for the future

Results

- The British Council, in partnership with the Viet Nam Education Quality Management Agency and technically supported by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA), developed a workplan to enhance quality assurance and accreditation for higher education in Viet Nam for international integration. Since 2023 this workplan has contributed to:
 - o a better understanding of quality assurance (QA) and accreditation in Viet Nam and the UK, as well as areas in which Viet Nam can move towards UK/EU practices
 - o enhanced capacity for over 1,100 QA leaders, managers and practitioners in QA, accreditation over a series of 17 dialogues and workshops, and developing institutional QA guidelines, following UK/EU practices
 - o improved institutional capacity for two universities in internal quality assurance as a preparation to move towards achieving UK accreditation
 - o development of a glossary of QA terminologies to enhance clarity and understanding of these terms following UK/EU practices, and to support their consistent application in Viet Nam.
- A TNE portal developed in collaboration with Higher Education Department that features all TNE programmes in Viet Nam for students and parents and acts as a platform for TNE partnership development between Vietnamese universities and foreign counterparts.

3,375

UK and Vietnamese higher education leaders, academics, researchers, students were reached face to face

17

active partnership grants across two nations in the UK and seven cities and provinces in Viet Nam were engaged

1,100

QA leaders, managers and practitioners engaged in quality assurance and accreditation activities



Results

- A research report on Viet Nam: towards a new international education hub in Southeast Asia – lessons and evidence, produced in partnership with the International Cooperation Department, analysed Viet Nam's readiness to be the next international study destination in Southeast Asia, and recommended opportunities for partnership development.
- A roundtable on Innovating TNE: Building Stronger UK–Viet Nam Partnerships for the Future, as part of the Ministry of Education and Training's (MOET) Viet Nam Education Partnership and Investment Conference 2024, and co-delivered with MOET and the British Embassy, explored opportunities for the UK education sector to contribute to Viet Nam's ambitions of becoming a key education hub in Southeast Asia. The session reaffirmed the strong commitment between the UK and Viet Nam to enhance their TNE partnerships. It emphasised the need for innovative models that are flexible, sustainable and aligned with local contexts.
- A UK Transnational Education (TNE) development programme, implemented by a consortium of four Vietnamese universities HCMC University of Economics and Finance (UEF); HCMC University of Technology (HUTECH); Viet Nam–Korea University of Information and Communication Technology (The University of Da Nang); and Phenikaa University, aimed to foster a robust community of practice. This initiative sought to benefit UK TNE providers by enhancing the capabilities of TNE providers in Viet Nam and promoting the quality and partnerships within the UK–Viet Nam TNE landscape. The programme achieved several key results:
 - o The Empower UK TNE project's video campaign garnered 919,000 views across five videos.
 - o Four public events for students were held to promote TNE and increase community awareness of UK TNE, attracting nearly 1,000 students.
 - o Four capacity-building workshops were conducted for TNE institutions and educators, involving ten UK institutions. These workshops engaged over 400 TNE staff members from 75 TNE institutions across Viet Nam.
 - o The project conducted a survey involving nearly 400 high school students, 150 students currently enrolled in UK TNE programmes, 200 educators and lecturers, and 20 large corporations with over 200 employees.
- Three UK–Viet Nam partnership projects supporting digital transformation in Vietnamese universities concluded their three years with a legacy of over 300+ digital transformation initiatives at a national scale; a Teacher Educator's Digital Hub (TEDH) with teaching and learning materials for teacher educators, and a Digital Maturity Self-Assessment Tool for Vietnamese universities were adapted for the Viet Nam context from the Jisc model (Jisc is the UK digital, data and technology agency focused on tertiary education, research and innovation).
- Three partnership projects supporting the development of gender-based curricula for pre-service teachers in Viet Nam as part of the support for the implementation of MOET's Action Plan 49 For the Progress of Women also completed in 2025. Highlights include: assessment and analysis of the current teacher-training programme; training materials on gender-related issues and gender equality for students and lecturers from pedagogical universities; supporting new and existing teachers with the development of the knowledge, skills and confidence to engage students on gender issues; enhancing educators' capacity to foster inclusive, quality education; recommendations on the implementation of mainstreaming curricula on gender and gender equality at all levels of education, but especially for pedagogical university students.
- Nearly 80 Vietnamese early career researchers (PhD holders in the first five years of their career) from Vietnamese universities, 64 per cent of whom are female, have been mentored and coached through the Mentorship and Talent Development programme by a professional network of the Vietnamese Intellectuals Society (VIS) in the UK. The immediate result from the mentorship is the success in establishing partnerships and securing funding of five collaborative projects between UK and Viet Nam.

“

... quality assurance and accreditation is one of the key factors that higher education institutions need to implement to ensure transparency, and to show their commitment to high education quality to society and the government... This is one of the activities falling under the MOC between the British Council and the Ministry of Education and Training for the 2022–24 workplan. Phase one of the workplan received positive initial results... I expect that in the near future, the British Council, together with the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) and Education Quality Management Agency (VQA), will expand its activities to the benefit of many others. This partnership provides essential input to help the Quality Management Department adjust policies, including the set of quality standards for higher education institutions and training programmes for universities, master's, and doctoral levels. And that is what we expect to do in the near future.”

Professor Huynh Van Chuong, Director General of Viet Nam Education Quality Management Agency, Ministry of Education and Training

“

Ha Noi University of Science and Technology has been carrying out big projects, finalising our development strategy during 2017–25, and starting a new strategy for 2025–35 with a vision for 2045. Therefore, this project has strongly helped enhance our internal quality assurance, building a culture of quality towards international standards, which contributes to our positioning in the international stand. We expect that the Gap analysis will help identify the road map to enhance quality that suits the current context and future development plan as well as moves towards QAA accreditation.”

Associate Professor Huynh Quyet Thang, President, Ha Noi University of Science and Technology



“

This workplan has helped us better understand the UK approach to accreditation as well as the UK/ ESG standards in quality assurance. The Gap analysis helps us review our internal quality assurance, identifying the gaps and areas for improvement, and giving us valuable experience to conduct a pilot accreditation following UK/EGS standards. Recommendations from multi-dimensional perspectives of the QAA Reviewer will surely help our university improve in many areas and be ready for the official accreditation.”

Dr Phan Hong Hai,
President, Industrial
University HCMC

“

In recent times, international organisations have provided significant support in policy consultation and advice to the Ministry of Education and Training, as well as sharing expertise, technical assistance, and technology support. Specifically, regarding the British Council, we acknowledge their tremendous contribution to the Ministry of Education and Training in particular, and to educational institutions in general.”

Associate Professor
Nguyen Thu Thuy,
Director General,
International
Cooperation
Department (former
Director General, Higher
Education Department),
Ministry of Education
and Training



Case study: Enhancing quality assurance and accreditation for higher education in Viet Nam for international integration

The British Council and the Viet Nam Quality Management Agency (VQA), Ministry of Education and Training in Viet Nam developed the workplan on Enhancing Quality Assurance (QA) and Accreditation in Viet Nam Higher Education for International Integration in February 2023.

The workplan aims to support and contribute to the implementation of Decision 78/QĐ-TTg on enhancing QA and accreditation in higher education in Viet Nam for the period 2022–30.

The workplan receives technical support from the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) and Vietnamese quality assurance experts, yielding the following results:

- a benchmarking report on quality assurance and accreditation in Viet Nam and the UK, and recommendations to support the enhancement of quality assurance and accreditation in Viet Nam towards the UK/EU practices
- a series of 17 dialogues and workshops to enhance capacity in quality assurance and accreditation following UK/EU practices to over 1,100 participants
- capacity development for Vietnamese quality assurance experts in developing institutional quality assurance guidelines following UK/EU practices
- reviewing the programme quality assurance guidelines developed by VQA and Vietnamese QA experts
- a scoping visit to Ha Noi University of Science and Technology (HUST) and Industrial University Ho Chi Minh City (IUH) as part of the QAA official accreditation review, which resulted in a report with recommendations to enhance the universities' internal quality assurance systems. Both universities have taken action and are now qualified to proceed to the next steps of the QAA official accreditation in 2025
- development of a glossary of QA terminology to enhance clarity and understanding of these terms following

UK/EU practices and to support their consistent application in Viet Nam.

The workplan continues its third year in 2025, with a focus on supporting:

- the official Quality Review for HUST and IUH by QAA
- the development of the institutional quality assurance guidelines in collaboration with VQA and QAA
- capacity development for Vietnamese QA leaders, managers and practitioners in applying the institutional quality assurance guidelines effectively
- evaluation of the three-year workplan and disseminating the result to the higher education sector.

Vice Minister Hoang Minh Son, in his closing remarks in one of the project events with over 400 participants, expressed his high appreciation for our commitment and support of the workplan, and re-emphasised the priorities for quality assurance and accreditation in the coming period: focusing on capacity building for inspectors and academic staff; ensuring consistency in quality assurance and accreditation; creating opportunities for capacity development through practice; and delivering the drafts for circulars and guidelines for education quality assurance and accreditation in 2024.

Case study: Transnational education (TNE) development for capacity development and integration

The British Council supports UK TNE through working with governments and regulators overseas to understand their priorities, and with the UK sector to see how we can help them achieve common goals. In collaboration with relevant authorities, we have worked to remove barriers to TNE and to promote new opportunities. We have now brought these activities together into a single strategy to provide increased focus and accountability to our work in this area.

In Viet Nam, we support TNE development through a series of initiatives in 2024–25, which include a research report to evidence the potential for collaboration and investment, a forum to discuss the innovation of TNE to build stronger partnerships for the future, a TNE portal to feature all one needs to know about TNE in Viet Nam, and a TNE Development strategy for the TNE community in Viet Nam, all in close collaboration and partnerships with MOET and Vietnamese universities.

- The research report *Viet Nam: towards a new international education hub in Southeast Asia – lessons and evidence* analyses Viet Nam's readiness to be the next international study destination in Southeast Asia. It reviews the current landscape of student mobility and academic exchange between Vietnamese universities and their international partners, including national strategies, policies and statistics at both governmental and institutional level.

The report also includes a comparative study of education hubs in the Vietnamese context, including a review of different models of education hubs globally, aimed at identifying opportunities and challenges in attracting foreign investment from education institutions and organisations. Finally, it offers policy recommendations on setting up Viet Nam as the next study destination in Southeast Asia, drawing on the findings of former reviews.

- The TNE portal provides a platform to feature all information about TNE in Viet Nam with tools for students and parents to search for TNE courses of their

choice, and for local and foreign universities to look for partners. The TNE portal also allows updated statistics and regulations on TNE in Viet Nam.

- The roundtable on Innovating TNE explored opportunities for the UK education sector to contribute to Viet Nam's ambitions of becoming a key education hub in Southeast Asia. The session reaffirmed the strong commitment between the UK and Viet Nam to enhance their TNE partnerships. It emphasised the need for innovative models that are flexible, sustainable and aligned with local contexts.
- The TNE Development initiative advocates for the establishment of a strong community of practice to support UK TNE providers. It aims to strengthen the capacity of TNE providers in Viet Nam and promote the quality of UK–Viet Nam TNE partnerships.

Associate Professor Dr Nguyen Phu Khanh, Vice President of Phenikaa University noted at the closing event of TNE Development initiative that the UK leads in transnational education programmes in Viet Nam, offering globally recognised degrees at affordable costs. He highlighted that, through the initiative, Phenikaa University has improved faculty capacity, modernised teaching methods and strengthened partnerships with international businesses and universities. Dr Ly Thien Trang, Vice President of HUTECH, added that the training workshops helped enhance leadership, management and teaching strategies while incorporating AI applications and sustainable development into education (en.nhandan.vn).

Case study: UK–Viet Nam partnership projects have closed with a remarkable legacy in digital transformation in higher education

Three projects launched in 2022 to support digital transformation in Vietnamese universities concluded in 2025. These initiatives focused on developing digital literacy and skills, facilitating change management and establishing a digital transformation hub. Key achievements include:

- the Digi:Đổi project, which spearheaded over 300 national-scale digital transformation initiatives. Examples include: shifting from traditional lecture-based teaching to technology-enhanced, experiential, and flipped learning approaches; integrating artificial intelligence as a supplementary resource in classrooms; and collaboratively developing a shared research workload management system
- the TEDH (Teacher Educator's Digital Hub) project, which established a digital hub offering teaching and learning resources for teacher educators. The project also conducted workshops and training sessions to support the adoption and sustainability of the hub's resources
- the SOARing to Successful Digital Transformation in Vietnamese Universities project developed and refined a Digital Maturity Self-Assessment Tool, adapted from the Jisc model (the UK's digital, data and technology agency for tertiary education, research and innovation) to fit with the Vietnamese context. This tool was piloted across project partner universities, incorporating feedback from students and faculty. Its implementation reportedly had a positive impact on the digital strategies of participating Vietnamese universities.

Associate Professor Dr Diep Thanh Tung, Tra Vinh University shared: 'One of the key aspects that our university highly appreciates about the project is its contribution to clarifying the core components required for effective digital transformation. Firstly, it supports the development of a digital culture within the institution, aligned with our mission and core values. Secondly, it fosters the enhancement of digital skills and competencies across all relevant stakeholders. With the tools provided by the project, Tra Vinh University will carry out periodic assessments of our digital transformation capacity in accordance with each stage of our development. This will be accompanied by necessary adjustments to ensure our implementation approaches remain appropriate and effective in achieving the university's digital transformation objectives.'



Study UK and Alumni

Aim

- Provide Vietnamese students and their parents with the best access to reliable information about the UK education system.
- Raise standards and practice in the UK education consultation service by building knowledge, capacity and professionalism for education counsellors at overseas study agencies, schools and universities.
- Establish, develop and maintain long-term relationships with UK alumni on a nationwide basis to support their lifelong engagement to address aspirations and challenges faced in both the UK and Viet Nam by providing professional development and networking opportunities.

Partners

- The British Embassy in Viet Nam; UK Visa and Immigration (UKVI)
- Schools, colleges and universities in the UK
- The network of more than 100 overseas study agents in Viet Nam
- Agents Support Group
- UK Alumni Association in Viet Nam (UKAV)
- The Vietnamese Student Association in the UK (SVUK)



A briefing session for agents about Agent Quality Framework (AQF) and UK visa policy



Agent Annual Meeting 2024



Agents Support Group in the meeting with UKVI to share customers' feedback of their experiences when applying for UK student visa



Results

- 435 Vietnamese students participated in Study UK promotional events (both online and face to face).
- 12 scholarships granted to Vietnamese students in 2024 (five Women in STEM scholarships and seven GREAT scholarships).
- 269 counsellors from overseas study agents and international schools attended training/briefing events to build knowledge, capacity and professionalism in providing quality counselling services for students.
- 477+ alumni attended the Alumni Gathering Events and Career Talks in Ha Noi, Ho Chi Minh City and Da Nang
- 64,008 video views for the two alumni podcasts Digital Regionalism and From UK to Viet Nam: Threads of Heritage
- 374,125 video views and online engagements for the GREAT and Women in STEM scholarship programmes.

12
scholarships granted to
Vietnamese students

269
agents and counsellors
attended the agent briefings
and trainings

900+
students and alumni in Viet
Nam engaged in Study UK
related online and face to face
activities



Case study: Agents Support Group

The Agents Support Group is made up of agents who are nominated to the British Council by their peers. It represents all agents in meetings with the British Council and UK Visa and Immigration (UKVI), providing a platform to exchange updates on UK education promotion and visa-related matters, share market insights from agents and identify and address key challenges that student recruitment to the UK.

Through this initiative, the British Council have improved UKVI's ability to support agents through an open and prompt communication channel. The Agent Support Group initiative, which originated in Viet Nam, has been identified by UKVI and the British Council global team as a model of best practice in working with agents and has now been rolled out to three other countries (China, India and Pakistan).

'I really like the Agents Support Group approach and agree that this could serve as a useful template for other regions – both as a means of managing issues and sharing intelligence, and as a route to quality improvement.' Catriona McCarthy, Global Head, Student Mobility and Internationalisation of UK Education, British Council.

Case study: East Asia Alumni Symposium in Hong Kong February 2025

The Alumni UK Symposium 2025 is an exclusive conference allowing all UK alumni in East Asia to come together and exchange insights on culture, economic, development and organisational issues that impact our world today.

Under the theme *Shaping your Future*, the Alumni UK Symposium 2025 in Hong Kong explored the unique opportunities and challenges that exist in East Asia and how UK alumni can leverage their diverse backgrounds, experiences and expertise to make a meaningful impact.

British Council in Viet Nam brought a group of ten UK alumni to the 2025 conference. Two Vietnamese alumni were selected as speakers to participate in the panel discussions *Amplifying Impact: Leveraging Alumni Networks for Personal and Institutional Advancement*, and *Unleashing Entrepreneurial Potential: Navigating Opportunities and Overcoming Challenges*.

International Science Partnership Fund (ISPF) in Viet Nam

Aim

The [International Science Partnerships Fund \(ISPF\)](#) is designed to enable potential and foster prosperity. It puts research and innovation at the heart of our international relationships, supporting UK researchers and innovators to work with peers around the world on the major themes of our time: planet, health, tech and talent. The fund is managed by the UK Department for Science, Innovation and Technology and is delivered by a consortium of the UK's leading research and innovation bodies including the British Council.

In Viet Nam, the ISPF aims to support institutional partnerships, strengthen research capacity, empower international research and providing fellowships for Vietnamese researchers.

Partners

- Viet Nam Institute of Science, Technology and Innovation (VISTI)
- Ministry of Science and Technology
- UK universities and research organisations
- Vietnamese universities and research organisations



Results

The overall results and impact of this programme in Viet Nam includes creating research partnership and capacity in key priority areas that are described as:

- A Resilient Planet: extreme weather and climate, clean energy, agri-tech and environmental resilience
- Transformative Technologies: artificial intelligence, quantum, engineering biology, semi-conductors and future telecommunications
- Healthy People, Animals and Plants: biosecurity and pathogen detection, global health and pandemics, genomics and digital health, antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and social determinants of health
- Tomorrow's Talent: research capacity, research systems and the research pipeline.

In 2024–25

- Ten UK–Viet Nam partnerships awarded under the Research Collaboration Grant.
- Five UK–Viet Nam projects supporting capacity strengthening and knowledge exchange in interdisciplinary research, creating opportunities for researchers and institutions to engage with communities and policymakers and translate research into societal benefits.
- Three fellowships on flood resilience, sustainable transport and crop resilience were supported.

- A ten-day study tour to the UK was organised on the Research Excellence Framework for 20 government officials from the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Education and Training, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Justice, the Office of the Government and the Departments of Science and Technology of Cao Bang, Quang Ngai and Lam Dong.

£1.4m

financial contribution

29

UK and Viet Nam universities and organisations participated

20

government officials from Viet Nam ministries and relevant departments joined UK Study Tour



Case study: Study Tour in the UK for Vietnamese HR workers in Science, Technology and Innovation

This initiative is under the framework of the state-budget Project for Domestic and Abroad Training of Science and Technology Personnel (Project 2395), implemented by the standing agency of Project 2395 – the Viet Nam Institute of Science, Technology and Innovation (VISTI) – and co-funded by the International Science Partnerships Fund (SPF). Implemented by the British Council in Viet Nam, it aims to strengthen research and innovation capabilities and foster stronger partnerships between the two countries.

From 7 to 18 December 2024, 20 Vietnamese government leaders and officials from the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Education and Training, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Justice, the Office of the Government, and the Departments of Science and Technology of Cao Bang, Quang Ngai, and Lam Dong joined an intensive 10-day study tour in the UK. Hosted by the University of Portsmouth and the Vietnamese Intellectual Society in the UK and Ireland (VIS), the study tour focused on international approaches to evaluating the effectiveness of science, technology and innovation (STI) activities, with particular reference to the UK's Research Excellence Framework (UK REF).

Customised to suite the training needs and requirements of Viet Nam, the study tour combined theoretical topics, practical sessions, discussions and field visits to laboratories at the University of Portsmouth, University College London and Middlesex University. The UK scientists provided an overview of research quality assessment, the challenges and advantages of organising evaluations, and developing practical exercises to help the delegates better understand the theory and develop peer review analysis skills. The delegation also met with Vietnamese scientists based in the UK to discuss the insights obtained from the study tour, the applicability of UK evaluation experiences, and methods to promote the implementation of the state-budget Project 2395 in the UK.

On behalf of the delegation, Associate Professor Dr Tran Van Nghia, Deputy Director of VISTI said: 'Although the UK and Viet Nam implement different evaluation models, with the knowledge gained during our time in the UK, we will review the evaluation criteria for scientific and technological organisations to supplement the criteria for assessing research outcomes, aiming for a more accurate evaluation of the effectiveness of these organisations. Additionally, the UK's impact assessment regulations can be studied to propose regulations for developing project proposals and organising evaluation councils.'

Following the study tour, a working session was held in March 2025 to evaluate the outcomes of the training programme. The session brought together over 30 representatives from the Ministry of Science and Technology and relevant departments.

In his opening remarks, Associate Professor Dr Vu Van Tich, Director of VISTI, underscored the significance of Viet Nam Government Resolution No. 57 and highlighted the pivotal role of science, technology and innovation in driving socio-economic development. He also reaffirmed VISTI's commitment to partnering with the British Council to strengthen the leadership and management capacity within Viet Nam's science and technology sector.

In feedback, 100 per cent of the participants from various Vietnamese institutions who took part in the study tour agreed that the programme met or exceeded their expectations, recognising its substantial value in enhancing their managerial competencies. The positive feedback from these institutions led to their expressed commitment to continuing staff development through further participation in 2025.

The session also paved the way for new cooperation opportunities between the Ministry of Science and Technology and the British Council to strengthen research and innovation capabilities and foster stronger partnerships between the two countries.



Youth Connect programme

Aims

Through our initiatives, we aim to support young people in Viet Nam aged 18–35 years old to contribute to trust-building, cohesion and stability in their societies, and to represent their communities on a local, regional and national stage. By connecting young people, we support them to build connections and networks. These connections enable them to work across cultural differences so as to act positively on the big global challenges that affect their lives and communities. Our programme provides training to develop the skills and networks young people need in order to:

- improve their confidence
- participate in positive social and economic development
- act on local and global issues.

Youth Connect includes a wide range of projects and programmes delivered on behalf of international donor organisations. In Viet Nam, we work in partnership with the Dragon Mekong Institute, Can Tho University to develop and deliver two projects entitled Youth Community Resilience to Climate Change in Vietnamese Mekong Delta (Y-CoRe) and Climate Skills Viet Nam – Seeds for Green Transition at Mekong Delta.

Partners

- DRAGON-Mekong Institute, Can Tho University
- Dong Thap University
- Tra Vinh University
- Can Tho University
- Kien Giang University
- Kien Giang Youth Activities Centre, Kien Giang Youth Union
- Kien Giang Vocational School
- Mekong Delta Centre for Women and Development
- Soc Trang Youth Union
- Viet Nam Television
- Vietnamese consultants
- UK consultants



Results

- Established a network of 880 Mekong Delta youth from Mekong Delta provinces such as Kien Giang, Soc Trang, Can Tho, Bac Lieu, Dong Thap, Tra Vinh who are concerned and willing to act for the sustainability of the region under complex climate change impacts.
- Youth participants are equipped with 21st century core skills and climate literacy towards self-creating resilient capacity to adapt to global changes on climate change and gender inequalities.
- Implemented eight social action projects in innovative approaches to empowering university students and local youth to actively engage with local communities in addressing climate-related issues, fostering collaboration and empowerment among stakeholders.
- Two universities successfully applied the Climate Skills toolkit in pilot teaching.
- One UK–Viet Nam partnership established an academic exchange to the UK with the participation of three youth leaders.
- Three youth representatives attended 90 Youth Voices for the Future in the UK – British Council Global Youth Connect Programme to bridge cultures, spark dialogues and drive positive change.
- 12 mentors supported the implementation of youth social action projects over a three-month period.
- Four policy-based youth dialogues on skills for a sustainable future and the role of young people in climate action were organised to connect relevant stakeholders in the Mekong Region.

880

Mekong Delta youth trained on climate skills

8

social action projects

30

national and international dialogues and trainings

- A series of ten episodes in Preparation for Life – a feature segment and talk show on Skills for Youth for a Sustainable Future – were produced by the News Department of Viet Nam Television, which provides young people with study and career orientation and inspires them to think about and take action to support personal and community development. Watch the full series [here](#).

Read an e-book summarising the achievements of the Y-CoRe project [here](#).



“

Youth is the future – the future of families, society and the nation. Typically, when we talk about sustainability, we often refer to the future. However, we will not have a future if we do not act now. Therefore, the message I want to convey is that to have a sustainable future, we must act from today. Through the Y-CoRe programme and the Institute's youth programmes in general, young people have demonstrated creativity, initiative, and enthusiasm in turning their ideas and aspirations into concrete actions. This is something we greatly appreciate and value. Many products from young people who have grown through the Institute's programmes and the Y-CoRe network have been implemented and applied in practice across the Mekong Delta, such as in Can Tho, Soc Trang, Bac Lieu, etc., receiving positive feedback from residents and youth.”

Associate Professor Dr
Van Pham Dang Tri,
Director, DRAGON-
Mekong Institute, Can
Tho University.

“

Turning proactivity into the key to unlocking opportunities for skill development: teamwork, leadership, public speaking, time and plan management, communication, and working in a multicultural environment. With these preparations, I embarked on the path to conquer international opportunities and attended many conferences both domestically and internationally”

Nguyen Duc Trung,
Y-CoRe youth member

“

In each role when joining the Y-CoRe project, from member to project leader to media advisor for other projects, I learned how to listen, understand and build relationships. For me, every journey needs a starting point. And the stop at Y-CoRe gave me the starting point, equipped me with the opportunities, connections and tools to act for the community.”

Lam Thi Diem Thuy,
Y-CoRe youth member

“

From being a member of a networking programme, I've taken the role of developing projects for youth, organising and coordinating activities, and then working directly with individual young people and youth groups as an advisor and expert.”

Phan Ky Trung, MSc,
Youth Programme
Manager, DRAGON-
Mekong Institute, Can
Tho University

English and School Education Programmes

Aims

- We support sustainable improvement to the quality of basic education in schools for all, in relation to English and core skills, by collaborating with Viet Nam's Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) to strengthen:
 - policymaking and implementation
 - teacher professional development (in-service and pre-service)
 - school leadership
 - curriculum, assessment and resource development.
- We provide professional development opportunities, resources, peer support and networking for a community of English language teaching professionals and practitioners through our global and regional [TeachingEnglish](#) online platforms.

Partners

- Ministry of Education and Training (MOET)
- National Foreign Languages Project (NFLP)
- Provincial Departments of Education and Training (DOETs)
- VietTESOL Association
- UK and Viet Nam Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)
- UK ELT and EdTech sector



Lectures and teachers share solutions to make English a second language in schools



More than 80 delegates, representing the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET), and international education/ELT organisations, participated in a half-day consultation meeting on the draft strategy of making English as a second language in the school system.



Dr Adam Edmett, British Council's Global Head of EdTech Innovation delivered a keynote about our research of English Language Education in the Age of Artificial Intelligence at VIC 2024

Results

We provided ongoing support to Viet Nam's English language education renovation agenda, led by the National Foreign Languages Project (NFLP), under the 2023–25 Memorandum of Collaboration (MOC) framework with the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET). Under the MOC framework, our work focuses on four core activity areas: policy engagement; research and insight; capacity building; and technical assistance.

Policy engagement

- **Supporting Viet Nam's English as a Second Language agenda**

Since November 2024, British Council in Viet Nam, in partnership with ACER UK, NFLP, and VNIES has been conducting a comprehensive study to support evidence-informed policy recommendations for English Language Teaching (ELT) in Viet Nam's basic education system beyond 2025. As part of the consultancy project the British Council has been supporting our MOET partners, NFLP and VNIES, to organise two pivotal policy engagement events that have brought together approximately 270 key stakeholders to discuss the future of English language teaching, learning and assessment in Viet Nam in early 2025 ([see case study 1 below](#)).

Research and Insight

- **VietTESOL International Convention 2024 (VIC 24)**

The VietTESOL International Convention 2024 English Language Education in the Age of Artificial Intelligence was held at UEH from 26–28 July with over 600 participants. Dr Adam Edmett, British Council's Global Head of EdTech Innovation, delivered a keynote on our research into AI's impact on English language teaching, learning and assessment to approximately 170 attendees as part of the British Council Signature Series. (See further information at: [AI takes centre stage at VietTESOL International Convention 2024](#)).

- **British Council-Funded Research on Teaching Linguistic Minority Students in Rural Viet Nam, English Language Teaching Research Awards (ELTRAs) 2023–24**

This project focused on addressing challenges of teaching linguistic minority students in rural Viet Nam. The project evaluated the effectiveness of Teacher Activity Groups (TAGs) as a professional development approach and provided training and capacity building for ELT teachers on multilingualism, the role of language in education and TAG facilitation skills. The research project involved two DOETs in Lang Son and Son La Provinces, 15 ELT teachers, 30 subject teachers and five teacher educators.

4,300
teachers engaged in online CoPs

994
teachers in seven provinces
participated in CPD activities
(TAGs model)

600
practitioners and policy makers
participated in thought
leadership events

Results

Capacity building and CPD

- **Teacher Activity Groups (TAGs) programme**

The programme focused on creating an enabling environment to scale up TAGs models, which have been piloted since 2022, for systemic and long-term impact. The programme was implemented through three project partnerships between Vietnamese and UK higher education institutions, targeting teachers and teacher educators in seven provinces including Yen Bai, Tuyen Quang, Thai Nguyen, Quang Ninh, Nghe An, Thua Thien Hue and An Giang.

- **PRELIM 3**

PRELIM 3 is a global professional development project for English teachers, sponsored by the British Council and organised with IATEFL, English UK and VietTESOL in Viet Nam. In July 2024, VietTESOL and its UK partner Nottingham Trent University introduced new teaching resources called The Magical World at events in Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City. The events were attended by 74 teachers and aimed at enhancing English language teaching for primary and secondary levels. Free materials are available on the VietTESOL website to support English teachers nationwide: [Partnered Remote Learning Improvement \(PRELIM\) Viet Nam 3](#).

- **UK/Viet Nam Season 2023 ELT scholars**

In the UK/Viet Nam Season project, implemented by British Council in Viet Nam to celebrate 50 years of diplomatic relations between UK and Viet Nam and 30 years of the British Council's presence in Viet Nam, nine ELT scholars from schools and universities across Viet Nam were selected to participate in a two-year online TESOL master's programme with Ulster University.

As part of their professional development journey, they had a two-week study placement visit to Northern Ireland in June 2024. Further information about this project can be found at: [English teaching scholars all set for Ulster](#).

- **ASEAN TeachingEnglish Online Conference 2024**

The online conference was held from 10 to 30 October 2024. Designed to support primary and secondary English language educators across ASEAN, this flagship event featured 19 interactive sessions, each crafted to elevate teaching practices and deepen educators' insights into learner needs. Viet Nam had 2,254 registrations from teachers and teacher educators to different online sessions. Further information: [ASEAN TeachingEnglish Online Conference 2024](#).

- **TeachingEnglish Enabling Fund (TEEF)**

This project delivered high-quality massive open online courses (known as MOOCs) tailored to the Vietnamese educational context through local Communities of Practice (CoPs). The CoPs helped teachers enrol in the courses, maintain their motivation to complete the courses, and ensure learning was then applied in their classrooms ([see case study 2 below](#)).

Case study: Supporting Viet Nam's English as a Second Language agenda

In the context of educational transformation in Viet Nam, since November 2024, the British Council in Viet Nam has been conducting a study to support evidence-informed policy recommendations for English Language Teaching (ELT) development in Viet Nam's basic education system beyond 2025.

The study combines local expertise and global best practices to provide consultation to the Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) on sustainable strategies, focusing on English as a Medium of Education, teacher quality and student attainment, and emphasising equity and inclusion. As part of the consultancy project the British Council has been supporting our MoET partners, NFLP and VNIES, in organising a series of pivotal events that have brought together key stakeholders to discuss the future of English language teaching, learning and assessment in Viet Nam in early 2025.

Key activities of the project:

- Commissioned ACER UK consultants to work with a local team of Vietnamese ELT experts and support staff to conduct the research.
- Collaborated with VNIES to organise a two-day policy dialogue on the development of ELT Master Plan 2025–35, bringing together 270 delegates including representatives from MoET, DOETs, universities, teachers and the ELT community.
- Included knowledge sharing of international British Council case studies on bilingual education and teacher professional development frameworks from Spain, Taiwan and Armenia.

Learn more about the project at: [Policy dialogue informs the development of an ELT Master Plan to 2030.](#)



Case study: TeachingEnglish Enabling Fund

This 11-month project was implemented by three organisations and institutions: VietTESOL Association, Ha Noi Pedagogical University 2 and Can Tho University, working in collaboration with seven DOETs in Hai Duong, Bac Giang, Vinh Phuc, Can Tho, Ben Tre, Dong Thap and Hau Giang.

Key activities included:

- establishing an online Community of Practice (CoP) for teachers, managed by the three partner organisations, with monthly engagement activities
- developing and running a series of online activities aligned with TeachingEnglish MOOCs throughout the year, including:
 - online webinars and discussions to generate interest and drive enrolment, as well as synchronous/asynchronous sessions to boost participation, reduce dropout and support learning
 - discussions to help teachers plan applying knowledge in classrooms
 - showcasing webinars: teachers showcased and shared how they apply MOOC knowledge in their classroom practice.
- conducting monthly synchronous collaborative exchanges via digital/ social media platforms (Facebook, Zalo, etc.) to support teacher engagement in webinars and discussions.

Key Achievements:

Continuing professional development for English teachers: 2,712 teachers participated in British Council MOOCs and professional development activities, with high course completion rates.

Engaging Communities of Practice: more than 40 CoPs were established across platforms such as Zalo and Facebook with over 4,300 active teacher members.

Capacity Building and Leadership: 35 facilitators and key teachers conducted professional development sessions via CoP platforms.

Learn more about each of the three projects at: [TeachingEnglish for all](#).

“

The TeachingEnglish localisation project in Viet Nam, a collaboration between VietTESOL and the British Council, is a groundbreaking initiative that has empowered over 1,500 English teachers with high-quality, accessible professional development. Beyond enhancing teaching practices, this project has fostered a dynamic community of educators committed to continuous learning and collaboration. More importantly, it has laid a strong foundation for the development of sustainable communities of practice. I am confident that this initiative will have a lasting impact on English language education in Viet Nam, driving innovation and excellence in teaching for years to come.”

Professor Nguyen Hoa, President of VietTESOL Association

Teaching Centre

Aims

- Service the growing demand for effective English language learning from children and adults, especially in Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City and to support the Vietnamese government's vision for English language development.
- Enable learners enrolled on our courses to develop their English language skills, life skills, soft skills and familiarity with international cultures and make meaningful progress towards their life goals.
- Represent a benchmark for best practice in English language teaching in Viet Nam and help raise teaching quality across the sector.

Partners

- Ministry of Education and Training (MOET)
- Ministry of Defence (UK)
- Ministry of National Defence (Viet Nam)
- British Council global English teaching network
- Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City Departments of Education and Training
- Chi Lang High School (Pleiku)
- Sao Viet Inter-levels School (Pleiku)

Highlights

- Successful operation in both Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City with full compliance with the authorities' directives and regulations on centre operations, staff and teacher employment and teaching curricula.
- All teachers have the required qualifications and experience to deliver British Council's global standard programme and are following effective on-going professional development programmes.
- Regular and timely submission of reports to DOET, DOLISA and other local authorities as required.
- Implementation of British Council's Safeguarding, Health and Safety policies and procedure to ensure mental and physical safety for students and customers.
- Improving students' learning progress through various activities inside and outside class. For example, our Connecting Culture programme allows students in Viet Nam to connect virtually with students in other countries to exchange knowledge and learn from other cultures.
- Continuing to explore how the British Council can provide English language learning to more learners, through investment in our expanded physical presence as well as our online offers.
- Maintaining a consistent operating environment and high-quality standards across the global network through annual reviews, peer observations and self-assessments (TCPR).
- Gaining increased trust and confidence among our customers and clients and consistently achieving high ratings over the years.



Examinations

Aims

The British Council promotes the UK as a country that provides high-quality testing services, serving the needs of policymakers and educators for English language testing and assessment.

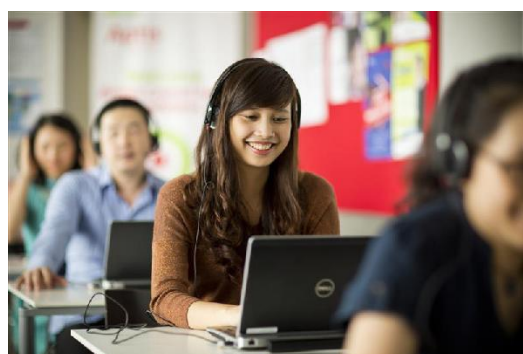
We facilitate access to prestigious qualifications and certificates in order to help people achieve their aspirations and potential in work and study.

Partners

- National Foreign Language Project, Ministry of Education and Training
- Public, private and international schools
- Universities, language schools and educational institutions



IELTS - The world's most popular English language test



Aptis ESOL - Computer-based English proficiency test, developed by the British Council and controlled by the UK Agency for Quality Accreditation and Examination Regulation (Ofqual).



British Council partner schools – a network with more than 2,300 schools that deliver UK international exams



Viet Nam Foreign Language Testing Conference (VLAS) – part of the New Directions International Conference on Foreign Language Testing

Results

- 713 educators, lecturers and teachers participated in examination conferences and seminars on teaching methods.
- Nearly 12,000 students and workers attended seminars and orientation sessions on how to study effectively and prepare for exams.
- Many Continuing Professional Development (CPD) workshops on teaching methods to improve the English proficiency of students and teachers have been organised.
- CPD workshops helped partners improve teaching capacity and standardise approaches based on adjustments suitable to the needs and operational context of partners.

700+
educators, lecturers and
teachers participating in
examination conferences

12,000
pupils, students and working
adults attending activities and
events



More information about our programmes

Teacher training support: assessment and examinations

The British Council has organised more than 20 professional training sessions to enhance the quality of IELTS teaching for over 700 English teachers from language centres across various provinces and cities.

The IELTS training sessions focused on key skills such as Writing and Speaking, and were directly led by experienced IELTS experts from the British Council.

The training programme aimed to equip teachers with comprehensive knowledge of the IELTS test format, assessment criteria and effective student guidance methods. Upon completion of the training sessions, participating teachers received a certificate of attendance from the British Council.



Aptis ESOL

With the aim to contribute to the improvement of Aptis ESOL test preparation in Viet Nam, the British Council has been organising teacher training workshops in Viet Nam for several years. It is one of our key activities that we offer to educators, academic leaders, and teachers to provide them with insights into how Aptis ESOL is marked and the practical skills for teaching Aptis ESOL to help the students reach their full potential in the exam.



Sharing new frontiers in language assessment and testing with our partners

Over 200 IELTS partners from across Viet Nam came together at the IELTS Partner Gathering 2024, held in Ho Chi Minh City and Ha Noi.

With the title *We Connect. We Inspire.* the event offered fresh perspectives on the application of artificial intelligence in IELTS teaching. It was also a valuable opportunity for partners and the British Council to connect, exchange insights and share practical experiences.



Viet Nam – the regional winner of the Your World competition 2024–25

The 10th edition of the global video-making competition Your World, organised by the British Council, recently concluded with a successful Award Ceremony held in Ha Noi. Beating 24 teams from across the East Asia region, Cau Giay Secondary School (Ha Noi, Viet Nam) was proudly announced as the East Asia Regional Winner with their project about applying artificial intelligence to improve English tutoring for children at a local SOS village. This achievement reflects the meaningful purpose of the competition in empowering young people to become future leaders who make positive contributions to their communities.

In this year's competition, 642 projects were submitted by 3,210 students from 34 countries. The theme of this edition, Skills for Sustainability – Equipping All Youth for the Future, aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4.

Apart from Cau Giay Secondary School, other partner schools from Viet Nam took part: Chu Van An High School, Ha Noi Amsterdam High School, Chu Van An Secondary School, Ban Mai, Ta Quang Buu, KGS and NISAI.

Open to students aged 14 to 17 years studying in British Council Partner Schools, Your World is a wonderful opportunity for students to use their creativity, problem-solving and digital skills to compete globally while also providing a window into their own lives, communities and experiences.



Marcus Winsley, Deputy Head of Mission, British Embassy, James Shipton, Director of the British Council in Viet Nam and Samantha Lea Smith, Director Exams, Viet Nam, congratulated Cau Giay Secondary School as the regional winner of the Your World competition 2024–25.



Administrative Management

Fostering a safeguarding culture at the British Council in Viet Nam

In 2024, safeguarding remained a cornerstone of our operations at the British Council in Viet Nam. This reflected our commitment to creating a safe, inclusive and respectful environment for all children and adults who we have the opportunity to work with.

Over the past year, we have strengthened our safeguarding foundation by engaging leadership, enhancing staff capabilities, and mainstreaming safeguarding standards across our operational sectors. In Viet Nam, safeguarding responsibilities are clearly established and shared, with nine dedicated Focal Points and a Safeguarding National Working Group (SNWG) in place. With support from the SNWG, Viet Nam effectively rolled out the 2024–25 Safeguarding Action Plan, a critical document guiding our strategic direction throughout the year.

In August 2024, a country visit by East Asia's Regional Safeguarding Manager to Viet Nam was successfully coordinated, with ten site visits to teaching centres and test venues in Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City, as well as a dedicated safeguarding session facilitated for all staff. This visit was a milestone that reinforced our leadership accountability and promoted the best practices in Viet Nam's safeguarding implementation.

As a UK-based organisation operating globally, the British Council must adhere to both local legislation and regulatory obligations under UK and international law. These include requirements set out by the UK Charity Commission, which since 2014 has mandated the reporting of safeguarding incidents. Our processes and procedures in Viet Nam are therefore built to both meet local standards and align with such international obligations. One of our crucial developments in 2024 was enhancing our internal reporting systems, leading to a notable 34% increase in the number of concerns raised and addressed in country. Thanks to the growing awareness, trust and confidence in our reporting mechanisms amongst staff, partners and customers, Viet Nam has been emerging as one of the most active countries in safeguarding within the British Council network.

Throughout the year, we invested in staff capacity building through regular induction and refresher training sessions, all of which tailored to the needs of staff in different roles and sectors. In parallel, we also assisted partners, contractors and service providers to ensure their compliance with our organisational safeguarding expectations.

Safeguarding in digital spheres was another key focus of the British Council in Viet Nam, given our expanding online presentation and engagement. So far, we have taken necessary steps to assess and address emerging risks associated with digital delivery and the use of AI technology in our classrooms, exam services and cultural engagement programmes. We worked together to guarantee that appropriate e-safety measures were well established to protect our users, especially young learners, in virtual environments.

In 2024, our dedication to safeguarding was evident in our policies, practices and in the safeguarding culture we have cultivated across all business areas, beyond compliance. Through collective efforts, in 2025–26, the British Council in Viet Nam strives to uphold the highest safeguarding standards at our workplace and ensure the well-being of everyone we serve and connect with.

Our staff

As of March 2025, the British Council employed a total of 431 staff at its main Ha Noi office and its branch in Ho Chi Minh City, including three UK-appointed staff, 250 local staff and 178 foreign staff (mainly teaching staff). Throughout its presence and across its operations in Viet Nam, the British Council maintains a strong and consistent commitment to full compliance with the local regulations regarding the selection, appointment and management of its staff. For all foreign staff who are recruited or appointed to work in Viet Nam, their applications for visa and work permits are compliant with local regulations on foreign employees. All statutory contributions to social funds (social insurance, medical insurance and unemployment insurance) for local and foreign staff are made in line with current laws. The British Council also ensures that the tax liabilities of staff are correctly and promptly calculated, withheld and paid to the State budget.

3

UK-appointed staff

250

local staff

178

foreign staff

Annex

List of our partners

Ministries and Agencies

Ministry of Education and Training

Ministry of Science and Technology

Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism

Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), National Centre for Technological Progress (NACENTECH)

Viet Nam Cinema Department

National Foreign Languages Project

Bac Giang Department of Education and Training

Can Tho Department of Education and Training

Department of Science and Technology, Tra Vinh Province

Nam Dinh Department of Education and Training

Ninh Thuan Department of Culture and Sports

Vinh Phuc Department of Education and Training

Department of Transportation in Can Tho city

Viet Nam National Assembly Committee for Culture and Education

Office of the Ministry of Public Security

Research Institutions

Viet Nam Institute of Science, Technology and Innovation

The Research Laboratories of Saigon High Tech Park, Ho Chi Minh City

Viet Nam Rural Industries Research and Development Institute (VIRI)

Viet Nam Institute of Geosciences and Mineral Resources

Viet Nam Academy of Social Sciences

Viet Nam National Institute for Culture and Arts Studies and Tourism (VICAST)

Viet Nam Film Institute

Chăm Cultural Research Centre

The Viet Nam National Institute of Education Sciences

Universities and Educational Organisations

VIET NAM

British University Viet Nam

Can Tho University

Dong Thap University

Ha Noi Financial and Banking University

Ha Noi University of Architecture

Ha Noi University of Mining and Geology

Ha Noi University of Science and Technology

Ha Noi University of Civil Engineering

HCMC University of Technology (HUTECH)

Hue University

Industrial University, Ho Chi Minh City

International University, Viet Nam National University, Ho Chi Minh City

Kien Giang University

Kien Giang Vocational School

Research Institute for Climate Change, Can Tho University

Nguyen Tat Thanh University

Nuclear Training Centre

Phenikaa University

Phu Xuan University

Tra Vinh University

University of Economics, Ho Chi Minh City

University of Education, Viet Nam National University, Ha Noi

University of Education, Hue University

University of Languages and International Studies, Viet Nam National University, Ha Noi

University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Viet Nam National University, Ha Noi

University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Ho Chi Minh City

University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Viet Nam National University, Ha Noi

University of Technology, Viet Nam National University, Ho Chi Minh City

Viet Nam–Korea University of Information and Communication Technology, University of Da Nang

Viet Nam National University, Ha Noi

Vin University

Vinh University

National Economics University

Hung Vuong University

HCMC University of Banking

Eastern International University

UK

Aberystwyth University

University of Aberdeen

Aston University

Birmingham City University

University of Cardiff Metropolitan

Coventry University

University of Manchester Metropolitan

Middlesex University

Queen's University, Belfast

University of York

University of Birmingham

University of Bournemouth

University of Cambridge

University of Cardiff

University of East Anglia

University of Leeds

University of Newcastle

University of Northampton

University of Portsmouth

University of Salford

London South Bank University

University of South Wales

University of Southampton

Swansea University

Open University

Caledonian Glasgow University

Goldsmiths, University of London

University of Brighton

University of Chichester

Enterprises

Viettel

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC)

An Phuc International Engineering and Construction Company Limited.

BIDV South Central Insurance Company (BIC)

GTO Media Corporation (GTO)

HCMC Bookstreet Company

Ho Chi Minh City General Publishing House

Hoang Gia Real Estate Tourist Joint Stock Company (HGR)

IFI SOLUTION Co., Ltd, Viet Nam

International Professional Development Association (IPDA)

Korea Viet Nam Incubator Park (KVIP)

Me Trang Coffee Joint Stock Company (MTC)

Microfabrication Laboratory at Hoa Lac High-Tech Park (MPH)

MT Nha Trang Joint Stock Company (MTL)

Nanotech Green Technology Development Joint Stock Company

National Hospital for Tropical Diseases (NHTD), Viet Nam

Nha Trang Vaccines and Biological Products Joint Stock Company (BIOPHARCO)

NTP 24/7 Co. Ltd. (NTP)

Southern Consulting and Services Co. Ltd. (SCS)

Van Phong Investment and Development Joint Stock Corporation (VPC)

Forbes Viet Nam

BK Holdings

Cultural and Creatives Organisations

VIET NAM

VICAS Art Studio

Green Grape Company Limited (Ha Noi Grapevine)

Heritage Space

Da Nang Business Incubator DNES

Sàn Art Hub

Autumn Meeting

EdLab Asia Social Enterprise

Think Playgrounds Social Enterprise

The Centre for Assistance and Development of Movie Talents

Dom Dom The Hub for Experimental Music & Arts

The Fly on Dust Trade and Communications Co. Ltd. (Len Ngan)

Thanh Viet Production Ltd. (Monsoon Music Festival)

Luu Chu

Nha San Collective

Ha Noi Rock City

Viet Nam National Space Centre

Matca

Kilomet109

Life Art Social Enterprise

Pho Ben Doi

Hozo International Music Festival

Saigon Theatreland

Nha Nam Publishing and Communications JSC

Other Organisations

VIET NAM

Association of Vietnamese Universities and Colleges

Women's Association in Sa Dec City, Dong Thap Province

Centre for Women and Development, Mekong Delta

National Studio for Documentary Scientific Film (DSF)

Tay Nguyen Centre for Rural Development

Young Businesspeople Association of Ho Chi Minh City (YBA HCM)

Vietnet Information Technology and Communication Centre

UK Alumni Association in Viet Nam

Pacific Links Foundation

Viet Nam Television (VTV)

Soc Trang Provincial Youth Union

Kien Giang Youth Centre, Kien Giang Provincial Youth Union.

INTERNATIONAL

British Embassy in Viet Nam – UK Visa and Immigration (UKVI); Department for Business and Trade

British Chamber of Commerce Viet Nam

UK digital, data and technology agency (Jisc)

Quality Assurance Agency

Vietnamese Intellectual Society in the UK and Ireland

International Organization for Migration

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

British Geological Survey

The UK–EA Social Innovation Linkages for Knowledge Exchange Network (SILKEN)

International House Belfast

International House London

Goethe Institute

Institut français Ha Noi

Living Culture Development, UK

Mereka Connect, Malaysia

Unboxed: Creativity in the UK

Pop Up Project CIC

The Sensoria Festival Ltd

Hackney Archive

AC Projects

Cryptic (SONICA festival)

Nerve Centre

Astrophysics Research Centre at Queen's University Belfast

National Museums North Ireland

IC Visual Lab

Wax Atelier

Live Cinema UK

PAN Intercultural

D-Fuse

Music Ally

