



Vietnam – UK Education Forum

**Connecting Opportunities for Sustainable
Education Partnerships**

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RADICAL AND COMPREHENSIVE RENOVATION OF VIETNAMESE HIGHER EDUCATION

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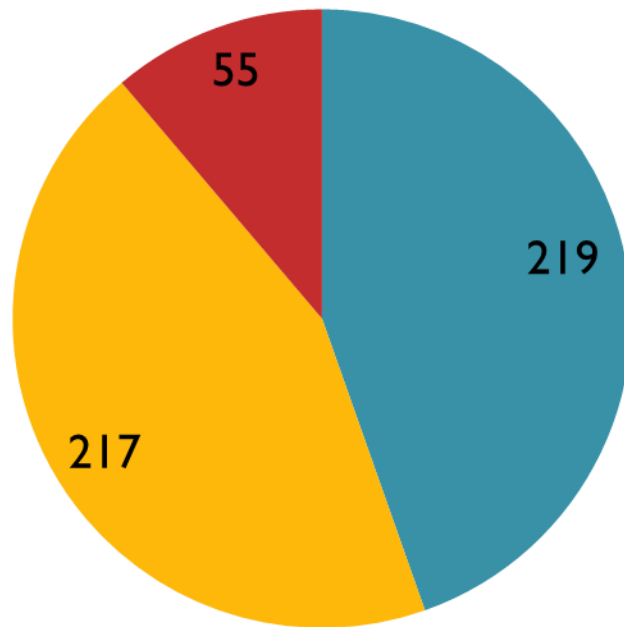
Legal framework for HE Reform

- Resolution 14 issued by the Government for HE reform in 2005 for period 2006-2020.
- Higher Education Law passed by National Assembly in 2012
- Decree 73 on foreign investment and cooperation in education issued by the Government in 2012
- Resolution 29 on radical and comprehensive renovation of education issued by the Central Party Committee in 2013.
- University Charter issued by the Prime Minister in 2014
- Resolution on university financial autonomy issued by the Government in 2014.

New points

- **Learner-centred**, focusing on creative competence of learners
- **Autonomy** is considered university basic characteristics; subsidy-dependence mindset has to be cleared up; Universities are given autonomy in all activities: training, research, international cooperation, organisation and personnel, finance.
- **Socialisation of education**, encouraging foreign and domestic investors to set up not-for-profit HEIs.
- **Promote international cooperation**, developing TNE programmes, advanced, high quality programmes, establishing universities of excellence.

Achievements: Network of 49 I HEIs



■ Universities

■ Colleges

■ Doctoral training
research institutes

Private HEIs (20%): 60
universities & 8 colleges

Achievements: Students & Faculty Staff

- **Students:** 2,363,942, of which 313,620 studying in private HEIs (13,26%);
- **Faculty staff:** 91,183 of which 10,999 hold PhD degrees.
- Quality assurance has been cultured in HEIs. Legal grounds for quality assurance issued. Establishment of 3 independent accrediting agencies. Some HEIs use international agencies such as ABET, AUN-QA. 43 programmes international accredited.

Achievements: International Cooperation

- **Establishment of universities of excellence:**
 - 1) Vietnam-Germany University (VGU);
 - 2) Hanoi University of Science and Technology (USTH - Vietnam-France University);
 - 3) Vietnam-Japan University;
 - 4) VN-UK Institute (future Vietnam-UK University)

Achievements: **International Cooperation**

- **Establishment of 100% foreign capital universities:**
 - 1) Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT);
 - 2) British University Vietnam;
 - 3) Tokyo Medical University Project;
 - 4) Fulbright University Project.
- **432 TNE programmes** of which 55 TNE with 23 British partners.

Achievements: International Cooperation

- 35 advanced programmes with 23 foreign universities, 17 high quality undergraduate engineering programmes in 4 Vietnamese universities
- Vietnamese Government funded scholarships: 650 sent to the UK since 2000 (10%). For period 2015-2020 over 1.000 scholarships per year. 107 scholarships (80 PhD and 27 masters) to study in the UK.
- Vietnam has signed agreements of recognition of qualifications with 10 countries

Challenges for HE Reform

- Stratification of HE system is not yet clearly defined.
- Research in HEIs is not yet made compulsory.
- Lack of experienced university governance though Higher Education Law has given very high autonomy to HEIs. Subsidy-influenced mindset still lingers.
- Strong social mentality for university degrees; students' tendency to choose business related disciplines, resulting in imbalanced human resource structure.
- Investment per student head is low as compared with other countries. Average investment of 350 USD/year/student is too low to assure quality.

Measures for HE Reform

- **Development of national qualification framework** in compliance with ASEAN qualification framework reference. Development of minimum competence for each level of training.
- **University governance:** exercising university autonomy in accordance with the Higher Education Law; increase number of universities for financial autonomy.
- **Training:** setting outcome standards subject to national qualification framework; accreditation of all training programmes; maintain reasonable training scale.

Measures for HE Reform


- **Research:** Further investment for research; research objective innovation; increase research-training linkage; encourage collaborative research with foreign partners; attracting foreign and overseas Vietnamese researchers.
- **International cooperation:** develop and expand international cooperation; recognition of credits and credit transfers, dual and double degrees; increase student mobility, sandwich TNE programmes.
- **Clear stratification of HE system;** determination of HEIs meeting national standards

Proposals for cooperation with UK

- **Cooperation with British HEIs is always given priority because:**
 - British HE reputation
 - Easy employment for graduates with British qualifications
 - Over 90% of Vietnamese students choose English as their foreign language, easy for to study in the UK.
- **Proposals to UK Government and UK universities**
 - Best conditions for visa, tuition fee policy ... for Vietnamese students; increasing TNE programmes, opening branch campuses in Vietnam.
 - Continuing current projects and programmes: national qualification framework, VN-UK Institute to become soon Vietnam-UK University
 - Development of staff and student mobility programmes.

Proposals for cooperation with UK

- **Proposals to UK Government and UK universities**
 - Development of recognition of credit and qualifications among Vietnamese and British universities; encouraging development of sandwich TNE programmes.
 - Development of collaborative research of Vietnam's prioritised fields; establishment and development of scientific magazines for joint publications.
 - Cooperation in skill development training in prioritised areas such as health care, tourism, etc.
 - Training of English teachers; collaboration in development of English testing centres, sending English teacher volunteers to teach English in Vietnam.



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