

# Building a strong UK- ASEAN Research Hub for the sustainable development of a nation and region



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# What is the UK-ASEAN Research Hub?

- ▶ Initiative supported by £600k from the British Council East Asia with Aston and Danang Universities
- ▶ It aims to support the growth and development of the new Vietnam State International Research Led University VN-UK University.
- ▶ The partner VNUK is based at the University of Danang
- ▶ It aims to nurture and develop ASEAN-UK research partnerships.



# Understanding how our differences can become strengths

- ▶ Research focus and capacity
  - ▶ Impact
  - ▶ Postdoctoral fellows and PhD students
  
- ▶ Management structures and processes
  - ▶ Innovation and creativity provided by empowerment within a framework of processes

Strong and shared vision based on common values



# UK-ASEAN Research Hub activities

- ▶ It has focused on three disciplines
  - ▶ Finance and Accounting
  - ▶ Biotechnology
  - ▶ Telecommunications



Underpinned by entrepreneurial development activity

- ▶ It is building on the Research Links activity in Vietnam to support research talent in East Asia with UK
- ▶ It has delivered a research skills programme to focus on writing papers and grant applications with English language support.





# What joint researcher activity has been delivered?

- ▶ Research Seminars/Workshop in Finance and Accounting November 2013
- ▶ Researcher Link workshops in Feb 2014
  - ▶ Biotechnology
  - ▶ Telecommunications
- ▶ Researcher link seminar workshop with Finance and Accounting in April 2014
- ▶ Researcher seminars in Biotechnology November 2014
- ▶ Vietnamese researchers at Aston July and November 2014



RESEARCHER  
LINKS



# Conference progress in 2015

- ▶ Finance and accounting conference, University of Economics
- ▶ IP and microfinance lectures, VNUK-IREE
- ▶ Attended TechFest and advised on growing high-tech start-ups and stronger University-Business opportunities in Da Nang.  
*'Setting up an Entrepreneurship Hub at VN-UK IREE to develop hightech start-ups in Vietnam using best practices and experiences from the UK'*
- ▶ Biotechnology conference, VNUK July 2015
- ▶ Quality in HE workshop, VNUK August 2015



# What will success look like?

- ▶ Papers submitted to conferences and journals from ECRs that are new to publishing
- ▶ Grant applications made by new applicants
- ▶ Expansion of applicants for research skills programme from ASEAN region
- ▶ ASEAN-EU Research Grant secured
- ▶ New UK-ASEAN research areas identified and partnerships developing
- ▶ ASEAN-UK research exchanges



# In conclusion



The overarching purpose lies in developing a collaborative research hub for the development of nation and region by

- ▶ Growing the international, collaborative research outputs between the UK and Vietnam
- ▶ Growing innovation and entrepreneurship to support global business
- ▶ Retaining the best talent and return the best diaspora into Vietnam who are focussed on international research excellence and innovation



With thanks to

