



Workshop Research at Universities

The Potential for Research Cooperation between Vietnamese and German Universities

Background and challenges

For many years research at universities in Vietnam was almost neglected since education and training was their main objective. Research was done almost only at research academies. This is changing right now, with a new policy putting research more into the focus at universities. However, there remain some challenges:

- Many Vietnamese universities are struggling financially, especially when being granted more university autonomy since the basic funding of the state will be reduced following the increase of autonomy. For fully autonomous universities research is financed mainly by third party funding.
- Most of scientific staff at Vietnamese universities consists of lecturers with low salaries. To earn more these lecturers are often rather teaching more classes than doing research. So, there are not enough people focusing on research.
- There are not enough talents for research at Vietnamese universities. Not even 1 percent of students at Vietnamese universities is aiming for a PhD, and only 5 percent are studying for a master-degree. Since many years the trend is decreasing.
- The infrastructure at many Vietnamese universities is not sufficient for up-to-date research.
- Vietnamese scientists are not yet sufficiently connected to global research networks.
- Only few universities are well connected with industry partners in research and development as well as with international research partners.

The Vietnamese government is aware of these challenges and is looking for reforms to enhance this situation in order to foster research at universities.

Aims of the Workshop

The two hours workshop should give an overview of the policy of the Ministry of Education & Training to foster research at universities in Vietnam.

In two case studies, the concrete research situation with its opportunities and challenges at two Vietnamese universities will be explained to learn how the research policies can be carried out.

A third case study will explain the perspective of an industrial enterprise involved in research & development and its expectations towards research at universities.

It will also be discussed what kind of potentials are offered in research cooperation between German and Vietnamese universities, which research fields are attractive for cooperation already today and which are the future perspectives of research in Vietnam and thus also for German-Vietnamese university cooperation.

Finally, the workshop should identify three key questions for the panel discussion with decision makers.

Key-questions for in-depth discussions in the workshop

- What are the challenges and opportunities for research at Vietnamese universities?
- Which policy reforms are necessary to enhance research at Vietnamese universities?
- How can German partners support research together with Vietnamese universities?
- What have Vietnamese universities to offer to German universities, and vice versa?
- How can research with industrial partners can be enhanced?



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Potential benefits to Vietnamese and German participants

- German participants: learn more and understand better the chances and challenges of doing research with Vietnamese universities.
- Vietnamese representatives involved in research at their universities: Learn about the challenges, potential solutions and opportunities of research and research cooperation with German partners
- Vietnamese policy makers: Learn about demands of universities in doing research and collaborating with international partners.

Target participants

- German participants involved in joint projects
- Vietnamese representatives involved in research at their universities
- Vietnamese policy makers

Selected BMBF funded research projects or GER-VN HEI-cooperation

- Vietnamese-German University
- Tübingen University with 108 Central Military Hospital Hanoi in Medicine (VG-CARE)

Outreach

Impulses, ideas, and concrete suggestions on how to enhance the impact of research and HEI cooperation between Germany and Vietnam developed in this workshop are intended to be presented in the GVSD plenary session and would feed into the MOST-BMBF science, technology and committee (STC) meeting. Results will be summarized in a short conference paper published on the conference website.

Contact

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Agenda

April 26th, Duy Tân University

Time	Program	Speaker/Comments
13:30 – 13:35	Welcome	Stefan Hase-Bergen
13:35 – 13:50	Keynote: The policy of the MoET to foster research at Vietnamese universities	MoET: Nguyễn Văn Phúc (t.b.c) Vice-Minister Assoc.
13:50 – 14:05	Case study 1: Research at a Vietnamese university: Policies, structures, financing and research collaboration outputs and policies (working title)	Duy Tân University: Dr. Nguyễn Thanh Trung , Researcher Center for Molecular Biology
14:05 – 14:20	Case study 2: Research at Vietnamese-German University in collaboration with German partners (working title)	VGU: Prof. Dr. Tomas Benz , President
14:20 – 14:35	Case study 3: Research and Development in Industry: How can industry and universities cooperate? (working title)	Bosch Vietnam: Dr. Burkhardt Michaelis , Vice President Engineering, Automotive R&D Center Vietnam
14:35 – 15:20	Round table discussion: Research in collaboration with German partners: opportunities, challenges and needs; research fields with potential for mutual benefits; definition of three key questions for decision makers	MoET, VGU, Duy Tân University, HUST, HCMUT and other, German University representatives, Industry representative (Bosch)
15:20 – 15:30	Conclusion, summary of the results	