

Information release: AIS hosts Australian Government-funded delegation strengthening Australia's partnership with Vietnam

AIS will host a high-level Vietnamese delegation this month as part of an Aus4Skills program aimed at establishing an industry-led approach to skills development in the vocational education training (VET) system in Vietnam.

The Australian Government-funded Aus4Skills positions Australia and Vietnam as partners in achieving the shared goal that Vietnam can access and use high-level professional and technical knowledge, skills and competencies to contribute to the country's sustainable economic and social development, and enduring links with Australia. Under the Promoting Industry Linkages with Vocational Education and Training component of Aus4Skills, Australia seeks to assist Vietnam in ensuring the quality of the VET system and its graduates meets the requirements of the labour market.

The logistics sector has been selected as the pilot industry in the Aus4Skills program because it is important not only to Vietnam's economic development but for Australia's trade with Vietnam. Activities have been designed to improve the relevance and quality of skills training for the logistics industry in Vietnam. The assistance also improves access to skilled labour in overseas countries, supports greater mobility of skilled labour across the region and promotes Australian VET frameworks and products.

In late 2018, members of AIS' new AIS Global team delivered a series of workshops in Vietnam. This work was designed to provide technical advice on the operationalisation of the pilot Logistics Industry Reference Committee (LIRC), its Executive Board and secretariat as well as for building capability in developing effective Occupational Standards. The workshops include strategies for collecting and using industry intelligence and developing communications strategies for stakeholder engagement.

The next phase of the program is a short study program targeting the transport and logistics sectors that will include visits to Toll Logistics and TAFE NSW campuses in Sydney and a visit to the Transport Industries Skills Centre in Canberra. The delegation consisting of 16 participants from industry and VET colleges will be hosted by AIS from 22 February to 1 March. The delegates will also attend presentations by Australian Department of Education officials, My Freight Career and the Chair of the Transport and Logistics Industry Reference Committee, Mark McKenzie.

The study program aims to give the delegates an understanding of the functions of the Australian industry-led VET system; the principles of social inclusion as practiced in Australian industry skills training delivery; and the institutional framework relevant for industry sector skills planning.

AIS has a strong reputation for developing industry intelligence, as evidenced by the highly regarded IRC Skills Forecasts that are produced annually. AIS Global representatives are continuing to draw on this experience and will share learnings with our Vietnamese counterparts during their upcoming visit and during further workshops planned in Vietnam throughout 2019. A small group of Vietnamese officials will return to Australia in mid-2019 for an intense 'on the job' training opportunity with AIS staff.

The Aus4Skills program is funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and managed by Coffey International Development.

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