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Vocational and University Leadership and Innovation Institute



Academic program improvement planning during a VULII workshop
Photo: VULII Project

The Vocational and University Leadership and Innovation Institute (VULII) is designed to contribute directly to Vietnam's national goal of increasing the quality of higher education while strengthening human and institutional capacity to contribute to Vietnam's economic growth. VULII uses an integrated approach — involving academic leadership from rectors to academic program leaders and senior faculty, in conjunction with quality assurance professional staff — to foster systemic change across institutions. The project provides capacity building and training using international models of leadership and quality assurance essential for preparing the next generation of the technical workforce to meet global standards. The project has four major components:

RECTOR LEADERSHIP AND PLANNING

Rectors and vice-rectors learn to develop comprehensive institutional strategic plans and are exposed to state-of-the-art higher education administration leadership and management models to implement new strategic plans. Financial planning and innovative revenue enhancement mechanisms are adapted to the Vietnamese system to help enable institutional transformation.

DEAN LEADERSHIP

Deans and vice-deans experience and learn data-driven-decision making models, personal leadership techniques, academic management best practices and extensive exploration of program quality improvement mechanisms via lenses of accreditation. Deans are focused on using these tools towards improved student and faculty pipeline development and diversity, and development and implementation of institutional strategic plans at the program level to further national educational goals.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

University leaders, operating in an increasingly autonomous manner, need accurate, targeted data to enable better decisions. The project provides targeted professional development of quality assurance directors and staff in support of their newly evolving roles within institutional research, planning and support of academic program leaders. One focus is helping quality assurance staff assume their key role in successful implementation of continuous improvement systems central to accreditation and academic program improvement.

FACULTY AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

Project resources are focused on helping rectors and deans lead institutional change strategies and create infrastructure for continued enhancement of faculty and curriculum. Mechanisms for driving such change include implementing quality systems necessary for accreditation and planning for a Center of Excellence in Engineering Education. The VULII project intends to help HEEAP institutions and leaders achieve sustainable efforts in program improvement via best practices and use of modern technology, such as distance learning networks.

The Vocational and University Leadership Innovation Institute (VULII) is an extension of the Higher Engineering Education Alliance Program (HEEAP), established in 2010 by USAID, Arizona State University (ASU), and Intel Corporation in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) and the Ministry of Labor, Invalids, and Social Affairs (MOLISA). In its first year and half, 1100 participants have been involved in 23 events of one to five days. All participating institutions have developed strategic plans and begun their implementation.

Duration:
2012 - 2015

Implementing Organization:
Arizona State University

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