



British Council Vietnam

Going Global Partnership Project

Towards Excellence in Research and Knowledge Transfer

This project is funded by the British Council Vietnam, under the Going Global Partnership Funds, and a collaboration between the University of Portsmouth, Hanoi University of Science and Technology, Bournemouth University, University of Mining and Geology and Industrial University of Ho Chi Minh City (Project Team: Prof Raymond Lee, Dr. Bui Thi Ngoc Thuy, Dr Milena Bobeva, Dr Alastair Morrison, Dr Nga Nguyen and Dr Bui Binh Tien)

The overall aim of the project is to propose initial guidelines on the high-level design of a research assessment framework in Vietnam, which will be considered by the relevant Ministries for further development, in consultation with the stakeholders involved. This framework is suggested to be called **Research Excellence in Vietnam (REV)**.

It is hoped that, through the development of REV, the project will help support Vietnamese universities to achieve excellence in research and knowledge transfer as informed by the framework, positioning Vietnam as a key global player in the higher education landscape.

The project team has appointed an *expert panel* in developing the REV framework. Members of this panel include:

- Prof Raymond Lee, University of Portsmouth (Project Lead)
- Prof Bruce Brown, previously PVC Research University of Brighton and UK REF Main Panel Chair
- Prof Nachiappan Chockalingam, Staffordshire University, previously UK REF panel member
- A/Prof Pham Van Tuan, LYDINC Institute of Education and Engineering
- Dr Tran Nam Tu, Ministry of Education and Training
- Dr Pham Xuan Thao, Ministry of Science and Technology

Rationale

There is a strong need to develop a well-defined, consistent and fit-for-purpose assessment framework to drive academic excellence in Vietnam, supporting a positive culture with a better understanding and confidence of research. Excellence in research is vital to the socio-economic development of Vietnam and its aspiration to become an upper middle-income country by 2035.

The UK has implemented the Research Excellence Framework (REF, previously called the Research Assessment Exercise RAE) for many years, contributing to its global successes in research. It has become an important tool for accountability and informing strategic decisions including funding

priorities. It has also created a strong performance incentive for universities to achieve excellence. The expert panel has looked at the initial development of REV and how it may be successfully implemented in Vietnam. In developing REV, the panel has drawn significant experience and knowledge from the REF in the UK, and has also examined other research assessment mechanisms in the EU, Australia, Hong Kong and other Southeast Asian countries.

Workshop and Conference

The project team will deliver a workshop and a conference in February.

(1) Workshop: Research output assessment: peer review and metrics

Date: Monday 26 Feb 2024

Time: 2:00-4:30pm (Vietnamese time)

Venue: Hanoi University of Science and Technology

Presenters: Profs Raymond Lee and Nachiappan Chockalingam, Drs Milena Bobeva and Alastair Morrison

Purpose:

- to understand the definitions of research outputs in different academic disciplines,
- to look at how research outputs may be assessed according to its originality, significance and rigour through worked examples, and
- to examine how research outputs may be best assessed by peer review and metrics

Audience:

Academics and administrators of Vietnamese higher education institutions who are involved in research assessment are invited to take part in this workshop. This is a practical workshop, and numbers will be limited to 30 participants.

(2) Conference: Research Excellence in Vietnam (REV)

Date: Tuesday 27 Feb 2024

Time: 2:00-5:30pm (Vietnamese time)

Venue: Hanoi University of Science and Technology

Purpose:

- to present the Research Excellence in Vietnam (REV) framework developed by the expert panel appointed by the project team
- to understand the assessment of research outputs, impact and environment in the framework
- to discuss the benefits and potential impact of REV on higher education institutions in Vietnam
- to discuss strategies and recommendations of the project team that will support the implementation of REV

- to look at how international collaboration may enhance the research outputs, impact and environment in Vietnam

Audience:

Academics and administrators of higher education institutions in Vietnam and the UK, key stakeholders involved in research assessment.

The first part of the conference will be conducted in hybrid mode, where participants may join the event either physically or online. The second part will be for physical participation only.

Tentative Agenda:

Time	Topic	Presenters:
2:00-2:30pm (VN) Arrival and tea/coffee reception		
Part 1: Moderator: Dr. Bui Thi Ngoc Thuy		
Opening Ceremony		
2:30-2:45pm (VN) 7:30-7:45am (UK)	Opening speeches by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prof Hoang Minh Son, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Education and Training Vietnam (tbc) Donna McGowan, Country Director, British Council, Vietnam 	
2:45-3:05pm (VN) 7:45-8:05am (UK)	Research Excellence in Vietnam (REV): the proposed framework	Prof Raymond Lee
3:05-3:20pm (VN) 8:05-8:20am (UK)	Research Excellence: lessons to learn and the impact on universities (tbc)	Prof Bruce Brown
3:20-3:35pm (VN) 8:20-8:35am (UK)	Navigating the UK REF Process: Our experience in guiding a research team from strategy to a successful submission	Prof Nachi Chockalingam
3:35-3:50pm (VN) 8:35-8:50am (UK)	Responsible Research Assessment and Việt Nam through a Research Landscape Lens – a perspective from Elsevier	Dr Anders Karlsson, Vice President, Global Strategic Networks, Elsevier Science
Comfort Break: 3:50-4:00pm (VN) 8:50-9:00am (UK)		
4:00-4:30pm (VN) 9:00-9:30am (UK)	Q/A and General Discussion: Benefits and Potential Impact of REF	Q/A moderator: Dr Nga Nguyen
Part 2: <i>World Café</i> (tea/coffee/canapes will be served during this session) Moderator: Alastair Morrison		
4:30-5:00pm (VN)	Participants will be divided into groups to discuss the impact of international collaboration on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research outputs Research engagement and impact Research culture and environment 	Group facilitators: A/Prof Pham Van Tuan, Dr Pham Xuan Thao, Dr Milena Bobeva
5:00-5:20pm (VN)	Group reports	
5:20-5:30pm (VN)	Closing Remarks by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr Tran Nam Tu, Deputy Director General, Department for Science, 	

	<p>Technology and Environment, Ministry of Education and Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prof Huynh Quyet Thang, President, Hanoi University of Science and Technology	
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Registration Link

Please register at the following link if you are interested in attending the events.

<https://forms.office.com/r/JieeWfyiPL>