



CALL FOR PARTICIPATION AND PROPOSALS
Collective intelligence workshop
Development of a dual education model adaptable to Asia-Pacific university contexts

Context

The employability and professional integration of young graduates are the subject of numerous projects and initiatives lead by educational and academic actors in the Asia-Pacific region as well as all over the world. The real contexts (in all aspects such as legal, socio-economic, academic, etc.) are however different between countries, which creates a rather heterogeneous regional dynamic.

Among these initiatives, is emerging the **dual education approach** which is defined as a combination of theoretical teaching at the university and practical teaching in the workplace. In practice, the alternation is organized in a weekly rhythm of 2-3 days/week at the training institution and the rest of time at the company. Adaptations can be made for the alternation at the level of months or semesters in an academic year.

Several developed countries, especially Germany, Austria, France and Switzerland, have successfully adopted this approach in their vocational and higher education systems. Many other countries around the world, particularly in Central and Eastern Europe (Hungary, Romania, Ukraine, etc.) and even in Asia (China, South Korea, India, Philippines), have been inspired by this model of education which strongly encourages the acquisition of professional knowledge and skills by learners.

However, despite its advantages, **this model of dual education also has its weaknesses**, including:

- The real training cost: dual education is mainly financed by employers, which requires official incentives through public funding programs, allowances or tax exemption arrangements, etc.;
- The need to regulate the internal processes of the companies involved, but also of the educational institutions, which often comes up against the reluctance or resistance of the concerned actors;
- The limited capacity of SME to host the training;
- The risk that employers abuse dual education to use apprentices as cheap labor or to substitute low-skilled employees, hence the needs of relevant control measures;
- The need for students not to minimize the efforts required by this training path;
- The more or less "elitist" approach, which cannot be applied in all fields or for all students.

The Francophone university community in Asia-Pacific has been interested in the issue of university-business relationship for many years. Several initiatives and opportunities for debate have been put in place, including at the level of the Regional Strategic Orientation Committee (CROS) or the General Assembly of the Conference of Rectors of the AUF's Member Institutions in Asia-Pacific (CONFRASIE), where are gathered institutional, academic but also socio-economic representatives.

Vietnam has also to face the increase in the capacity of its universities to reach an international level but also the increasing number of students which is necessary to support the economic growth of the country. While the government and the universities are exploring all solutions that will contribute to the global growth objective in terms of flow and level, dual education is a innovative way for structural and sociological links between the economic world and the higher education institutions. It is also an important factor in the adequacy of training curricula to modern requirements and the employability of new graduates.

Workshop objective

The purpose of this workshop is to:

- Share good practices, in order to establish a complete state of the art on the integration of the dual education model in AUF's member institutions in Asia-Pacific;
- List the major difficulties that constitute obstacles or constraints impacting the quality and the effectiveness of the dual education model in existing training programs;
- Prioritize the challenges to be met in order to promote the effective and adequate integration of dual education programs in AUF's member institutions;
- Identify sectors where the dual education model could be rapidly deployed;
- Identify potential donors or technical and financial partners to support a future structuring project promoting the integration of dual education in Asia-Pacific universities.

Target audience

This call for participation is mainly addressed to AUF's member institutions in the Asia-Pacific region, but also to professionals and any other actor from the socio-economic world who wish to participate in this collective intelligence workshop on the development of a dual education model adaptable to the context of Asia-Pacific university community.

At the end of this workshop and according to the results obtained, the AUF reserves the right to identify and build a response to an international call for projects around this subject.

Organization of the workshop

This workshop is co-organized by the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) and the University of Economics of Ho Chi Minh City (UEH), on Wednesday, May 5th, 2021.

Given the context of the health crisis, the workshop will be organized in a hybrid way: face-to-face and online. The face-to-face gathering will take place at UEH's Campus B, located at 279 Nguyen Tri Phuong, District 10, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The remote participation will be organized by Zoom.

The main communication language of the workshop will be French, with simultaneous translation into English, and vice versa. People who wish to participate during the discussions in their national language are required to be assisted by a collaborator in order to ensure translation into French or English.

The workshop's provisional program includes a plenary session in the morning (Hanoi time), followed by three parallel sessions in the afternoon on the following topics:

1. Qualification frameworks and adaptation of university curricula to the needs of the labor market;
2. Alternation and legal regulation: issues, constraints and good practices;
3. Regional and international cooperation in the field of dual education: feedback from private partners from the secondary and tertiary sectors.

Any university or economic actor who would like to make a specific presentation in one of the 3 workshops in the afternoon can submit its proposal to the AUF (deadline: see calendar).

A detailed program with all the interventions will be communicated to the selected participants during the week of April 19th-23th, 2021.

For participants who are not residents of Ho Chi Minh City, the following expenses are not covered: transportation and travel (plane, train, bus, cab, etc.), hotels, meals outside the event. The UEH will be able to offer them a preferential rate for accommodation in its public hotel, *UEH Boutique Hotel* (232/6 Vo Thi Sau, District 3, Ho Chi Minh City). Two coffee breaks and a lunch will be offered by the AUF to all selected participants.

Calendar

Launch of the call: March 29th, 2021
Deadline for paper proposals: April 12th, 2021
Deadline for registration of participation: April 19th, 2021
Workshop date: May 5th, 2021

Workshop registration

Open the online registration form at <https://forms.office.com/r/kGptbYSTRQ>.

Contact

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