



Ha Noi Office
Office of the Representative to
the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
Văn phòng Hà Nội
Văn phòng Đại diện tại nước
Cộng hòa Xã hội Chủ nghĩa Việt Nam



BỘ GIÁO DỤC VÀ ĐÀO TẠO VIỆT NAM
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING
THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM



VIETNAM FORUM ON LIFELONG LEARNING - BUILDING A LEARNING SOCIETY

Hanoi, 6- 8 December 2010

Key Recommendations to ASEMME3

1. Introduction

The “**Vietnam Forum on Lifelong Learning- Building a Learning Society**” took place on 6-8 December 2010 in Hanoi. It was successfully organised by the Ministry of Education and Training of Vietnam (MOET) in partnership with UNESCO Hanoi and ASEM Education and Research Hub for Lifelong Learning (ASEM LLL Hub). The Forum was opened by the Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Thien Nhan, the Chair of ASEM ME2, and chaired by the Vice Minister Nguyen Vinh Hien. The Forum brought together 100 international researchers and university leaders in the field of lifelong learning, and 250 Vietnamese educational specialists and senior officials throughout Vietnam.

2. The Role of Lifelong Learning

Having recognised the importance of LLL in enhancing education and knowledge for overall development of Vietnam and improving the well-being of its citizens, MOET Vietnam is developing a national LLL strategy under the umbrella of the Socio-Economic Development Strategy 2010 - 2020 and the Education Development Strategy 2010 - 2020. These are concerted efforts of the Vietnamese government to build a learning society.

The recent Asia-Europe Meeting of Ministers for Education (ASEM EM2) in Hanoi, May 2009 acknowledged that lifelong learning provides a solid framework for sustainable human resource development, which generates economic growth, social welfare and enables individuals to pursue stimulating learning opportunities at all stages of their lives. Therefore, it deserves specific attention for intensified cooperation among the ASEM countries.

In response to the ASEM EM2 Chair's conclusion and invitation from the Vietnamese government, ASEM LLL Hub in cooperation with MOET also organised the ASEM Conference on “**Increasing Opportunities and Removing Obstacles for Lifelong Learning**” in Nha Trang, October 2009. Representatives from 22 ASEM countries have participated in the conference. While acknowledging the pre-eminence of the economic aim of lifelong learning, the conference also highlighted well-being and happiness of individuals, adopted humanistic aims of lifelong learning and postulated five pillars of learning - to know, to do, to be, to live together and to care for the planet.

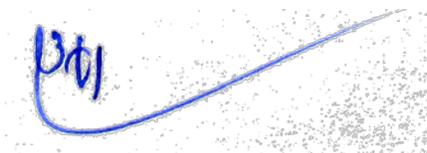
3. Towards ASEM ME3

Building on the results of the ASEM LLL Conference in Nha Trang in October 2009 and of the ASEM LLL Conference in Bangkok in July 2009, organised by the Thai government in cooperation with the ASEM LLL Hub,

also as a follow-up to the ASEMME2 Chair's conclusion, the Vietnam LLL Forum puts forward some recommendations to ASEM EM3, which will be held in May 2011 in Copenhagen, for consideration.

Recommendations:

1. Strengthen the lifelong learning research base in universities and research institutes in the ASEM area, including their capacity for international exchange of information and analysis, in order to contribute to evidence-based educational reform and innovation.
2. Shape an inter-departmental management mechanism to promote building learning societies and implement effective and efficient lifelong learning policies.
3. Create national qualification frameworks for assessment, recognition and validation of non-formal and informal learning, which in turn promote lifelong learning. Develop and assure broad stakeholder acceptance of new forms of recognition for adult learning of all kinds, in particular that pursued through non-formal and informal education and training, in order to strengthen and extend the benefits of learning for those who engage with it at all stages of life.
3. Promote adult learners' motivation for LLL and find ways to lower the barriers to participation and also to ensure that the clear benefits to learning are identified.
4. Increase work-related learning, both employer responsibilities for provision and employee possibilities for participation.
5. Exchange experience across the ASEM countries in building learning entitlements, such as lifelong learning accounts, vouchers for lifelong learning and academic credit banks system.
6. Promote good practices, such as learning cities, learning communities, learning festivals, etc., and share research findings in LLL between ASEM countries through the coordination of ASEM LLL Hub in cooperation with UNESCO and other international organisations.
7. Use information technology as vehicle for development. Computers and related technologies offer the means to increase the reach and scope of LLL dramatically, and to do so in a way that many people find learning interesting and enjoyable.
8. Develop adult educator training programmes in the ASEM region and redesign curriculum development to meet the needs of learners and the demands of the knowledge economy.
9. Support the establishment of the SEAMEO Regional Centre for LLL in Vietnam in order to improve the interaction and scholarly exchanges between Asia and Europe.
10. Strengthen the coordinating role of the ASEM LLL Hub to facilitate cooperation between academic and political communities in the two regions in order to maximize knowledge and experience and increase impact on LLL systems in all 45 ASEM member countries.



Dr. Nguyen Vinh Hien
Vice Minister
Ministry of Education and Training
The Socialist Republic of Vietnam