HIGHER EDUCATION

USAID is supporting Vietnam’s efforts to modernize its higher education system. By partnering with the Government of Vietnam as well as the private sector to help some of the country’s leading universities reform their curriculum and teaching practices, these institutions will serve as models for a 21st century system of higher education. The goal is to produce trained, job-ready graduates that have the skills necessary to compete in an increasingly global market. USAID’s Higher Education projects have already impacted more than 30,000 university students and are focused on three fields, which Vietnam has identified as priorities: 1) Technology and Engineering; 2) Medicine; and 3) Liberal Arts. USAID designs reform activities to link Vietnamese universities with the private sector and U.S. universities and institutions. Vietnamese universities lead their own internal reform effort. This public-private partnership approach with high host country ownership has led to curriculum restructuring, new learning technologies, leadership and faculty training, and international accreditation strategies that are bearing fruit. By leveraging buy-in and funding from the private sector while creating internally-driven reform, USAID’s projects in higher education are recognized as having far-reaching sustainable impact with a demand-driven focus.

TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING

The Building University-Industry Learning and Development through Innovation and Technology (BUILD-IT) Alliance leverages diverse government, industry and academic partners to collaborate on technology and engineering education and produce graduates who can lead inclusive, technology-based growth. Our work is helping Vietnamese universities improve learning outcomes through new state-of-the-art technologies in the classroom; leadership training; international accreditation strategy development; curriculum innovation; and long-term partnerships with the private sector.

MEDICINE

The Improving Access, Curriculum and Teaching In Medical Education and Emerging Diseases (IMPACT-MED) Alliance works to modernize Vietnam’s medical education curriculum and teaching approaches to produce graduates with the skills and knowledge to address the country’s health challenges and modernize its health care sector. The IMPACT-MED Alliance brings together the Ministry of Health, Vietnamese medicine and pharmacy universities, the Vietnam National Children’s Hospital, the Ho Chi Minh City Infection Control Society, and leading international health technology companies. It delivers training in modern teaching methods, use of technology and integration of clinical content; developing university leadership for continuous innovation; improving access and outcomes for socially and economically disadvantaged students; and integrating interdisciplinary education in Vietnam’s medical schools.

LIBERAL ARTS

Launched in 2017, Fulbright University Vietnam (FUV) is in the forefront of Vietnam’s efforts to reform higher education – it is the country’s first fully independent non-profit university. The FUV model combines traditional liberal arts education with innovative technology and curriculum, which will ultimately develop the next generation of leaders in the country. USAID support will help this new institution to build out its institutional governance systems, design curriculum and technology, and develop student career and activity programs. By 2020, there will be 500 full-time undergraduate students enrolled at FUV. USAID support will enable the university to establish its back-office systems, move towards U.S.-based accreditation, and grow through private contributions and tuition-based revenue. FUV will redefine the concept of a university in Vietnam.