

THE TRUST PROJECT NEWSLETTER



TRUST PROJECT UNIVERSITY PARTNERS IN VIETNAM HOLD FINTECH CONFERENCE, MOU SIGNING CEREMONY

On April 22, 2021, at the College of Economics, Hue University, a Fintech Conference and a Memorandum of Understanding Signing Ceremony between College of Economics - Hue University, University of Economics - Hanoi National University, and Open University Ho Chi Minh City took place. This event is part of the the Erasmus+ Program (Financial Technology and digital innovation framework to modernize and develop curricula of Vietnamese and Philippines Universities-TRUST). The conference focused on developing a master program in Finance and Technology and modernizing related training programs at three universities.

Attending the conference were representatives of the Rector Board of the participating universities in Vietnam, the representative of Military Bank (MB bank) in Hue, along with leaders of faculties and departments of the schools to discuss difficulties and advantages to implementing a master's program funded by the European Commission through the Erasmus+ program. Delegation of Ho Chi Minh City Open University led by Professor Nguyen Minh Ha with the Cooperation and Research Management Office, the Online Training Center, the Faculty of Accounting and Auditing, the Faculty of Economics and Public Management, and the Faculty of Finance and Banking.

At the conference, delegates listened to experts and researchers sharing issues such as training in the banking and finance industry in the context of digital transformation; Learning Management System-LMS and support system for online learning resources for training activities related to Finance and Technology, legality, enrollment, tuition rates as well as the curriculum framework for a master's degree in financial technology.

Immediately after the seminar, the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding for the cooperation between the College of Economics - Hue University, University of Economics - Hanoi National University, and Ho Chi Minh City Open University took place.

Accordingly, the signed cooperation agreement has opened up many development opportunities for the three parties in scientific research, training and developing human resources, especially in the field of Finance and Technology (Fintech) training for a master's degree. The parties shall conduct cooperation based on a comprehensive, sustainable, trustworthy, respectful collaboration with the capacity, direction, and authority of each party. At the same time, commit to implement cooperation activities as agreed in the Partnership Agreement effectively.

TRUST PROJECT UPDATE: MASTER IN FINTECH CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT GAINS GROUND WITH TECHNICAL DISCUSSION AGREEMENTS

The Financial Technology and digital innovation to modernise and develop curricula of Vietnamese and Philippines Universities (TRUST) Project made significant headway when major discussion points were threshed out during a plenary meeting.

On April 16, the TRUST Project met to present and discuss the Master in Fintech Curriculum and the online course's final list, allocate the courses delivered online to each partner according to its expertise, identify the lack of expertise, and offer a precise and focused strategy and action plan for the knowledge exchange and training of the staff of higher education institution (HEI) partners.

Prior to the meeting, the contribution and inputs of Asian university partners were gathered and processed. Achieving an identical curriculum suitable for Asian HEIs proved challenging, since partners were still more focused on their educational offers and traditional perspectives. Differences in course lists, learning modality, and number of hours were identified.

The team agreed to confirm a final list of the foundation/core modules - the essential part of the Master in Fintech program and define this structure as TRUST's 'basic' curriculum and focus on the design and development of the online courses.

The team also agreed to identify a leading institution for each course/module who will focus on the design and record of the online lessons included and deepen the syllabus for the course. European HEI partners suggested focusing on the learning outcomes and not on the specific courses of the Masters program to achieve the harmonisation.

Mr. Thomas Peschke introduced the definition and previous experience related to the learning outcomes approach with reference to benchmarking and the core module descriptions.

Prof. Alessandro Gennaro introduced the final basic curriculum and described how all the contributions have been merged in the curriculum.

The team agreed on the following action items: finalize the program curriculum, allocate tasks for the design and recording of online lessons, finalize the inventory of hardware and software needed to rollout the courses, and start the accreditation procedure.

THE TRUST PROJECT AIMS TO ADDRESS THE EMERGENT WORKFORCE NEEDS OF THE FINTECH INDUSTRY BY MODERNIZING THE CURRICULUM OF VIETNAM AND PHILIPPINE UNIVERSITIES TO INTEGRATE A MASTER IN FINTECH AND DIGITAL INNOVATION. THE TRUST PROJECT, FOR THE FIRST TIME, MERGES EUROPEAN UNION, SOUTH ASIAN HEIS AND INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS TO PROMOTE FINTECH CURRICULUM MODERNISATION AND DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF HEI PROGRAM IN PARTNER COUNTRIES.

THE PROJECT WILL DESIGN AND DEVELOP OF A MASTER ON FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY AND DIGITAL INNOVATION IN VIETNAM AND PHILIPPINE UNIVERSITIES; AND MODERNIZE OTHER MASTER OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS PROGRAMS WITH FINTECH COURSES. THE TRUST PROJECT IS CO-FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME.

