

Teach For Vietnam Joins the Teach For All Network

HO CHI MINH CITY — April 14, 2017 Today, Teach For Vietnam announced that it has joined Teach For All, becoming the global network's 44th partner. As an independent nonprofit organization, Teach For Vietnam's mission is to recruit and develop the country's most promising graduates to commit to teach for a minimum of two years in high-need schools, and become future leaders working, both inside and outside of the classroom, to ensure all children are able to fulfill their potential and attain an excellent education by 2050.

Teach For All is a global network of 44 independent, locally led and governed partner organizations and a global organization that works to accelerate the progress of the network. Teach For All's core purpose is to ensure all children have the opportunity to fulfill their potential—both to shape better futures for themselves and for the world they'll inherit.

According to the latest international student PISA assessment from the OECD, Vietnam's students achieved high scores, particularly in science, and the country ranked among the top 20 overall—with students outperforming advantaged counterparts in other PISA assessed countries. Despite these promising results, the **World Bank** has noted a skills gap and shortage in the country—including cognitive skills, such as critical thinking, and behavioral skills, such as teamwork—80% of job applicants lack the required skills for professional jobs, while 83% lack the skills needed for technical positions.

In Vietnam, only 13.8% of children in rural areas complete upper-secondary school compared to 37.4% of children in urban areas. Ethnic minority children make up more than 60% of total of the most disadvantaged children—but just 60% of them complete primary school, compared to 82% of ethnic majority students. While it is estimated that there will be a surplus of 70,000 teachers across the country by 2020, the percentage of certified teachers is low, which leads to concerns about the quality of education students are receiving. In high-need areas of the country, students' ability to communicate in basic English is low, with the average score in English at just 3.2 out of 10 on the most recent high school graduation exams.

Faced with this challenging context, Teach For Vietnam is working to change this reality by providing quality education and expand opportunities for students in high-need schools and communities. It is currently recruiting its first cohort of 25-30 Fellows who will begin teaching in August 2017 in Tay Ninh. Raised in a low income family in a small town in central Vietnam, CEO and Founder Phuc Hanh Huynh is deeply committed to finding solutions to the most pressing problems facing society today. Coupled with the high rate of youth migration, seeking better opportunities in urban areas and abroad, he realized the urgency of the problem of educational inequity in Vietnam, and the need to invest in developing local leadership to advance sustainable development. Phuc learned about Teach For All through his graduate school roommate who was a Teach For America alumnus, and became determined to adapt the Teach For All network's approach the approach in Vietnam.

Teach For All For immediate release

“I deeply believe that the idea of developing promising future leaders from diverse backgrounds—both inside and outside of education—is crucial to spreading innovation, collaboration, and leadership in Vietnam,” said Phuc. “All children in Vietnam deserve equal opportunities to receive an excellent education, regardless of their background. They need critical-thinking skills, as well as values and mindsets that will equip them for the 21st century, so they can lead a meaningful life for themselves, their families, and as part of a thriving society.”

Notes to editors

About Teach For Vietnam

Teach For Vietnam is a nonprofit organization whose stated mission is to build a pipeline of leaders for education equity and excellence, recruiting and developing young graduates and professionals from diverse backgrounds to commit two years to teach in the nation’s high-need schools, and to work throughout their lives, from inside and outside of education, to address the root causes of educational inequity. Working toward its vision that by 2050 all children in Vietnam will attain an excellent education, Teach For Vietnam is partnering with both public and private sector to provide the teaching placements, funding, and supportive policy environment necessary to achieve scale and sustain impact over time, while increasing accountability for results.

For more information, visit our website: <http://teachforvietnam.org>, or follow Teach For Vietnam on Facebook: www.facebook.com/teachforvietnam

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About Teach For All

Teach For All is a global network of 44 independent, locally led and governed partner organizations and a global organization that works to accelerate the progress of the network. Each network partner recruits and develops promising future leaders to teach in their nations’ high-need schools and communities and, with this foundation, to work with others, inside and outside of education, to ensure all children are able to fulfill their potential.

Teach For All’s global organization works to increase the network’s impact by capturing and spreading learning, facilitating connections among partners, accessing global resources, and fostering the leadership development of partner staff, teachers, and alumni. For more information, visit our website: www.teachforall.org, or follow Teach For All on Twitter [@TeachForAll](https://twitter.com/TeachForAll) and Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/teachforall/>

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