TRENDS AND ISSUES OF RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN DEGREES IN VIETNAM

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TRENDS AND ISSUES OF RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN DEGREES IN VIETNAM

Main Parts:

- Vietnam Education System
- Legal Documents on RFD
- Criteria and Procedure
- Issues and Challenges
- Recommendations
VIETNAM OVERVIEW

- Land: 331,690 km²
- Population: 89 mil., 1.2% growth rate
- GDP 2012: USD 136 billion
- GDP per capita 2012: USD 1,540
- Economic Growth 2012: 5.03%
- ASEAN Member: Since July, 1995
- WTO Member: Since November, 2006
Vietnam National Education System

- **Crèche**: 3 months
- **Pre-School Education (Kindergarten)**: 3 years old
- **Primary Education**: 6 years old
- **Lower Secondary Education**: 15 years old
- **Upper Secondary Education**: 18 years old
- **Higher Education** (4-6 years)
- **Junior College**: 21 years old
- **Doctor of Philosophy (4 yrs) Master (2 yrs)**: 24 years old

- **Vocational Training**
  - Long-term (1-3 yrs)
  - Short-term (< 1 yr)

- **Secondary Technical and Vocational Education**: 18 years old

- **Non-formal Education**
broad types of universities in Vietnam:

- Specialized universities focusing on a single area of study (law, transportation, economics, engineering, fine arts...)
- Multi-disciplinary universities: national and regional universities (VNU HN, VNU HCM, TNU, DNU, HU, CTU)
- Open universities: Hanoi Open University and Ho Chi Minh City Open University
- International Universities (Vietnam-Germany, Vietnam-America, Vietnam-France...); Branches of foreign universities (RMIT)
The recognition of foreign qualifications for Vietnamese citizens shall follow the regulations of the Minister of Education and Training and international agreements in qualifications that Vietnam is member.

The Minister of Education and Training is responsible for signing agreements on mutual qualification recognition.
Legal Documents on RFD (2)

Decision 77/2007/BGDDT of the Minister of Education and Training

- Regulate the procedures and documents for the recognition of foreign qualification issued for Vietnamese citizens;

- Has 11 articles which regulate the authority, procedures, documentation, etc. for recognition.
Criteria and Procedures (1)

1. GDETA are assigned by the Minister to recognize the overseas qualifications
2. Applying for qualification recognition is voluntary and free of charge at the moment
3. Documents for qualification recognition include:
   - Application form
   - A certified copy of the degree in Vietnamese and foreign languages
   - A certified copy of the academic transcript in Vietnamese and foreign languages

(Note: Application for Master degree recognition needs to submit a copy of Bachelor degree and application for PhD. degree recognition needs to submit a copy of Master degree)
Criteria and Procedures (2)

4. In order to recognize a qualification, the following needs to be evaluated and verified:

- The applicant has completed the programme;
- The qualification that needs to be verified is (or is not) within the scope of the agreements;
- The programme is accredited or permitted by the authorized agency;
- The qualification is in which level of the foreign education system and equivalent to which diplom in Vietnam education system.
Issues and Challenges

- The recognition of overseas qualifications issued for the Vietnamese is still new and complicated;
- The education and qualification system is different in each country;
- The management of programmes vary from country to country.
- Some collaboration programs such as Malaysia or Singapore is complicated to verify and control.
Recommendations

- Set up the National Information Center;
- Publicify accredited programmes or programmes that are permitted by authorized organizations;
- Support the supplements attached to the qualifications;
- Support useful information related foreign qualifications among countries in the region as well as other countries in the world.
- Share experience and assist in information exchange if in need.
THANK YOU!

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