

**Memorandum of Understanding
on Education Cooperation
between
the Ministry of Education of the Kingdom of Thailand
and
the Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany**

In 2012, the Ministry of Education of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany, hereinafter referred to as the partners, celebrate 150 years of diplomatic relations between their countries. The partners stress their mutual respect and refer to their long-standing tradition of cooperation in the field of education and training. Grounded in this tradition, they recognize Thailand's role as a strong international partner based on its successful economic and social development and are willing to enter into a new phase of intensified education cooperation.

Therefore, the partners have come to the following understanding:

1. Reinforced cooperation in the field of academic exchange

The partners express their willingness to further cooperate in the field of academic exchange. The implementing organization for future cooperation in the area of academic exchange will be the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in Thailand for the Federal Foreign Office. In order to expand the provision of Thai Government Scholarships to Germany, for example, within the scholarship programme "One Scholarship, One Province", the Information Center of the German Academic Exchange Service in Thailand may offer its support.

2. German international voluntary services in Thailand

International voluntary services can be a means of improving education cooperation and language training. The German-based UNESCO programme "kulturweit", supported by the Federal Foreign Office, is offering its voluntary services worldwide and will be encouraged to offer its services in Thailand, for example, by identifying volunteers, activating alumni networks for projects and organizing summer schools or other activities in line with international standards.

3. Future cooperation in the field of Dual Studies and vocational training

Bearing in mind and appreciating the long-standing tradition of Thai-German cooperation in the field of education and vocational training, new forms of cooperation in the framework of Dual Studies with vocational institutes, universities and companies will be explored. The partners concur that they will promote cooperation to exchange best practices, consult on curricula development and training, and invite new partners for cooperation such as universities, agencies and specialists for vocational education, companies, the Thai-German Chamber of Commerce and other relevant partners.

4. Conference on Dual Studies:

- An initial conference called "DUAL.excellence" will be held at the King Mongkut's University of Technology North Bangkok (KMUTNB) in Bangkok on 2 October 2012 to discuss future cooperation in Dual Studies.
- Arranging ongoing cooperative academic activities on diverse subject themes in accordance with consent and approval of both parties.

Bangkok,.....

On behalf of the Ministry of
Education of the Kingdom of
Thailand



Mr. Sakda Kongpetch
Deputy Minister of Education

Bangkok,.....

On behalf of the Foreign Office of
the Federal Republic of Germany



Dr.h.c. Cornelia Hjeper
Minister of State
Federal Foreign Office

Bangkok Protocol

It is in the interest of the Ministry of Education of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany to initiate a co-operation between Thai and German organizations interested and able to develop a **DUAL.alliance of Professional Excellence**. King Mongkut's University of Technology North Bangkok (KMUTNB) and Q-Federation will coordinate this initiative and invite Thai and German organizations to become partners of a DUAL.board, which will support and accompany the future process of cooperation.

DUAL.system of professional excellence

The term "DUAL.system of Professional Excellence" indicates a pedagogic concept, which is based on professional learning from reflected work experiences (at approved vocational training companies) on the one hand, and theoretical and technical language learning (at vocational colleges) on the other hand. This special approach of combining learning field theory and work-process practice is the basis of the so called "German Dual Education System", which has along historical tradition, is permanently reformed, adapted to the need of the labor market and has proven to be a

- A successful school to work transition helping to fight youth unemployment, and
- A pedagogic approach, which provides High Performance Work Competence (Handlungskompetenz). Handlungskompetenz leads to high work productivity, increases the innovational potential, and through this strengthens the competitiveness of companies.

A state recognized profession is the result of a successful dual education. "State recognized profession" in this context is understood as a work-competence, philosophy and ethic, which makes the trainee independent of a workplace at a special company or a special trade. As a standard in Germany it supports work-mobility and is required in order to develop regional labor-markets (e.g. in Europe or ASEAN).

DUAL.key-elements

The Dual System normally needs the partnership of companies to allow vocational learning from work-processes.

If companies are not able or not ready for this contribution, pedagogic alternatives need to be developed, which are still oriented to the requirements of a work-place or a work-process, provide Handlungskompetenz, which comprises technical, personal, methodological and social competencies and allows someone to plan, organize, decide, realize, control and evaluate one's work-task under the criteria of high performance and high quality.

In order to shape DUAL.learning-arrangements, which fulfill the above-mentioned criteria, the following key elements are required:

DUAL.curricula / DUAL.training-regulations: which describe competencies as profile of state recognized Dual.professions and didactic-methodological approaches, which are oriented to work-tasks and work-processes (or similar situations).

DUAL.teachers and DUAL.instructors: with technical, pedagogic and didactic methodological competencies, which allow to shape a practical and theoretical teaching concept oriented to typical fields of activity at a company.

High Performance Learning Places: which are based on i(ndustrial) – and e(lectronic) media, which allow a teaching -and learning concept, which simulates work-processes and their demand.

DUAL.professional-examinations: which are able to measure vocational competencies in the context of typical work-tasks and therefore guarantee that potential employers will accept Dual.certificates.

Dual.PR and Marketing: which informs students, worker, families, media, society on the career and personal advantages of a Dual.Degree and promotes work productivity and innovational potential of the young generation and work-experiences of the older generation to the economy and to potential Employers.

DUAL.fields:

The cooperation on Dual Education covers the following fields:

- Dual.basic-education (for younger people with deficits / Degree: DUAL.worker)
- Dual.education (for standard students / Degree: DUAL.professionals)
- Dual.further-education (for Dual.professionals, who want to upgrade their competencies, Degrees:DUAL.craftsman / DUAL.industry-master / DUAL.technician / DUAL.business-administrator)
- Dual.studies (for A-level students or students with an advanced technical college certificate (O-level / Fachhochschulreife), who will get a DUAL.professional-degree and a DUAL.Bachelor-degree within four years)

DUAL.alliance-strategy

The Ministry of Education of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany declare their interest in supporting initiatives and cooperation of companies, universities, colleges, institutes, interfirm-and extrafirm training centers, or similar organizations, which aim to develop solutions in the above-mentioned fields. Such process-accompanying support could be e.g., DUAL.excellence-conferences, DUAL.excellence-seminars, guided tours to DUAL.excellence, DUAL.board, DUAL.german language courses etc., DUAL.excellence.net (a joint homepage)

The above mentioned elements could be the basis of a knowledge-exchange, joint research and development process as well as a PR- and marketing campaign, which will assist the cooperation process between Thailand and Germany. It could be based on the following elements:

DUAL.excellence-conference: A yearly organized "Dual.excellence – Thai – German Conference on Dual Education & Dual Studies" which will serve as a platform to initiate networks, exchange experiences and give a report on the already obtained progress

DUAL.bangkok-protocol: The protocol documents the mutual interest of The Ministry of Education of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany in vocational education cooperation.

DUAL.board: a committee of experts from various disciplines, which will work on the basis of the DUAL.bangkok-protocol, will give yearly reports on the obtained progress and recommendations to the future emphasis of cooperation

DUAL.certified-partner: institutions and organization, which are involved to the DUAL.cooperation-network, fulfill the necessary technical and pedagogic requirements and should therefore be honored as DUAL.certified-partners.

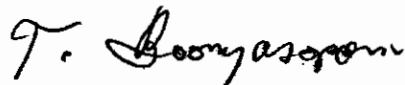
DUAL.study-tours: guided tours (excursions & seminars) to Germany to get a personal insight to key-institutions of the Dual System and their duties and functions within the Dual Educational System.

DUAL.marketing: is a necessary support to increase the acceptance of Dual Education of the society, the families, the young people and the employers.

DUAL.responsibility

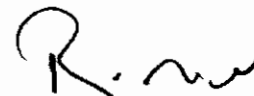
The individual contribution of each side to the above mentioned and confirmed goals of co-operation are matter of future yearly consultations in this matter.

Bangkok, *2 October 2012*
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on behalf of the Thai Government
represented by King Mongkut's
University of Technology North Bangkok



Prof. Dr. Teravuti Boonyasopon
President
King Mongkut's University of Technology
North Bangkok (KMUTNB)

Bangkok,
on behalf of the German Government
represented by the Foreign Office of the
Federal Republic of Germany



Mr. Wolfgang Reuter
Managing Board Member
Q-Federation