

Joint Declaration of Intent
Between
the Ministry of Education of the Kingdom of Thailand
and
the Federal Ministry of Education and Research
of the Federal Republic of Germany
on
cooperation in the field of vocational education and training

This Joint Declaration of Intent outlines the general conditions and the ideas of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (hereinafter referred to as "BMBF") and the Thai Ministry of Education (hereinafter referred to as "MOE") as well as the concerning cooperation in the field of vocational education and training (VET).

The Kingdom of Thailand and the Federal Republic of Germany share an interest in consolidating and continuing their cooperative relations. Thailand and Germany consider vocational education and training as being crucial for social and economic development in both countries. Joint action by equal partners will help intensify cooperation in VET. —

The cooperation will be based on existing memoranda of understanding and successful cooperation especially between the Federal Foreign Office of Germany, German states, the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB) and individual companies on the German Side with partners in Thailand such as the MOE, the Office of the Vocational Education Commission (OVEC), the Thailand Professional Qualification Institute (TPQI) and further organizations. One outstanding example of collaboration is the "German Thai Dual Education Excellence" initiative.

MOE and BMBF (hereinafter referred to as "the Sides") herewith confirm their willingness to foster these initiatives and cooperate on the basis outlined in the following:

1. Purpose

The purpose of cooperation is to conduct VET policy exchanges at both ministerial and expert levels and to initiate and actively support cooperative activities between private stakeholders and between private stakeholders and public providers of VET.

2. Fields of Cooperation

The following key topics have been identified:

- Systemic exchange between BIBB and OVEC on VET and further development of vocational education and training in Thailand on the basis of a dual system,
- Pilot projects for testing the dual system with the assistance of German and Thai companies and the German-Thai Chamber of Commerce e.g. in the framework of the initiative "German Thai Dual Education Excellence" and the project VetNet,
- Involvement of German providers of initial and continuing training via the BMBF's iMOVE initiative at BIBB.

Further topics may be added upon the understanding of both Sides.

3. Transfer of responsibility

The Sides intend to convey the support and realization of measures in individual areas of cooperation to third parties.

4. Object of joint activities

The Sides share the opinion that increasing cooperation in the field of VET must foster knowledge about the respective policies and systems and the two governments' measures and encourage the exchange of models and methods and the dissemination of good practice. The Sides aim to engage in a mutual process of learning and an exchange of experience in the field of vocational education and training.

5. Instruments for the realization of joint activities

The Sides will regularly hold policy dialogues and exchange information to assist and support the cooperation process and projects in the field of vocational education and training.

Therefore a joint working group on VET should alternately meet in Germany and in Thailand.

The Sides intend not only to encourage partnerships between Thai and German players such as organizations, chambers, education providers and companies but also to foster joint projects and activities.

6. Funding

The funding of projects within this Joint Declaration of Intent will be structured in separate individual arrangements.

7. Duration

This Joint Declaration of Intent will come into effect upon signature and, for the beginning, ought to be applied for three years. The Sides may jointly decide to extend the cooperation under this Joint Declaration.

Either Side may terminate the cooperation under this Joint Declaration by giving written notice to the other Side, if ever possible, 90 days beforehand.

8. Amendment

The Joint Declaration of Intent may be amended at any time by joint decision.

Signed in Bangkok on 28 January 2015 in duplicate in the English language.

For the Ministry of Education
of the Kingdom of Thailand



Mrs. Suthasri Wongsamarn
Permanent Secretary

For the Federal Ministry
of Education and Research
of the Federal Republic of Germany



Mr. Volker Rieke
Director General
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