

Fund for Ireland Vietnam Alumni and Academics (FIVAA) 2022

1. Background

A Vietnam Ireland Alumni Network was established in March 2012 with the aim of connecting Vietnamese citizens who have studied in Ireland. The Alumni have played a key role in assisting current and prospective students in Ireland, sharing experience, ideas and opportunities, promoting Irish education and strengthening the relationship between Vietnam and Ireland. The network has currently over 200 members composed by Alumni of Irish government scholarship programmes and self-financed students.

Since 2016, through Irish Aid programme, hundreds of academics and students have received short training, completed internships and have undertaken exchange visits to Ireland, sharing experiences with Irish universities on new teaching methods, developing joint research, and building new curriculums for new academic programmes.

It is the Embassy's intention to continue to engage with and actively support the Alumni and academics as a way to further strengthen bilateral relations between Ireland and Vietnam.

In 2020, the Embassy launched the **Fund for Ireland Vietnam Alumni and Academics (FIVAA)** and received great interest and engagement from the Alumni and Academic community. Funding was provided for projects ranging from charity events to professional workshops. These initiatives have helped to strengthen the Alumni and academic network and to increase Ireland's visibility in Vietnam.

Following a successful first year of implementation in 2020, six further projects were granted under the FIVAA umbrella during 2021. These projects focussed on business / entrepreneurship / environment / community-based tourism / health and wellbeing.

The Embassy is now launching the 2022 Fund for Ireland Vietnam Alumni and Academics.

A maximum of six grants up to 2,000 euro/per grant will be awarded in this year.

2. Project themes

Applications are welcomed in the following areas:

Promotion of Ireland: country, people, culture, sport, education.

- Promotion of trade links: engagement with Irish Business Association Vietnam (IBAV), Enterprise Ireland, Education in Ireland, Bord Bia, and other activities to promote trade between Ireland and Vietnam.
- Strengthening of Alumni and Academics network.
- Networking with the Friends of Ireland in Vietnam, and Vietnamese students in Ireland.
- Promotion of friends of Ireland network in Vietnam and in Ireland.
- Social initiatives focusing on the environment, climate change, equality and related areas.

3. Eligible applicants

Applications should be submitted by Vietnamese citizens as follows:

- Two or more Alumni and/or students, including at least one recipient of an Irish Government Scholarship,
- Two or more academics from university partners OR
- Or more Alumni and One or more academics from university partners

4. FIVAA funding/eligibility

In general, eligible activities will be those listed in Section 2 above. UN-EU cost norms 2017 for development projects in Vietnam will be applied. Specific expenditure eligible will include additional project-specific travel, subsistence, translation costs, promotion costs. The cost of time of Alumni and academics will not be reimbursed and be considered as a contribution to the project.

Co-funding from other partners is encouraged.

The allocation of funding between the Alumni/VIBE academics and other partners if any is a matter for those partners.

5. TimeLine, Award, Contract

The timeline:

Call for proposals: 7th March 2022

Submission of concept note: 7th April 2022

Notification of final results: 22th April 2022

Commencement of project: May - November 2022

Completion of projects: 31st November 2022

Completion of all reports and financial consolidation: 5th December 2022

Selection criteria:

- A clear and practical plan and activities
- A clear and effective communication and visibility plan

- Feasibility of the project
- Clear timeline, planned outputs

Preference is granted for projects that seek to:

- Strengthen the connection among the students, alumni, academic and friends of Ireland networks
- Mobilize other resources to implement the project activities (both in terms of cash and in-kind contribution)
- Develop a clear communication and promotion plan that manages to promote Ireland's visibility and interact with various Ireland's digital platforms in Vietnam, i.e.
 Fanpages of Irish Embassy in Vietnam, Friends of Ireland in Vietnam, Education in Ireland Vietnam, Vietnam - Ireland Alumni group, etc.
- For a similar project that has been funded by FIVAA in previous years, lessons learned from previous projects are incorporated in the current applications.

Appraisal and selection will be done by the Embassy of Ireland, Hanoi.

6. Submission of concept notes

Applications should be made in English, using the attached template and should not exceed 4 pages in length (excluding annexes, if any). Applications must be submitted to thuy.nguyen@dfanet.ie by 7th April 2022.