Early to Mid-Career Australian and Vietnamese Research Program

Case Study, Crawford Conference 2024 Jessica Fearnley



















What is RAID?

- Australian-based network that brings together early to mid-career researchers with an interest in Ag4D.
- RAID is a program of Crawford Fund and funded by ACIAR.
- RAID's core motivations are to:
 - O CONNECT researchers ENGAGE more people in Ag4D SUPPORT career development.

What is Australian Volunteers Program?

- Is an Australian Government-funded initiative that supports global volunteering. It supports partner organisations across the Pacific, Asia and Africa to achieve locally-led change and the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- The Australian Government support for international volunteering began in 1963 and through international volunteering, more than 17,000 Australian volunteers have responded to development challenges.

What is Vietnam National University of Agriculture (VNUA)?

- VNUA is an agricultural focussed university located in Hanoi, Vietnam.
- We have been working with the Agricultural Economics faculty to build our program.

This partnership demonstrates the program's commitment to building long-term, respectful and equitable partnerships between individuals and organisations, and what can be achieved through such partnerships.

RAID/VNUA/AVP Partnership Timeline

Aim 1: Enhance partnerships and capacity of EMCR's in Australia and Vietnam.

Assigned pairs worked on projects and scenarios through Zoom, Zalo, emails Visit and work with 6
different research
institutes and
organisations (PPRI,
ILRI, IRRI, Syngenta,
WWF, vegetable
corporate)

Visit and work with different research institutes and organisations (FAVRI, NOMAFSI, vegetable corporate, SFRI, VKIST)









Aim 2: Promote the exchange of cultural and agricultural knowledge between EMCR in Australia and Vietnam.

RAID/VNUA/AVP Partnership - Outcomes

2020

 12 Vietnamese and Australian early to mid-career students successfully completed online research workshop skills.

2022

• Me Vang, 2020 Vietnamese student undertakes 3-month internship in Australia, funded by the Crawford Fund.

2023

 Australian program participants visit Vietnam to work on research modules with Vietnamese students.

2024

- Previous participants from the 2020 and 2023 cohorts work together to create a yearly program, learning from previous outcomes and partner with other universities.
- Extensive evaluation and planning with Vietnamese partners to develop content for next program.

2025

• Vietnamese and Australian students/partners to engage in a remote and in country program, focussed on a particular research tool i.e writing and reading skills.







Challenges helped develop skills!

- Agreed clear understandings of candidates who can apply, sometimes content to basic for PhD students to participate.
- Being **flexible** with timings for the Vietnam school year, coinciding with the Vietnamese summer.
- Engagement all year around from all parties, particularly during school terms.
- **Encouraging** everyone to have a voice and take ownership of work.
- RAID is a volunteer organisation, which often prevents expansion of program. Time management is critical!





Interested in the program? Get in touch!

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