

FAQs

Q: Who is the project for?

A: This project is for:

- a) Australian tertiary education providers who are seeking to expand their Transnational Education (TNE) activities and who wish to collaborate on the implementation of an innovative TNE program/s.
- b) Education providers and other stakeholders in designated markets who are interested in partnering with those Australian providers to deliver an innovative TNE program/s.

Phase 1 pilot programs are being delivered in **Colombia, India, Malaysia and Vietnam.**

Phase 2 pilot programs will be delivered in **Colombia, India, Indonesia and Vietnam.**

Q: Who is resourcing this project?

A: The project is funded by the Australian Government through its International Education Innovation Fund. The Department of Education has engaged Acumen (part of Sannam S4 Group) to lead the facilitation of the project, working in partnership with the Department's network of in-country Education and Research Counsellors.

Q: What does the project funding cover?

A: The funding covers research into the TNE opportunities in key markets in South Asia, Southeast Asia, North Asia and Latin America; reporting on the findings of that research; the identification of innovative TNE programs to be piloted in designated markets; and, support for Australian providers to identify appropriate local partners.

Specifically, the deliverables of the project are:

- A series of information resources to further build the Australian education sector's understanding of the TNE environment.
- Support to partner governments through workshops which create favourable conditions for Australian TNE expansion.

- Selection of Australian tertiary education providers (higher education and vocational providers) to undertake recommended TNE pilot programs.
- Facilitation and establishment of recommended TNE pilot programs.
- Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of TNE pilot programs.

Q: Does the funding cover the costs of the selected tertiary education providers to develop and deliver the TNE programs?

A: No. Tertiary education providers who seek to be involved need to cover the full costs of staff and other resources for the implementation of the project they are piloting.

Q. Will there be any support in terms of promoting/marketing the program and issue of relevant visas as may be applicable?

A: No. Tertiary education providers who seek to be involved need to cover the full costs of promoting/marketing the program. No support is available for the issuing of visas.

Q: What is the timeframe for the Phase 2 pilot programs?

A: The anticipated Phase 2 Timeline is:

- **September:** Phase 2 Introductory webinar – interested institutions then requested to complete the no-obligation Expression of Interest Form located here: insights.acumen.education/expanding-Australias-offshore-delivery-through-tne
- **October:** Further information provided to interested institutions in 1-1 meetings or market-specific webinars. EoIs close October 20.
- **October/November:** Selection of education providers to participate in Colombia, India, Indonesia & Vietnam Pilot programs* (*Selection of providers to participate in Brazil pilots will happen later at a date TBC*).
- **November:** ‘Implementation’ of Phase 2 Pilots will commence immediately upon selection of participating providers with respective Australian and offshore partners together scoping courses and implementation plans.
- **December/January/February:** (depending on local conditions and Australian end-of-year closures): Commencement of course delivery.
- **May:** Project evaluation and reporting by ‘Acumen.

***Please note that there are limited places for participation in the pilot programs and, depending on the level of provider interest, this may become a competitive process for selection.**

Q: What are the selection criteria?

A: The Department of Education and Acumen are seeking Australian tertiary education providers and stakeholders in other markets who have the time, resourcing and commitment to work at pace to implement the initiatives.

Q: Why have Colombia, India, Indonesia and Vietnam been selected and why are these TNE initiatives?

A: These markets have been identified as having high potential for implementation and insights to be gathered in an appropriate time frame. The criteria used to select the pilot programs. include;

1. Ease of execution e.g. can the TNE initiatives be replicated?
2. Alignment with host government/economy priorities.
3. Investment/effort required by participating Australian institutions.
4. Timeframe for delivering results in the pilot phase.
5. The scale of future / downstream opportunities.
6. Sustainability.
7. The degree of suitable innovation.
8. Regulatory compliance ease.

Q: Is support available for Australian tertiary education providers beyond the designated pilot programs and markets?

A: The TNE pilot programs. to be undertaken have been carefully researched and selected by the Department of Education and Acumen. There is some flexibility within the pilot programs, but the general themes need to be followed. The Department of Education and Acumen would nonetheless be pleased to hear about other proposed TNE initiatives: Acumen may be able to provide support outside the scope of this project.

Q: Will Australian tertiary education providers be supported in understanding and complying with financial, regulatory, and operational considerations of delivering TNE programs in the designated markets?

A: A series of Information Resources documents and other relevant information is available on the Project Landing Page. However, the information provided here is general and should not be relied upon in making commercial, legal or regulatory decisions. Each provider needs to obtain its advice based on its specific circumstances.

Q: What guidance will Acumen provide to education providers who are interested in submitting an Expression of Interest (EOI) for participation?

A: Acumen is available to meet in person or online to answer questions provide more detail about the projects and assist with meeting the requirements of a successful EOI. Please note that there are limited places for participation in the pilot programs and, depending on the level of provider interest, this may become a competitive process for selection.

Q: What support will Acumen provide to education providers throughout the TNE pilot programs?

A: Acumen will partner with the selected providers to project manage the successful development and implementation of the TNE pilot programs. Acumen is available to work with providers to guide them past barriers and will provide in-kind support and expertise up to the point of finalisation of the Memorandum of Agreements to facilitate the commencement of the pilot programs.

Q: Is the program only available to tertiary education providers?

A: Each pilot program will be focused on different levels of education. Participating Australian institutions must be a university or university college, an independent higher education provider, or a Registered Training Organisation.

Institutions or organisations in the designated markets of Colombia, India, Malaysia and Vietnam are not necessarily required to be tertiary education providers. Industry, government and other education institutions may be selected for the pilot programs if they are the most appropriate partner for the selected Australian tertiary education provider/s.

Q. Is the program restricted to specific domains (for example, STEM)?

A: Not generally. However, the nature of the recommended pilot program/s in each market may determine it is better suited to some specific domains.

Q. Can I select /recommend the partner institutions that may not have submitted an EOI?

A: Recommendations of partner institutions will be gratefully received. However, the final decision as to which institutions may participate will be made by the Department of Education and Acumen.

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