

Capacity building for occupational therapy in Vietnam: an Indo-Vietnam collaboration for knowledge transfer to support contextually relevant occupational therapy education and practice

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MANIPAL
ACADEMY of HIGHER EDUCATION
(Deemed to be University under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956)

**WFOT Congress, Cape Town
21st – 25th May, 2018**



Background

- Vietnam: 14th-most-populous country in the world
- Rising need for rehabilitation
 - 7.8% of people with disabilities (National Census on Housing and Population, 2016)
 - 30% of population with mental illness (Vietnam Institution for Mental Health, 2016)
- Acute shortage of rehabilitation professionals
- MCNV: Five-year grant (2015-2020) for OT training in Vietnam from United States Agency for International Development
- OT in India: Oldest and largest in Asia
 - MAHE, India – OT education provider since 24 years

Project Outline

Phase I: Needs Assessment

- Survey
- Focused discussion with stakeholders



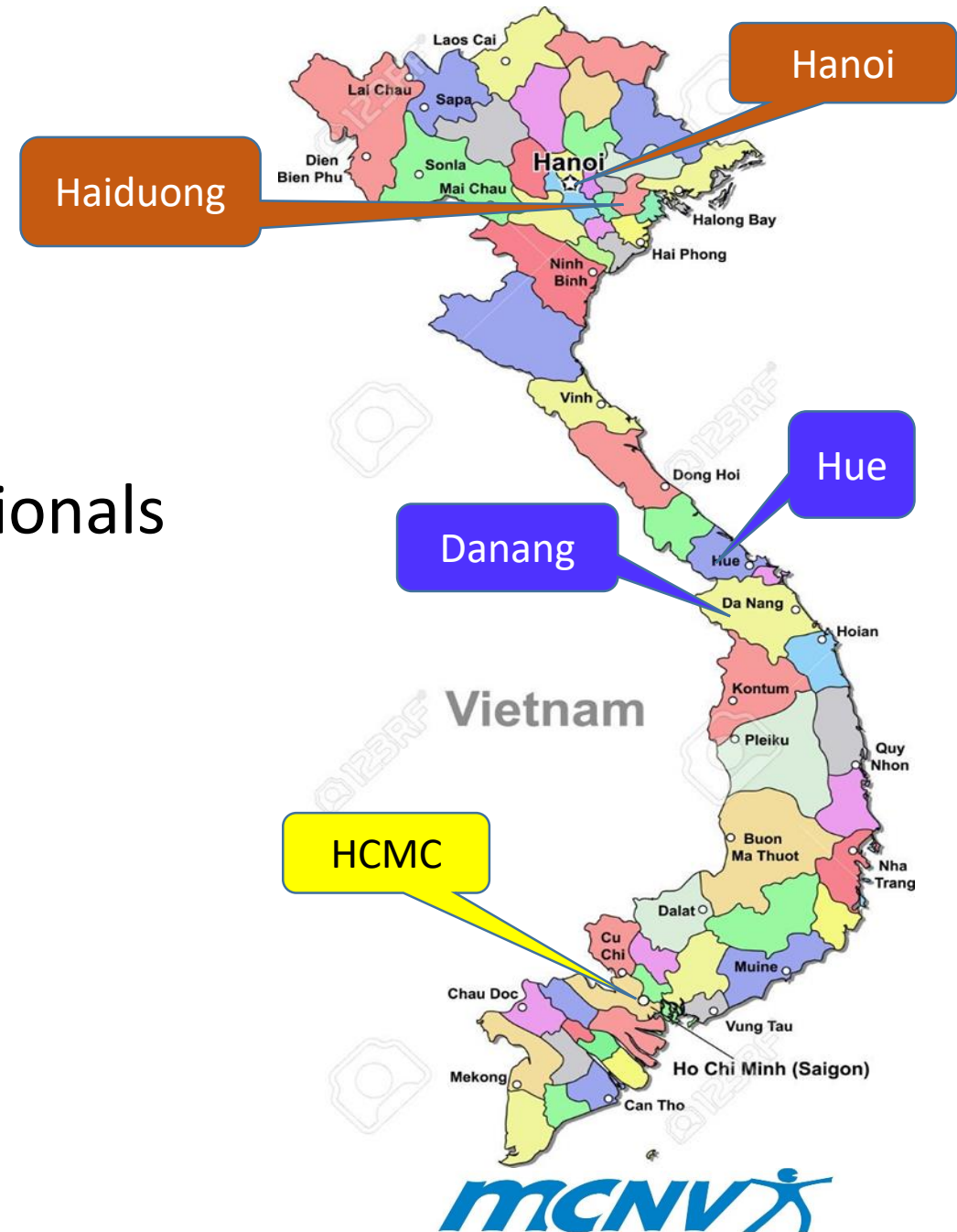
Phase II: Strategic planning and Implementation

- Steering committee for OT
- Building collaborations
- Three-track plan

Phase I

Survey: 10 - 17 Jan, 2016

- Consultant (MAHE, India) & MCNV
- Interviews with rehabilitation professionals
- Nine centers visited
 - Hospitals, rehabilitation centers
 - Universities
 - Vietnam Rehabilitation Association



Phase I

Survey Findings

- Limited quantum, quality and sustainability of services
- Medical model dominating health care
- Dependent on
 - International OT volunteers
 - PT/community workers
- Challenges to initiating OT education
 - Meeting minimum criteria prescribed by government
 - Teaching faculty unavailable to start program
 - Limited infrastructure and resources

Phase I

Focused Discussion with Stakeholders: 18 January, 2016 at Danang, Vietnam

- Challenges to OT education further discussed
- Lack of takers for the new program
 - High school
 - Diploma in Rehabilitation/Physiotherapy
 - Concerns over future employment
- OT curriculum of other countries may not be suitable to Vietnam context

Phase II: Strategic Planning & Implementation

Steering committee established



MCNV signs MoUs with

- Ministry of Education and Training
- Ministry of Health
- Hai Duong Medical Technical University (HMTU)
- University of Medicine and Pharmacy (UMP)
- MAHE

Phase II

Three-track plan for capacity building: 5 years

Educators

- Training outside Vietnam
- Support commencement of prospective BOT program

Practitioners

- Training in Vietnam
- Provide clinical services
- Support fieldwork for prospective BOT program

Advocacy

- Professional network
- Policy making

Phase II

Three-track plan: OT Educators

- Five students admitted through credit transfer into the second year of the BOT program at MAHE
 - 3 from HMTU, North Vietnam
 - 2 from UMP, South Vietnam
- Immersion program
 - Intensive English language training
 - Mentoring
- Currently in third year of the program
- Will complete Masters by 2022



Phase II

Three-track plan: OT Practitioners

Integrated into the currently available rehabilitation degree

Infrastructure

- Classrooms
- Two ADL labs

Curriculum

- Syllabus
- Study material

Clinical training

- Supervisors
- Guidelines & objectives

Phase II

Student Profile at the Two Universities

University	Total	Gender		Type of Training		Age (Years)
		Male	Female	Full-time*	Part-time**	
UMP	21	9	12	12	9	25.4
HMTU	36	7	29	0	36	29
Total	57	16	41	12	45	27.2

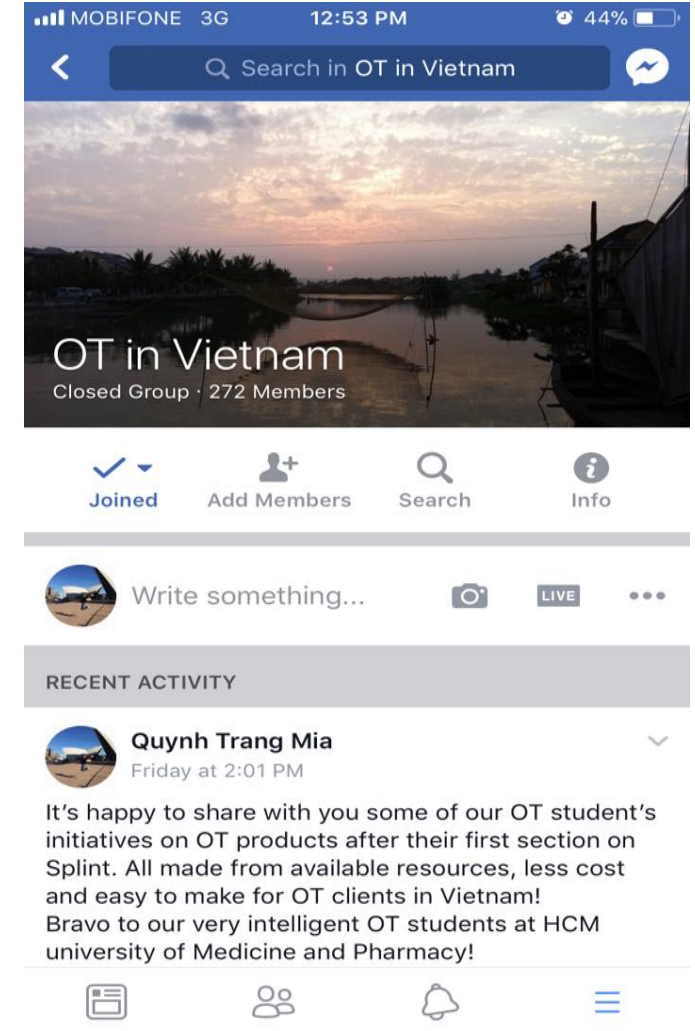
*Students who have completed high school

** Students with Diploma in Rehabilitation/Physiotherapy

Phase II

Three track plan: Advocacy

Professional network	Policy making
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Understand OT practice globally<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop national and international collaborations• Participated in international conferences○ Networking workshop○ Facebook platform for OT professionals in Vietnam	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Action plan for OT profession in Vietnam is being drafted<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Competency standards• Recognition○ MCNV provides<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recommendations• Technical support



Mid-term Review: 07 April 2018, Ho Chi Minh

Workshop attended by all stakeholders including collaborators, students, clinical supervisors and educators

Advantages

- Tailor-made curriculum
- Pilot-run of BOT curriculum
- Stakeholder commitment
- Support from government

Challenges

- Language and translations
- Fieldwork supervision
- Differing university processes
- Complex coordination

Project Highlights: A Significant Milestone

- Unique international cooperation for commencing OT education
- Curriculum adapted for the Vietnamese context
- Integration of pedagogic process to support learning
- Stakeholder-driven
- An impetus for OT in Vietnam
- Model for new OT programs in developing countries

Knowledge Transfer for Contextual Relevance



Conclusion: Contextually relevant process & outcomes



Concepts in Occupational Therapy
Understanding Southern Perspectives

Sebastina Anita Dsouza
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Acknowledgements

