

**EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL  
COOPERATION BETWEEN  
THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM  
AND  
THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC  
FOR THE YEARS 2021 - 2023**

Within the framework of the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam signed in Hanoi on 5<sup>th</sup> January 1992, and entered into force on 10<sup>th</sup>, May, 1998, the 7th session of the Vietnamese - Italian Joint Commission was held in Hanoi on 1st July 2020 - to examine the present state and further development of scientific and technological cooperation between the two Countries and to define the Executive Programme for the years 2021-2023.

The Vietnamese delegation was headed by Ms. Tran Thi Thu Huong, Director General, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology of Vietnam (MOST) and the Italian delegation was headed by H.E. Antonio Alessandro, Ambassador of Italy to Vietnam.

The members of the two delegations are listed in **Annex I**.

The institutions in charge of the coordination of the present Executive Programme, hereinafter referred as to the "Parties", are:

**for the Vietnamese Party:** Ministry of Science and Technology, Department of International Cooperation,

**for the Italian Party:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Directorate General for Cultural and Economic Promotion and Innovation.

The following agenda items of the Joint Commission were adopted by the Parties:

1. Review of Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the two Countries
2. New Executive Programme: Joint Research Projects of Particular Relevance
3. Final provisions.

**1. Review of the Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the two Countries**

The Parties have agreed to recognize the growing importance of science and technology with respect to the economic, social and cultural relations of the two Countries.

The Parties, considering the good relationships between the two Countries, stressed the need to develop and to promote bilateral cooperation in the field of science and technology.

The Parties have highlighted the importance of the scientific relations between Universities and research Centres of the two Countries.

The parties highly appreciate the outstanding results of the bilateral joint research projects of the 6<sup>th</sup> Executive Programme and therefore agreed to continue supporting the cooperation in the same fields indicated below.

## **2. New Executive Programme**

In the period between 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019 and 30<sup>th</sup> May 2019 a joint call for proposals was launched to collect project proposals in the following priority areas:

- Agriculture and Food Science;
- Biotechnology and Medicine;
- Environment and climate change;
- Information and Communication Technologies;
- Advanced Materials Technology;
- Industry 4.0;
- Astrophysics, Space and Earth Observation;
- Technologies applied to conservation and restoration of Natural and Cultural Heritage.

The criteria adopted in selecting the joint research projects were:

- Relevance with national funding policy;
- Scientific relevance;
- Competence and skill of the research teams;
- Methodology and documentation;
- Added value of the bilateral cooperation;
- Added value in addressing industrial/societal challenges;
- Appropriateness of the size and structure of the project, quality and stringency of the time schedule, work and budgetary plans and distribution of work among the partners.

Both Parties have reached consensus on 8 (eight) bilateral joint research projects which may receive financial support from both Parties. The list of the eight selected projects is given in **Annex II**.

Financial support may be granted on a national basis, within the limits of each annual budget, upon evaluation of the applications to be submitted according to the guidelines provided by the relevant authorities of each Party.

Furthermore, the Parties agree to select 3 (three) more projects, listed in **Annex III** which are encouraged to mobilize potential resources from different funding agencies or research institutions for implementation.

### 3. Final provisions

The Parties agreed to jointly organize a workshop in Rome in the year 2022 for the midterm review of the 7<sup>th</sup> Executive Programme and jointly present the cooperation opportunity in the framework of the Horizon Europe Programme (2021-2027).

The Parties agreed to hold the next session of the Joint Commission in Rome in the year 2023.

Details of the next session of the Joint Commission, such as date, agenda, etc. will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

This Executive Programme for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 – 31<sup>th</sup> December 2023 will remain valid until the coming into force of the next Executive Programme, within the limits of the annual budget, but no longer than one year after its expiration.

Any amendment to the text of this Executive Programme has to be authorised by the competent Ministries in both Countries and has to be carried out through diplomatic channels.

All initiatives foreseen in this Executive Programme will be carried out within the limits of the budgets and according to the rules prevailing in each Country.

Annexes I, II and III are attached hereto and are integral parts of the present document.

Signed in Hanoi, on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020, in two originals in the English language, each text being equally authoritative.

**For the Vietnamese Party**



Tran Thi Thu Huong  
Director General  
Department of International Cooperation,  
Ministry of Science and Technology

**For the Italian Party**



H.E. Antonio Alessandro  
Ambassador of Italy to Vietnam

## Annex I

### Members of the two Delegations

No	VIETNAMESE DELEGATION	ITALIAN DELEGATION
1	<b>Ms. Tran Thi Thu Huong</b> Director General, Department of International Cooperation, MOST	<b>H.E. Antonio Alessandro</b> Italian Ambassador to Vietnam
2	<b>Mr. Nguyen Duc Minh</b> Deputy Director General, Department of International Cooperation, MOST	<b>Mr. Antonino Tedesco</b> First Secretary, Head of the Economic and Commercial Section/ Development Cooperation Counsellor, Embassy of Italy in Vietnam
3	<b>Mr. Le Van Chinh</b> Deputy Head, Division of Natural Sciences, Department of Social, Natural and Human Sciences, MOST.	<b>Prof. Dr. Marco Abbiati</b> Scientific Attaché, Embassy of Italy in Vietnam
4	<b>Mr. Luu Quang Minh</b> Officer, Department of Science and Technology for Economic-Technical Branches, MOST.	
5	<b>Ms. Chu Thi Van Thuong</b> Officer, Department of High Technology, MOST.	
6	<b>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Trinh Thi Thuy</b> Institute of Chemistry, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology	
7	<b>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vo Thi Kim Thanh</b> University of Agriculture and Forestry, Hue University, Ministry of Education and Training	
8	<b>Dr. Architect. Hoang Dao Cuong</b> Director of Institute for Conservation of Monuments, Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism	
9	<b>Mr. Nguyen Hoang Anh</b> Deputy Head of European and South Pacific Division, Department of International Cooperation, MOST	
10	<b>Ms. Hoang Hien Hau</b> Desk Officer for S&T cooperation with Italy, Department of International Cooperation, MOST	
11	<b>Mr. Dinh Quy Cuong</b> Officer, Department of International Cooperation, MOST	

## Annex II

**Significant research projects selected within the frame of the Executive Programme of Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Italian Republic for the years 2021-2023**

No	Research Area	Project title	Vietnamese partner	Italian partner
1	Agriculture and Food Science	Cooperation in research and development of specialized bacterial biofertilizers for Robusta coffee plans in Vietnam	Nguyễn Thu Hà, Soils and Fertilizers Research Institute, Hanoi	Vittorio Venturi, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Trieste
2	Agriculture and Food Science	Research and development of integrated rainfall measurements platform for application in agriculture, hydro-meteorological hazard prevention and mitigation, and water management (INDRA)	Nguyễn Thị Nhật Thanh, University of Technology, Hanoi National University	Federico Porcù, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Alma Mater - University of Bologna
3	Biotechnology and Medicine	The novel molecular approach to liver fibrosis treatment	University of Natural Science, Ho Chi Minh National University	Gabriele Grassi, Life Sciences Department, University of Trieste
4	Environment and climate change	Geoinformatics and earth observation for landslide monitoring	Trương Xuân Quang, Hanoi University of Natural Resources and Environment	Maria Antonia Brovelli, Civil, Environmental and Land Management Engineering, Polytechnic University of Milano
5	Information Communication Technology	Robustness and important components of real-world social weighted networks	Nguyễn Quang, Ton Duc Thang University, Ho Chi Minh City	Davide Cassi, Department of Mathematical, Physical and Computer Sciences, University of Parma
6	Advanced Materials Technology	Development of an innovative ultrafiltration (UF) membranes in Anaerobic Membranes BioReactor (AnMBR) for seafood processing wastewater treatment	Lã Vĩnh Trung, Vietnamese-German University, Ho Chi Minh City	Alberto Figoli, Institute of Membrane Technology, CNR, Rende

7	Industry 4.0	Collaboration: collaborative mobile robotic manipulators for industrial applications	Nguyễn Minh Tâm, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Education	Lorenzo Sabattini, Department of Engineering Sciences and Methods. University of Modena and Reggio Emilia
8	Technologies applied to conservation and restoration of Natural and Cultural Heritage	Information technology application for studying the current situation, assessing potentials, and orienting preservation, promoting the value of heritages of culture, history, landscape in Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Thua Thien Hue provinces to develop types of tourism	Hoàng Văn Hiến, Hue University	Eva Savina Malinverni, Interdepartmental Centre for Landscape Research, Polytechnic University of Marche

### Annex III

**Significant research projects selected within the frame of the Executive Programme which are encouraged to mobilize potential resources from different funding agencies for implementation**

No	Research Area	Project title	Vietnamese partner	Italian partner
1	Advanced Materials Technology	Large-area 2D/plasmonic heterostructures for photocatalysis and energy storage (H2D)	Phạm Duy Long, Institute of Material Science, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, Hanoi	Maria Caterina Giordano, Department of Physics, University of Genova
2	Agriculture and Food Science	Quality and authenticity protection of artisanal fermented foods through the characterization and conservation of their microbial and genetic heritage	Đàm Sao Mai, Industrial University of Ho Chi Minh City, Ministry of Industry and Trade	Francesca De Filippis, Department of Agricultural Sciences, University of Napoli Federico II
3	Environment and climate change	Flood rich management: Prevention, adaptation and resilience strategies in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam	Châu Nguyễn Xuân Quang, University of Natural Science, Ho Chi Minh National University	Alberto Ferlenga, Department of Architecture and Arts, University IUAV of Venezia