

Empowering the Youth with Awareness of Local Contexts

An ACES Vietnam Case Study

Introduction

The case study of Empowering the youth with awareness of local contexts takes place in Hoa Binh, a mountainous province in the North of Vietnam. It is part of ACES Vietnam's Playful School model which features the curriculum development of the teaching of the Local education subject and Muong ethnic language, using the Green Playground as a pedagogical approach, as well as Playful and Frugal Aspects. This case study consists of curriculum development, material development, and toolkits of playful learning activities that can be used in teaching the Muong ethnic language & culture and socio-economic features of Hoa Binh province.

Target Audience

The project involved approximately 95 students and 5 teachers in Hoa Binh College of Education and students in Nguyen Tat Thanh School. In addition, it targeted a wider community of the Muong* ethnic culture in Hoa Binh and across the country.

**The Muong is an ethnic group native to northern Vietnam. The Muong are the Vietnam's third largest minority group out of 53, with an estimated population of 1.45 million (according to the 2019 census). The Muong people inhabit the mountainous region of northern Vietnam. They are most closely related to the ethnic Vietnamese (Kinh).*

Aims & Objectives

One major objective of the case study is to provide teachers with innovative pedagogical approaches and curriculum transformation in teaching the language, culture, and socio-economic aspects of the local province, as per the requirement of the Ministry of Education and Training (2018). It is a brand-new curriculum that can integrate both the Green Playground as a pedagogical approach for playful learning and Frugal STEM.

Teachers of the Local Education subject and Muong ethnic language joined ACES Vietnam's training workshops on pedagogies, design thinking, gamification, and frugal aspects. They co-designed activities and co-developed lesson plans and learning materials. Other aspects

such as testing and assessment, extra-curricular activities, experiential learning, and promotion of the language and culture were also taken into account.

Teachers are facilitated to showcase their teaching and research on the field. They become ACES ambassadors and recognised for their strong commitment to innovation and creativity in teaching.

The project supported teachers in addressing local socio-cultural issues and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 3 – Good health and well-being; SDG 4 – Quality education; and SDG 5 – Gender equality.

Sustainable Development Goals Addressed

- [GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being](#)
- [GOAL 4: Quality Education](#)
- [GOAL 5: Gender Equality](#)

Timeline

The case study has been active since April 2021 and is set to complete by June 2022. It consists of 5 major sections: (i) Introduction of ACES and Frugal Stem, (ii) Gamification/Design Thinking in curriculum development, (iii) Development of materials and activities; (iv) Demonstration of teaching and coaching; and (v) Evaluation of the curriculum.

Locations

- **Nguyen Tat Thanh**, Hoa Binh City, Vietnam.