

Grant name	Australia-Vietnam Enhanced Economic Engagement Grant (AVEG) Pilot Program
Funding body	DFAT
Background	<p>On 14 November 2020, as part of a broader package of economic, development and security measures to support Southeast Asia’s recovery from COVID-19, Prime Minister Morrison announced the Mekong-Australia Partnership (MAP), a four-year \$232 million investment, led by DFAT, with whole-of-government input. Pillar Three of the six pillars of MAP is focused specifically on Vietnam.</p> <p>The AVEG Program 2021 will advance Australia’s international economic interests through bilateral engagement on trade and investment policy priorities of the Australian Government.</p>
Intended Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase public awareness of Australia’s economic opportunities in Vietnam • Develop enduring partnerships across sectors in Australia and Vietnam • Increase Australia’s capacity to effectively engage with Vietnam in existing and emerging areas of mutual economic interest
Maximum amount to be awarded per grant	AUD \$50,000 - \$100,000
Grant period	June 2021 – June 2022
Application due date	Friday 14 May 14:00 AEST
SSEAC Cluster focus	<p>Economic and Social Development</p> <p>Environment and Resources</p> <p>State and Society</p>
Disciplinary focus	Not specified, but anyone working on issues related to trade and investment in Vietnam may have an interest.
Geographic focus	Vietnam
Thematic focus	Economic engagement between Australia and Vietnam
Key eligibility criteria	Individuals who intend the grant to be administered by a university should apply on behalf of the university, i.e. your university is the applicant.
Eligible activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • industry dialogues (virtual or in-person) to address challenges and opportunities • trade delegations, particularly in new or emerging sectors • investment policy talks to further operational objectives • workshops or seminars with capacity building outcomes • market access research leading to implementation blueprints

Application process

You must submit your grant application on the application form, which can be downloaded at <https://dgc.smartygrants.com.au/AVEG>.

Attachments include:

- two short signed independent references
- letter of support with nominated partners (if relevant)
- organisational capability statement or individual CV
- letter of support from Research Office (If applying on behalf of university)

Assessment Criteria

Criterion 1: Clarity of purpose: Identify trade and investment opportunities or challenges that this proposal seeks to address.

Criterion 2: In what way does this project go above and beyond 'business as usual' activity and represent a clear 'surge' to boost trade and investment?

Criterion 3: What is the need for the particular grant activity? Is this project being delivered in a priority sector where Australian interests are at risk (this should include a very short justification of the sector and risk)?

Criterion 4: What is the capability and capacity of the applicant to undertake the grant activity?

Criterion 5: The proposal is achievable in the context of COVID-19-related restrictions.

Criterion 6: Value for money

Further information and enquiries

https://dgc.smartygrants.com.au/s/site/dfat/dcg/Australia-Vietnam_Enhanced_Economic_Engagement_Grant_AVEG_Pilot_Program_Guidelines.pdf

If you have any questions, contact the Vietnam Economic Strategy Team vietnameconomicstrategy@dfat.gov.au no later than 10 May 2021.