



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
ON COOPERATION IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

**BETWEEN**

**THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SKILLS AND  
EMPLOYMENT**

**AND**

**THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION OF COLOMBIA**

The Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment and the Ministry of National Education of Colombia (hereinafter referred to singularly as “Participant” and collectively as “the Participants”)

**Considering** the achievements derived from the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Australia and the Government of Colombia for cooperation in the field of education and training, signed in Canberra on 6 August 2002;

**Desiring** to strengthen the bilateral relations in the fields of education, and vocational education and training between their respective countries;

**Conscious** that education and vocational and technical training serve to strengthen bonds between both countries;

**Pursuant** to the prevailing laws and regulations of both countries;

Have reached the following understandings:

**I: OBJECTIVE AND FRAMEWORK**

1. The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter the “Memorandum”) is to provide the basis and framework to enhance and promote cooperation between the Participants, for the purpose of implementing activities in the fields of education and vocational education and training, on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit.

**II: PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION**

2. Cooperative activities under this Memorandum will cover the fields of education, and vocational education and training. Participants will endeavour to encourage and facilitate, as appropriate, the development of contacts and cooperation in the field of education between the interested educational organisations and institutions of both countries, including regional and global forums in areas of mutual interest.

Fields of cooperation that have been mutually identified as priority areas, include the following:

- 2.1 Promote cooperation through consultations between the Participants to address activities of mutual interest, including coordinated work in multilateral forums.



2.2 The facilitation of ties between institutions in the fields of education and vocational education and training, subject to the national laws of Australia and of the Republic of Colombia, by means of:

- 2.2.1 Encouraging interaction, such as meetings, seminars, workshops, conferences, symposia and professional visits;
- 2.2.2 The promotion of mobility scholarships offered by both countries;
- 2.2.3 Cooperation on the teaching of English and Spanish;
- 2.2.4 Collaborative projects to support shared education and training objectives;
- 2.2.5 Facilitating dialogue on transnational education, including online education, with a focus on quality assurance;
- 2.2.6 Supporting efforts to enhance student outcomes and experiences in Australia and Colombia.

2.3 The exchange of information in fields of mutual interest including:

- 2.3.1 Education and vocational education and training standards and systems in both countries;
- 2.3.2 Policy development in the fields of education and vocational education and training in both countries, including a focus on the connections between the education system and the labour market;
- 2.3.3 Teaching and curriculum materials;
- 2.3.4 Standards, accreditation systems and nomenclature of education awards to assist in the interpretation and evaluation of degrees, diplomas and certificates;
- 2.3.5 Development and benchmarking of occupational standards; and
- 2.3.6 Any other cooperation area jointly determined by the Participants.

### III: INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

3. For the purposes of adequately coordinating and following up on cooperation activities developed under this Memorandum, the Participants designate the following agencies:

#### **For Colombia**

Ministry of National Education of Colombia - Cooperation and International Affairs Office

#### **For Australia**

The Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment -  
International Division



#### IV: COSTS

4. This Memorandum does not generate costs or budgetary expenditures for the Participants. The cost of cooperation activities carried out by the Participants in the implementation of this Memorandum will be borne as mutually determined. All cooperation activities undertaken by the Participants under this Memorandum will be subject to the availability of funds.

#### V: AMENDMENT

5. This Memorandum may be amended by the mutual determination of the Participants. A Participant that wishes to amend the Memorandum will notify the other in writing, including all relevant details.

#### VI: DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

6. Any dispute or conflict that may arise between the Participants in connection with the interpretation or application of this Memorandum will be resolved amicably through direct interaction and cooperation.

#### VII: DURATION AND EFFECT

7. This Memorandum will come into effect on the date it has been signed on behalf of the Participants and will be automatically extended for successive periods of five (5) years, unless either Participant informs the other in writing, at least six (6) months in advance, of its intention not to extend the Memorandum.
8. Either Participant may terminate this Memorandum by giving prior notice to the other Participant. Termination will not affect the validity of any activities that have been developed by the Participants.
9. This Memorandum represents the entire understanding between the Participants and does not create any legally binding rights or obligations.

The undersigned, being duly authorised by their respective governments, have signed this Memorandum of Understanding.

Signed in Sydney on 2 March 2022 and Bogotá on 24/03 2022 in two originals, each in the English and Spanish languages, all texts being equally valid.

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN  
GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION, SKILLS AND  
EMPLOYMENT

**The Hon STUART ROBERT MP**  
Acting Minister for Education and Youth

FOR THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL  
EDUCATION OF COLOMBIA

**MARIA VICTORIA ANGULO GONZALEZ**  
Colombian Minister of Education