In the countries where tourism is a key sector for the economy, IECD creates or strengthens hospitality schools targeting vulnerable young women and men, to guide them towards a successful professional and social integration.

The headlines

Parents put themselves in the students’ shoes at « La Rizière » Madagascar

On December 9th, students’ families discovered and experienced the work of their children, in the school’s kitchen, restaurant and hotel departments. It was a great shared moment with the students’ trainers, which helped the parents better understand the vocational training programme and the requirements of hospitality and catering trades.

Gathering of IECD’s Hospitality & Catering team in Thailand

From October 17th to 20th, the H&C teams from Madagascar, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam gathered at the HCTC of Mae Sot, Thailand. This internal seminar improved the team’s understanding of the various projects of the same thematic area. It was also the opportunity to pool and capitalize working tools and methodologies for a more efficient project management.

Opening of the French Bakery and Pastry School in Ho Chi Minh City

On December 18th, a second Bakery and Pastry school opened in Vietnam’s economic capital. After an integration day with their parents, 18 highly motivated students*, including 64% of girls, started their 20-month training in bakery and pastry with both theoretical and practical lessons, as well as their English and life skills courses.

*20 by Têt

A few figures

La Rizièrè graduates from Sept. 2017 (Madagascar)

48 young graduates

including 79% of girls

98% success rate at final exams

After 3 months, 71% of integration (in employment or further studies)
**INTERNAL SEMINAR**

On December 6th and 7th, 11 member schools of ASSET-H&C (Association of Southeast Asian Social Enterprises for Training in Hospitality & Catering) gathered for the network’s 2nd annual seminar in Siem Reap, Cambodia. Those 2 days contributed to creating a strong collective dynamic among member schools, and enabled them to have constructive opportunities for an exchange of ideas, experiences and good practices. The 20 representatives coming from 4 countries were also able to highlight common challenges (students’ recruitment, lack of qualified workforce, etc.) and many ways to support each other better in 2018 (staff, student and resource exchanges, etc.).

**PUBLICATION CONFERENCE**

The seminar ended with a conference at the Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra, open to the network’s and the schools’ partners. Members agreed on putting a focus on the theme of «green» or «eco-responsible» hospitality & tourism.

The event was the opportunity to present ASSET-H&C’s «Ecospatiality Initiative» that aims at shaping the next generations of responsible tourism professionals in the region by creative conducing environments - eco-schools - for students’ training on sustainable tourism – eco-students.

Key actors of sustainable tourism and environmental protection were also invited to share practical tools and methods to reduce water and energy consumption, food waste, pollution (air, water, soil), and thus the environmental footprint of the sector.

The conference gathered close to 90 people, who showed a great interest for the topics discussed, and then enjoyed an eco-friendly buffet for more informal exchanges.

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**The picture**

December 9th, 2017: as part of the twinning partnership between Savoie-Léman hospitality school (France) and the HCTC of Mae Sot (Thailand), a dinner was organised by Savoie-Léman students’ association Humanithai to finance the coming of students and trainers in Thailand early 2018, for the second year in a row. The dinner was attended by Xavier BOUTIN, IECF founding director (on the left) and Cédric MOUTHON, well-known chef and sponsor of Humanithai (on the right) and allowed raising more than 800€ for the project.

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