



MINISTÈRE  
DE L'ÉDUCATION NATIONALE,  
DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR  
ET DE LA RECHERCHE



# EDUCATIONAL CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT

**Between the Martinican Academy  
and**

**the Ministry of Education,  
SaintVincent and the Grenadines**

**With the support of  
the French Embassy to the OECS**

**and the Alliance Française of  
SaintVincent and the Grenadines**



MINISTÈRE  
DES  
AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES



## EDUCATIONAL CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT

This Agreement is made between:

The Martinican Academy, represented by Mrs. Catherine Bertho-Lavenir, Rector of the Academy, Chancellor of Université Antilles, Academic Director of the National Education Departments,

And

The Ministry of Education of St. Vincent and the Grenadines represented by Honourable Girlyn Miguel,

With the support of

The French Embassy to the members of the Organization of the Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), stationed in Saint Lucia, represented by His Excellency Éric De La Moussaye,

And

The Alliance Française of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines represented by its President, Mr. Ali Medjahed;

Considering the interest to develop and organise partnership initiatives in the area of educational co-operation between the establishments, teaching staff and students of the French Overseas Department of Martinique, on the one hand, and the State of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, within a favourable framework of geographic, historical, cultural and linguistic proximity,

It has been agreed:

### ***Article 1: Purpose***

The current agreement aims to specify the scope and the objectives of the educational cooperation initiatives targeted in Article 2, as well as the obligations and the resources to be made available by each signatory in order to support these initiatives during the period:

**1<sup>st</sup> September, 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2016**, renewable annually by an explicit decision of renewal for a period of five years. Following this request, renewal will be considered after evaluation of the existing agreement.

## **Article 2: Scope**

### **2.1 Physical and virtual mobility of teachers and students**

The two parties aim to give new dynamics to teacher and student exchanges between the two territories. They have expressed their shared desire to develop "learner mobility", both physically and virtually, at all levels of the education system.

In light of this, they are committed to encouraging the establishment of partnerships between schools and teaching teams from the two territories in order to organise immersion language programmes for primary, secondary and post-secondary school students. The primary school tours will be based on the discovery class model and will be accompanied by a team of bilingual teachers. For the secondary and post-secondary levels, these will take the form of tours or training programmes whose organizational arrangements will be subject to the statutory instruments specific to each party's education system.

In order to reinforce the authentic use of the language, the two parties will encourage distance exchanges through Information and Communication Technologies. This virtual mobility will allow teachers and students to prepare their physical mobility projects, to keep in touch during the trip, and to make the exchanges sustainable.

### **2.2 Linguistic Practice for Teachers**

The two parties agree to set up a partnership for teacher exchanges which will enhance the teaching of French in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Martinican students will be given the opportunity to be instructed by English speaking teachers, and reciprocally, Vincentian students will receive instruction from native French teachers.

These teacher exchanges will support linguistic practice of both Martinican and Vincentian teachers upon return to their respective territories.



At the primary and secondary levels, professional exchanges will be offered to teachers for a one-year period in which they will substitute each other in the partner territories and will coordinate co-operation actions.

At the secondary and post-secondary levels, professional short-term trips for English teachers and teachers of a non-linguistic background will be encouraged and facilitated.

### **2.3 Provision of Information Relative to Training Programmes Offered**

With the assistance of the *Office National d'Informations sur les Enseignements et les Professions (ONISEP)*, the Martinican Academy agrees to develop information campaigns intended for its Vincentian counterparts on the listings of possible post-secondary level study opportunities offered within the training framework.

### ***Article 3: Signatory Contributions***

The four signatories of this agreement will lend their support to the co-operation initiatives described in Article 2 by mobilising the following structures and personnel:

#### **The Martinican Academy will:**

- (1) mobilise the relevant departments in the areas of primary, secondary and post-secondary education, information and orientation services for students and international relations within the local education authority;
- (2) organise exchange programmes and twinning of schools, classes, students and teachers in collaboration with the other Semi-Autonomous Regions;
- (3) entrust the design and administration of digital platform with areas for the development of shared resources in French, English and Creole; and for training and sharing best practices online, in order to provide support for the twinning programmes and language exchanges to CANOPE (the former Centre Régional de Documentation Pédagogique (CRDP) of the Martinican Academy;

#### **The Ministry of Education of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines will:**

- (1) mobilise the relevant departments and staff within the Ministry in order to support, manage and evaluate the common initiatives previously cited;
- (2) promote the teaching of French in primary, secondary and post-secondary schools island wide as well as the initial and in service training of teachers of French;

- (3) implement the necessary mechanisms to facilitate the transmission of information to students and their families about possible higher education programmes offered in Martinique.
- (4) *promote the sitting of official and internationally recognized examinations offered by the French Ministry of Education through the Alliance Française such as the DELF (Diplôme d'Étude en Langue Française) and DALF (Diplôme Approfondi en Langue Française).*

**The French Embassy to the OECS, through its Department of Co-operation and Cultural Initiatives will:**

- (1) ensure the monitoring of the current agreement with the assistance of the relevant local education authorities in Martinique and Saint Lucia; and will facilitate the implementation of the educational co-operation initiatives undertaken therein;
- (2) ensure the coherence of the initiatives with those undertaken within the framework of the Embassy's Plan of Action and by the other partners (the other Semi-Autonomous Regions) in regional co-operation;
- (3) support, as much as it can, mobility between the two territories through subventions, scholarships, mobilisation of funds for regional co-operation.

**The Alliance Française of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines will:**

- (1) make its staff and premises available for the organisation of activities and training programmes for teachers of French.
- (2) cover the daily operational expenses incurred by this office .
- (3) promote, arrange and organise bi-annual sessions of the DELF and DALF official examinations.

#### ***Article 4: Responsibility and Monitoring of the Agreement***

The Rector of the Martinican Academy, the Ministry of Education in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the French Ambassador to the OECS and the President of the Alliance Française of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines are responsible for the execution of the current agreement.

A monitoring committee comprising the signatories of the current agreement or their delegates/agents will be put in place and will meet at least biannually in order to conduct mid-term and end of term evaluations of the initiatives as well as to outline an action plan for the following year should the agreement be renewed.



## **Article 5: Modification and Termination**

The current agreement can be modified by a freely negotiated endorsement between the concerned parties.

The convention can be denounced to the initiative of one of the parts at the end of a three months advance notice. The termination does not give prejudice to the completion of the current actions in the date of its coming into effect.

## **Article 6: Length**

The current agreement will take effect from **1<sup>st</sup> September, 2015, for a one year period, and will end on 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2016.** It is renewable, annually, by an explicit decision of renewal, for a period of five years, subject to a positive assessment of the initiatives and the availability of the resources committed by the signatories.

Signed in Kingstown on the 14th day of March, 2015  
(in four original copies, one for each signatory)

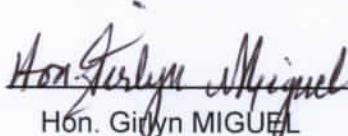
On behalf of the Martinican Academy,  
Rector of the Academy  
Chancellor of the University

Academic Director of the National Education Departments

On behalf of the Ministry of Education  
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  
Honourable Minister



Catherine BERTHO-LAVENIR



Hon. Givlyn MIGUEL

On behalf of the French Embassy,  
His Excellency  
Ambassador of France



H.E. Éric De LA MOUSSAYE

On behalf of Alliance Française  
of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  
President



Ali MEDJAHED