MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

on the **Czech–Vietnam Deep-Tech Innovation & Impact Hub**

CVDI Hub

Effective Date: May 26, 2026

Between

International Neurodegenerative Disorders Research Center (INDRC), Evropská 2758/11, Prague 16000, Czech Republic, Represented by Dr. Vít Dočkal, Director

with

Center for Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Computing in System Brain Research (CLARA), Evropská 2758/11, Prague 16000, Czech Republic, represented by Prof. Václav Snášel, CLARA Director

and

Ton Duc Thang University (TDTU), 19 Nguyen Huu Tho Street, Tan Hung Ward, District 7, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, Represented by Assoc. prof. Tran Trong Dao, PhD., President

and

Czech Technical University in Prague, Jugoslávských partyzánů 1580/3, 160 00 Prague, represented by Prof. Michal Pěchouček, Rector, (responsible organizational unit for Project implementation is Czech Institute of Informatics, Robotics and Cybernetics, represented by Prof. Vladimír Mařík, Scientific Director)

and

Vietnam Aviation Academy (VAA), 104 Nguyen Van Troi Street, Phu Nhuan District, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, Represented by Assoc. prof. Tran Hoai An, PhD., President

and

Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Engineering represented by Assoc. prof. Le Hieu Giang, PhD., President

and

Zlín Region, tř. Tomáše Bati 21, 760 01 Zlín, represented by Ing. Radim Holiš, Governor

and

Hung Vuong Hospital, represented by Assoc. prof. MUDr. Hoang Thi Diem Tuyet, PhD., Director

And

Tomas Baťa University, nám. T. G. Masaryka 5555, 760 01 Zlín, represented by prof. Mgr. Milan Adámek, Ph.D., Rector.

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, the Parties recognize that this collaboration is aligned with the Joint Statement on the Elevation of Bilateral Relations to a Strategic Partnership between the Czech Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (signed on 20 January 2025), which emphasizes cooperation in education, science, technology, and digital transformation, particularly in artificial intelligence (AI), high-performance computing (HPC), and data-driven innovation.

WHEREAS, the Parties recognize the strategic importance of deep-technology innovation and the complementary strengths of the Czech Republic (advanced research infrastructure, high-performance computing, and industrial heritage) and Vietnam (rapidly growing engineering talent, innovation capacity, and emerging market access);

WHEREAS, the Parties seek to establish a structured innovation corridor connecting Prague/Zlín and Ho Chi Minh City to identify, develop, and scale deep-tech ventures in areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Renewable Energy, and Biotechnology;

WHEREAS, the Parties intend to operationalize the "Czech–Vietnam Deep-Tech Innovation & Impact Hub" (CVDI Hub) as a pilot model for broader Czech–Indo-Pacific cooperation, leveraging existing academic ties and the Strategic Partnership between the Czech Republic and Vietnam;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties hereby express their mutual intent to collaborate under the terms set forth below.

ARTICLE 1: EXPRESSION OF INTEREST AND SCOPE

1.1 Intent to Collaborate

The Parties hereby express their intention to cooperate in the design, establishment, and operation of the **Czech–Vietnam Deep-Tech Innovation & Impact Hub (CVDI Hub)**. The detailed scope, methodology, and implementation plan of the project are described in **Annex 1** attached hereto.

1.2 Objectives

The primary objectives of this collaboration include:

- Creating a distributed innovation infrastructure linking Vietnam and the Czech Republic.
- Facilitating the transfer of technology from research (TRL 2–4) to commercialization (TRL 7+).
- Establishing a five-phase acceleration pipeline leading to pre-seed and seed investment.
- Mobilizing venture capital and fostering the creation of joint Czech-Vietnamese deep-tech start-ups.
- Enhancing researcher mobility, joint PhD supervision, and cross-cultural innovation exchange.

1.3 Non-Binding Nature

This MoU constitutes a statement of political and strategic intent. It is not intended to create legally binding obligations regarding financial contributions, intellectual property rights, or specific commercial commitments. Any binding agreements regarding funding, equity, or specific project execution shall be subject to separate, definitive contracts (e.g., Service Level Agreements, Investment Agreements) negotiated and signed by the relevant Parties.

ARTICLE 2: GOVERNANCE PROVISIONS

2.1 Steering Committee

The initiative is governed by a Steering Committee, which serves as the highest executive authority. Decisions of the Steering Committee shall be made by a simple majority of its members. The Steering Committee was established on March 4, 2026 (members, Vít Dočkal, PhD., INDRC Director, Prof. Václav Snášel, CLARA Director, Dr. Tran Trong Dao, PhD., President of TDTU and Phan Dao, PhD., Director of European Cooperation Center, TDTU). Upon approval of Zlin region and VAA, two additional members will be co-opted into the Steering Committee (six members in total), i.e. three members of the Czech Republic National Committee and three members of the Vietnam National Committee:

Czech Republic National Committee (3 members):

- Vít Dočkal, PhD., INDRC Director
- Prof. Václav Snášel, CLARA Director
- Ing. David Vychytil, Deputy Governor, Zlin region.

Vietnam National Committee (3 members):

- Assoc. Prof. Tran Trong Dao, PhD., TDTU President
- Phan Dao, PhD., Director of European Cooperation Center, TDTU
- _____ Vietnam Aviation Academy (VAA)

2.2 National Committees

Each country shall have a National Committee responsible for decisions affecting activities within its own territory, including approval of new partners. Decisions shall be taken by a simple majority. The corresponding National Committee of the other country shall be consulted but does not hold a veto. National Committees have exclusive authority over country-specific matters.

2.3 Assembly

The Assembly is the collective body representing all project partners. Assembly decisions are advisory; Each partner organization shall have one vote. Each partner is affiliated either to the Czech/EU Assembly Chamber or Vietnamese Assembly Chamber. The Assembly shall: i] Provide feedback on ongoing activities, ii] Facilitate access to distributed knowledge, infrastructure, and expertise, iii] Promote creation of joint teams and innovation projects.

2.4 Founding Project Partners

Czech/EU Assembly Chamber:

- INDRC, represented by Vít Dočkal, PhD., INDRC Director
- Czech Technical University (CIIRC), represented by Prof. Vladimír Mařík, CIIRC Scientific Director
- Zlin Region, represented by Ing. David Vychytil
- UTB- Tomas Baťa University, represented by prof. Mgr. Milan Adámek, Ph.D.

Vietnamese Assembly Chamber:

- TDTU, represented by _____
- HCM-UTE, represented by _____
- VAA, represented by _____
- Hung Vuong Hospital, represented by _____

2.5 Membership of other Partners
Any other organization may apply to become a member with voting rights in the Assembly. Membership applications must be approved by the respective National Committee.

2.5 Coordination Mechanisms
Regular virtual meetings of the Steering Committee shall occur at least twice a year. A bi-annual summit shall be held alternately in Ho Chi Minh City and the Czech Republic (Prague/Zlín), or online. A Secretariat shall be established (initially hosted by INDRC and TDTU) to manage day-to-day operations and communication.

ARTICLE 3: IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

3.1 Phased Approach

The Parties agree to pursue the project according to the five-phase pipeline outlined in **Annex 1**, commencing with:

- **Phase 0 (2026):** Formal endorsement and governance setup.
- **Phase 1 (2026):** Innovation discovery and competition.
- **Phase 2 (Late 2026):** Project evaluation and classification.
- **Phase 3 (Early 2027):** Boot Camp
- **Phase 4 (2027 onwards):** Pre-seed/Seed investment and scaling.

3.2 Resource Contribution Each Party agrees to contribute in-kind or financial resources (personnel, facilities, expertise) as necessary to advance the project, subject to internal approval processes. Specific financial commitments for travel, accommodation, and program costs shall be detailed in subsequent Service Level Agreements or upon decision of each Party.

ARTICLE 4: DURATION AND TERMINATION

4.1 Duration This MoU shall enter into force upon signature by all founding Parties and shall remain in effect for a period of **six (6) years**.

4.2 Renewal Upon expiration, this MoU may be renewed for additional periods upon mutual written agreement of all Parties, reflecting the evolution of the CVDI Hub.

4.3 Termination

- **Automatic Termination:** This MoU shall automatically terminate six (6) years from the date of signature unless renewed.
- **Early Termination:** Any Party may withdraw from this MoU by providing ninety (90) days' written notice to the Steering Committee. Such withdrawal shall not affect the validity of any separate binding agreements already executed.
- **Effect of Termination:** Upon termination, the Parties shall cooperate to ensure an orderly conclusion of ongoing activities and the protection of any intellectual property generated during the term of the MoU.

ARTICLE 5: FINAL PROVISIONS

5.1 Confidentiality

The Parties agree to treat any proprietary or confidential information exchanged under this MoU with due care and in accordance with applicable laws, pending the execution of specific Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) where necessary.

5.2 Dispute Resolution In the spirit of cooperation, any disputes arising from the interpretation of this MoU shall be resolved amicably through negotiation between the Parties. As this is a non-binding instrument, no legal recourse shall be sought based solely on the terms of this MoU.

5.3 Amendments Any amendments to this MoU must be made in writing and signed by authorized representatives of all founding Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective organizations, have signed this MoU on the first date written above.

For the Czech Republic Partners:

Dr. Vít Dočkal, PhD.
Director, INDRC

Prof. Václav Snášel
Director, CLARA

Prof. Michal Pěchouček
Rector, CTU

Prof. Vladimír Mařík

Scientific Director, CIIRC, CTU

Ing. Radim Holiš
Governor, Zlín Region

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prof. Mgr. Milan Adámek, Ph.D.

Rector, UTB

Signatures continue next page.

For the Vietnam Partners:

Assoc. prof. Tran Trong Dao, PhD.
President, Ton Duc Thang University

Phan Dao, PhD.
Director of European Cooperation Center, Ton Duc Thang University

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Assoc. prof. Tran Hoai An, PhD.
Representative, Vietnam Aviation Academy Representative

Assoc. prof. Le Hieu Giang, PhD.
President, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Education

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Assoc. prof. MUDr. Hoang Thi Diem Tuyet, PhD.
Representative, Hung Vuong Hospital

ANNEX 1:

Czech-Viet Deep-Tech Innovation & Impact Hub

CVDI Hub

The Eurasia Innovation Corridor for Deep-Tech Venture Creation

Executive Summary

The **Czech–Vietnam Deep-Tech Innovation & Impact Hub (CVDI Hub)** is a proposed bilateral initiative connecting Prague/Zlín and Ho Chi Minh City, aimed at establishing a structured innovation corridor for identifying, developing, and scaling deep-technology ventures between the Czech Republic and Vietnam.

The initiative builds upon existing academic and institutional cooperation and seeks to transform these foundations into a practical **deep-tech commercialization and venture development platform**. It integrates:

- Vietnamese engineering talent and innovation capacity
- Czech and European research infrastructure, including high-performance and advanced computing
- international market access and emerging venture investment networks

The hub will be hosted by Ton Duc Thang University in Ho Chi Minh City, serving as a platform for deep-tech research collaboration, innovation programs, and start-up development with its counterpart in Prague and Zlin.

The initiative focuses on four commercially relevant deep-tech sectors and strategic technological domains aligned with Czech`s and Vietnam's national priorities: Artificial Intelligence, Robotics and UAV systems, Renewable and smart energy technologies, Biotechnology and health technologies.

The expected outputs are not limited to research collaboration; they include **investor-ready start-ups, licensing packages, SW tools, certifiable technology modules, demonstration projects, and joint Czech-incorporated deep-tech companies** capable of scaling internationally.

The delivery model is a **five-phase pipeline** running from approval to investment.In Phase 0 (March–October 2026), the project seeks formal endorsement from the Steering Committee and relevant public authorities in the Czech Republic and Vietnam. In Phase 1 (June–September 2026), the partners will jointly organize innovation competitions to identify research topics and projects across universities and the broader technology community in Vietnam, with the aim of attracting 60–80 project submissions. In Phase 2 (October 2026), all submitted projects will be evaluated and classified into three categories: Boot Camp, DeepTech Living Lab, or No-Go. From November 2026, up to 20 projects at Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 2–4 may enter the DeepTech Living Lab for remote cross-border research and innovation development. Among these, approximately 5 projects will be hosted at the CVDI lab at Ton Duc Thang University for further development. In parallel, 5–10 selected projects will enter a three-month Boot Camp in Zlín (January–March 2027). From March 2027, the most promising start-ups will move into the pre-seed and seed investment phase, with support of up to EUR 100,000 for pre-seed funding and up to EUR 1 million in total investment per company. The target is to fund 3–5 start-ups in the first cycle.

The measurable impact by **2029** is defined through three headline targets: **2 interconnected hub infrastructures**, **30-50 technology projects engaged**, and **EUR 25 million in pre-seed and seed capital mobilized**. For the Czech Republic, the expected benefit is the creation of **high-value Czech start-ups**, stronger positioning as an **EU–Indo-Pacific innovation gateway**, and increased inflow of international projects, founders, and venture capital, thereby strengthening Czech deep tech competences and competitive edge in the international context. For Vietnam, the impact is access to advanced EU research infrastructure, structured venture development, and international market entry pathways.

CVDI Hub is conceived as a **practical first step toward a broader Czech–IndoPacific innovation framework**, to be developed progressively through bilateral innovation corridors such as Czech–Vietnam and Czech–India.

In this context, the Czech–Vietnam corridor is expected to serve as a **pilot model**, demonstrating how cross-border deep-tech collaboration can be translated into scalable ventures and long-term innovation partnerships.

The partners aim to further develop this initiative in coordination with Czech and Vietnamese stakeholders, with the potential to present or formally launch the Czech–Vietnam Innovation Hub as part of high-level bilateral cooperation activities in 2026.

1. Strategic Alignment and Institutional Foundation

Deep-technology innovation increasingly depends on global collaboration between research institutions, advanced technology infrastructure, and entrepreneurial ecosystems. Key trends include:

- rapid growth of deep-tech talent in Southeast Asia
- strong research and venture ecosystems within the European Union
- increasing importance of Asian capital markets for technology exits

The Project aims to establish a distributed international deep-tech venture engine that enables talented developers to move through a structured development pipeline from early innovation to global scale. This system will create a new generation of globally competitive Czech–Vietnamese technology companies. The Czech Republic possesses strong engineering universities, advanced research infrastructure, and growing experience in high-performance computing and artificial intelligence. Vietnam has emerged as one of Southeast Asia's fastest-growing innovation ecosystems with a rapidly expanding engineering workforce.

The strategy is aligned with the Czech/EU-Vietnam intergovernmental frameworks for economic cooperation, and with the elevation of bilateral relations to a Strategic Partnership[1], which explicitly prioritizes education, science, technology, digital transformation, agriculture, renewable energy, medicine, and improved access to EU and ASEAN markets. It also directly operationalizes the bilateral collaboration framework under Project CLARA[2], including joint research, shared infrastructure, researcher mobility, doctoral co-supervision, and future commercialization agreements[3].

[1] Joint Statement on the Elevation of Bilateral Relations to a Strategic Partnership between the Czech Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam from 20 January 2025.
[2] Center for Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Computing in System Brain Research, HE ID 101136607 with total funding of EUR43M incl. Czech complementary funding.
[3] MoU between INDRC and Ton Duc Thang University (TDTU) and Vietnam Aviation Academy (VAA), Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

For the period 2025–2040, Vietnam has identified six strategic technology priorities:

- Semiconductor technologies
- Artificial Intelligence
- Robotics and UAV systems
- Renewable energy technologies
- Advanced materials
- Biotechnology

Based on National Innovation strategy 2019-2030, Czech Republic defines key priorities:

- Artificial Intelligence and digital technologies
- Advanced manufacturing and Industry 4.0
- Sustainable energy and clean technologies
- Mobility and smart transport systems
- Advanced materials and nanotechnologies
- Biotechnology and medical technologies

At the regional level, the Zlín Region emphasises the following priority areas:

- Advanced manufacturing, mechatronic and industrial automation/digitalization
- Creative industries and design (building on the Baťa tradition)
- Applied research and technology transfer
- Cybersecurity and intelligent SW system
- Materials innovation (plastics, polymers, and engineering applications)
- Aerospace, defense and pyrotech.

The Czech–Vietnam Innovation Hub aligns closely across these national and regional frameworks, creating a coherent platform for collaboration in areas of shared strategic importance. By connecting complementary strengths, Vietnam's fast-growing high-tech sectors and the Czech Republic's strong industrial, research, and innovation base, the initiative enables joint research, technology transfer, and scalable innovation partnerships.

The most credible engine for this initiative is the long-term partnership between Czech partners and and partners in Vietnam (since 2010). These relationships have already demonstrated trust, mobility, joint training, conference platforms, and applied engineering cooperation.
Key collaborations include:

- Collaboration Agreement between INDRC, Ton Duc Thang University and Vietnam Aviation Academy (signed November 2025)
- Clinical research collaboration involving Hung Vuong Hospital

In addition, the partners jointly organize the International UAV Innovation Competition, which has become an important platform for student innovation and engineering collaboration in robotics and autonomous drone technologies. The competition is now entering its third year and involves active participation from:

- Ton Duc Thang University
- Vietnam Aviation Academy
- Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Engineering

These activities demonstrate that the Czech–Vietnam partnership already includes operational innovation programs capable of evolving into a structured international innovation hub.

The strategic task for 2026-2030 is to upgrade that successful academic corridor into a deep-tech commercialization corridor. The February–March 2026 CLARA mission to Ho Chi Minh City reinforced this approach by uncovering tangible opportunities.

2. Concept

Project establishes a distributed international innovation infrastructure connecting strategic locations:

- Prague (Czech Republic) and Zlin (Zlin Impact Accelerator)
- Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)

The initiative will create a triangular deep-tech start-up development ecosystem designed to:

- discover and support talented innovators in Vietnam
- scale technology companies within the Czech and European innovation ecosystem
- enable global expansion and capital market access through Vietnam/Asia

The Project aims to build interconnected innovation campuses, that combine:

- deep-tech development infrastructure
- innovation management
- venture incubation
- high-performance computing (HPC)
- residential facilities

This unique model allows developers, entrepreneurs, investors, and mentors to combine high-intensity innovation work with a balanced lifestyle, fostering creativity, collaboration, and trusted, long-term international partnerships to accelerate Czech–IndoPacific joint ventures with high potential for global scaling and future listings on major international markets.

Vietnam
Ton Duc Thang University (TDTU). Role: Lead Institution &:

- host of the Czech–Vietnam Innovation Hub
- coordination of research and innovation programs
- development of artificial intelligence and energy technologies
- integration with Vietnamese research institutions and industry.

Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Engineering (HCMUTE). Role:

- robotics research and engineering innovation
- autonomous systems and UAV technologies
- engineering laboratories and prototyping facilities
- student innovation and start-up development.

Vietnam Aviation Academy (VAA). Role:

- UAV and drone technology research
- aviation-related autonomous systems
- coordination of the International UAV Innovation Competition
- aviation technology experimentation.

Hung Vuong Hospital. Role:

- clinical research collaboration
- maternal and neonatal health technologies
- biomedical data analytics
- collaboration on health-AI applications.

Czech Republic
International Neurodegenerative Disorders Research Center (INDRC) and its unit Center for Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Computing in System Brain Research (CLARA) – Lead Institution & focus:

- brain research
- artificial intelligence applications in healthcare
- biomedical data analytics
- international research coordination; organizational and administrative tasks, and other project activities incl. b-b activities will be assigned to INDRC`s spin off company CLAIRIS.

Czech Technical University (CTU). Focus:

- robotics
- artificial intelligence
- advanced engineering research
- European research collaboration networks.

UTB – Tomas Baťa University

- robotics and automation
- artificial intelligence
- advanced engineering research
- intelligent building system
- polymers and new materials.

3. The Emerging Role of Ho Chi Minh City as a Future Capital Hub

Ho Chi Minh City is undergoing a strategic transformation toward becoming an International Financial Center. While early-stage funding is expected to be anchored in the Czech Republic, the long-term development of the ecosystem anticipates an increasing role of Ho Chi Minh City as a regional capital hub. This enables a dual-capital model, where Prague supports early-stage structuring and EU integration, while Ho Chi Minh City progressively enables regional capital mobilization and scale-up across ASEAN and Asian markets.

4. Infrastructure Concept

Impact Hub will operate as an **integrated innovation campus** combining technological, entrepreneurial, and residential infrastructure:

4.1 Innovation Laboratories and Testbeds (Living Labs), focusing on:

- Artificial Intelligence
- Robotics and Autonomous Systems
- UAV technologies
- Smart Energy Systems
- Smart agriculture testbeds
- Health AI development infrastructure

These laboratories will support TRL scale up beyond 4.5, incl.:

- AI model development and validation
- robotics prototyping
- UAV experimentation
- Legal cross-compliance and IPR management

These Living Labs will provide market driver for PhD Education and Research Mobility in form of:

- joint supervision of PhD candidates
- postdoctoral research fellowships
- researcher mobility programs.

4.2 Facilities supporting start-up growth:

- Venture studio programs
- Accelerator and incubation spaces
- Investor meeting facilities
- Technology scales up laboratories
- Legal and intellectual property advisory services
- International market advisory

4.3 Residential and Hospitality Infrastructure

- Residential apartments for visiting experts
- Networking and informal meeting spaces
- Lecture halls and event venues

5. Methodology: Five-Phase Acceleration Pipeline *(for details, see Annex 1)*

Phase 0 (March-November 2026): Partner Approval and Public Endorsement

CVDI Hub will be submitted for approval of the Project Steering Committee and for endorsement by relevant public authorities. These include representatives of the Czech Government, in particular the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Regional authority of the Zlín Region (May 2026), as well as the Government of Vietnam (October 2026).

The implementation model follows a structured five-phase pipeline, progressing from alignment and preparation to investment.

This phase focuses on partner alignment, governance preparation, and the establishment of the implementation framework, including SLA development and contractual arrangements.

On the Czech side, key approvals and institutional alignment, including engagement with the Zlín Region and relevant ministries, are expected to be completed by May 2026.

On the Vietnamese side, alignment with public authorities and formal endorsement is expected to be achieved by October 2026, in connection with high-level bilateral activities.

This phased approach ensures that operational implementation can begin in parallel with the progressive formalization of institutional and governmental support.

Key outcomes:

- Signature of a declaration on CDVI Hub by the Project Steering Committee
- Letters of support and/or formal approval from the respective governments
- Approval by the Zlín Region Council
- Expression of interest from private sponsors to support CDVI activities

Cost allocation:

- Each partner will bear its own internal costs related to the preparation and processing of documentation as an in-kind contribution.

This phase focuses on partner alignment, governance preparation, and development of the implementation framework.

Formal governmental endorsement is expected to align with high-level bilateral activities, including the planned visit of the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic to Vietnam in late 2026.

Phase 1 (June–September 2026): Innovation Discovery via Competition

- This phase will be implemented through structured innovation programs and competitions jointly organized by INDRC/CLAIRIS and Ton Duc Thang University.

- These activities will:
  - engage multiple universities across Vietnam
  - identify high-potential deep-tech projects
  - build a strong pipeline of innovation teams
- Key formats include:
  - International UAV Innovation Competition
  - AI and robotics challenges
  - university-based start-up competitions
- Expected outcomes:
  - 60–80 applications
  - 10-20 program-ready projects

Phase 2 (October 2026): First-Round Project Evaluation
All submitted projects will be assessed against the eligibility and quality criteria of the Impact Accelerator Program. Projects meeting the required standards will be invited directly to the Boot Camp in Phase 3. Promising projects with a lower Technology Readiness Level (TRL) will be invited to continue development through the CDVI DeepTech Living Labs.

Key outcomes:

- Evaluation of all investor pitches and classification into three categories: 1) Boot Camp, 2) DeepTech Living Lab, 3) No-Go

Cost allocation:

- INDRC/CLAIRIS will bear the costs of the evaluation process from fundraised public/private recources

Phase 2a (November 2026): CDVI DeepTech Living Labs
Promising projects at TRL 2-4 will be invited to join the CDVI DeepTech Living Lab. This collaborative platform will enable developers and researchers from Vietnam, and the Czech Republic to work together remotely in order to advance projects toward higher TRL levels and improved commercial readiness. A subset of these projects (approximately 5) will be hosted physically at the CVDI Hub at Ton Duc Thang University for further development.

Key outcomes:

- Up to 20 seed-stage projects supported through remote collaboration among Czech and Vietnamese development teams

Cost allocation:

- Participating universities and research centres will bear the personnel costs associated with project development.

Phase 3 (January 2027-March 2027): Boot Camp
This phase will deliver an intensive three-month, hands-on acceleration program in Zlín, Czech Republic. Preselected project teams will be invited to demonstrate their capability, commitment, and readiness to scale a deep-tech business internationally. Each team will receive targeted support from technology and business experts to strengthen investor readiness.

Key outcomes:

- initial cohort of 5–10 projects, scalable up to 25 depending on quality and available resources.

Cost allocation (upon the Phase 0 result):

- INDRC/CLAIRIS will raise the costs from public and private donors to cover the effort of technological and business experts.
- The Zlín Region will cover participants' travel, visa, accommodation, and office space costs
- TDTU will cover local organization costs

Phase 4 (from March 2027): Pre-Seed / Seed Investment Phase
Projects graduating from the Boot Camp and successfully completing venture capital due diligence will become eligible for pre-seed funding of up to EUR 100,000 and/or seed funding of up to EUR 1 million. This equity-based investment will support business scaling and position ventures for future exit opportunities, including potential business/IPO pathways in Asia.

Key outcomes:

- 5 projects, with a minimum target of 3, receiving pre-seed or seed investment
- Establishment of new Czech start-up companies with equity participation of inventors, VC investors, CLAIRIS, and the Zlín Region in line with respective investment interests

Cost allocation:

- Venture capital funds will bear the costs of pre-seed and seed financing.
- Zlin region will support accommodation, and office space costs up to next 9months

6. Work–Life Balance as an Innovation Driver

A key differentiating feature of the Impact Hub ecosystem is the integration of professional development with lifestyle and well-being infrastructure. Global experience shows that creative problem solving and scientific innovation benefit from environments that balance intense work with relaxation and cultural exchange. The three hub locations, therefore, provide unique environments:

The three hub locations, therefore, provide unique environments:

Prague, Czech Republic
A historic European capital offering:

- world-class architecture and cultural heritage
- strong academic institutions
- access to European research networks
- in the heart of Europe, gateway to the European continent

Zlin, Czech Republic
A dynamic regional hub shaped by the globally influential Bata Shoes legacy offering:

- unique entrepreneurial tradition
- strong culture of innovation, design, and applied business thinking
- a modern, functionalist city built for efficiency, creativity, and growth
- a collaborative environment ideal for startups, research, and forward-looking projects

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
One of Asia's most dynamic innovation agglomerations with:

- fast-growing start-up ecosystems
- strong engineering talent
- vibrant cultural and entrepreneurial environment

The hubs will allow visiting innovators, investors, entrepreneurs, and mentors to bring their families, work in inspiring surroundings, and maintain a healthy work–life balance. This environment significantly increases the program's appeal to experts, encouraging long-term engagement.

7. Priority Technology and Application Areas

- Healthcare (esp. neurodegenerative disorders and assisted home care). Build a bilateral brain-health pipeline around AI-assisted diagnostics, multimodal imaging analytics, clinical decision support, and treatment monitoring for neurodegenerative and other brain disorders. Commercial output should include clinical software modules, annotated datasets, decision-support tools, licensing packages, and med-tech spin-offs with clear regulatory pathways.
- Agriculture: Smart Farming and Precision AgriTech. Develop AI systems for crop and soil monitoring, disease and pest detection, irrigation and fertilizer optimization, autonomous field mapping, food-quality traceability, and supply-chain forecasting. Commercial outputs should include software-as-a-service farm intelligence tools, drone-enabled services, smart sensor kits, and joint demonstration farms attractive to agribusiness partners.
- Drones, Robotics, and Autonomous Systems. Establish a translational program for UAV and robotics applications in logistics, environmental and infrastructure monitoring, industrial inspection, warehousing, and precision agriculture. The roadmap should convert existing student and research capabilities into certifiable subsystems, machine-vision modules, navigation stacks, and robotics integration services. The commercial aim is to create both product companies and service companies capable of operating in the Indo-Pacific markets.
- Green Energy. Launch AI-driven projects in renewable-generation forecasting, microgrid control, battery analytics, predictive maintenance, industrial energy-efficiency optimization, and digital twins for energy-intensive facilities. This directly supports bilateral priorities in renewable energy, green technologies, and energy transition. Commercial outputs should include energy-management platforms, optimization software, carbon and efficiency analytics, and joint ventures with utilities, industrial parks, municipalities, and green-tech investors.
- Defense and dual-use technologies, AI for defense, ultra-low-power advanced sensors, cybersecurity, secure communications, and edge-computing and digital twin simulations. Technologies to enhance resilience, situational awareness, and secure operations across domains. Key applications include intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance using drones and sensor networks, border security, protection of critical infrastructure, cyber defense, autonomous logistics, mission planning, and disaster response.

8. Governance and Partnerships

Steering Committee

The initiative is governed by a Steering Committee, which serves as the highest executive authority. Decisions of the Steering Committee shall be made by a simple majority of its members. The Steering Committee was established on March 4, 2026 (members, Vít Dočkal, PhD., INDRC Director, Prof. Václav Snášel, CLARA Director, Assoc. prof. Tran Trong Dao, PhD., President of TDTU and Phan Dao, PhD., Director of European Cooperation Center, TDTU). Upon approval of Zlin region and VAA, two additional members will be co-opted into the Steering Committee (six members in total), i.e. three members of the Czech Republic National Committee and three members of the Vietnam National Committee:

The initiative is governed by a Steering Committee, which serves as the main strategic and executive decision-making body.

Czech Republic National Committee (3 members):

- Vít Dočkal, PhD., INDRC Director
- Prof. Václav Snášel, CLARA Director
- Ing. David Vychytil, Deputy Governor of Zlin region

Vietnam National Committee (3 members):

- Assoc. Prof. Tran Trong Dao, PhD., TDTU President
- Phan Dao, PhD., Director of European Cooperation Center, TDTU
- _____ Vietnam Aviation Academy (VAA)

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Assembly
The Assembly is the collective body representing all Project Partners. Each partner organization shall have one vote. Assembly decisions are advisory; each partner has one vote. The Assembly shall:

- Provide feedback on ongoing activities.
- Facilitate access to distributed knowledge, infrastructure, and expertise.
- Promote creation of joint teams and innovation projects.

Founding Project Partners

Czech Assembly Chamber:

- INDRC, represented by Vít Dočkal, PhD., INDRC Director
- Czech Technical University (CIIRC), represented by Prof. Vladimír Mařík, CIIRC Scientific Director
- Zlin Region, represented by Ing. David Vychytil
- UTB – Tomas Baťa University, represented by Prof. Mgr. Milan Adámek, Ph.D., Rector

Vietnamese Assembly Chamber:

- TDTU, represented by _____
- HCM-UTE, represented by _____
- VAA, represented by _____
- Hung Vuong Hospital, represented by _____

Membership of other Partners
Any other organization may apply to become a member with voting rights in the Assembly. Membership applications must be approved by the respective National Committee.

9. Economic and Strategic Impact
The initiative is expected to generate significant economic and strategic benefits.
For the Czech Republic

- positioning as a global innovation gateway
- increased international investment
- creation of high-value technology companies
- strengthened EU–ASEAN innovation cooperation.

For Vietnam

- access to advanced European technology infrastructure
- International venture capital networks
- global market access
- Gradually positioning Ho Chi Minh City as a regional hub for capital mobilization and scale-up of deep-tech start-ups within ASEAN

Overall Impact

- Establishing a cross-border innovation ecosystem linking research, industry, and investment
- Increasing the rate of technology transfer from research to commercialization
- Creating joint Czech–Vietnam deep-tech companies with international competitiveness
- Contributing to the resolution of global challenges through advanced technological solutions.

10. Long-Term Vision

CDVI will create a **business and technology-driven international innovation corridor** connecting Europe and Vietnam by integrating **talent, technology, capital, and lifestyle infrastructure.** It will produce a new generation of globally competitive deep-tech companies capable of addressing major global challenges and markets with high return on investment.