

**New Colombo Plan India Launch and  
Inaugural Australia India Student Mobility Workshop  
Thursday 4 September  
University of Mumbai, Fort Mumbai, Convocation Hall**

**Background**

The opening ceremony on 4 September 2014 will officially launch the Australian Government's New Colombo Plan in India.

The New Colombo Plan offers Australian undergraduates new opportunities for scholarships and grants for study and internships in the Indo-Pacific region. The Australian Government has committed \$100 million over five years to the program, and wants study in the region to become a rite of passage for Australian students. The New Colombo Plan also aims to deepen Australia's people-to-people links and institutional relationships in the region. After a successful pilot phase involving 1300 Australian undergraduate students in 2014, this flagship initiative will be extended to India from 2015. More information can be found at: [www.dfat.gov.au/new-colombo-plan](http://www.dfat.gov.au/new-colombo-plan).

The Inaugural Australia-India Student Mobility Workshop will facilitate discussion between Australian universities, Indian institutions, government, student support services providers, industry and NGOs on how best to increase Australian student mobility to India. The Workshop will explore opportunities afforded by Australian Government programs including the New Colombo Plan, Indian study abroad programmes for international students, and other relevant mobility programs.

**Objectives of the workshop**

The Workshop will consist of presentations on Australian Government programs and Connect to India, followed by focused breakout sessions on student mobility in India covering the following topics:

- Synergies between Indian study abroad programmes and New Colombo Plan
- Inbound international student mobility programmes offered by government/universities/colleges
- Student support services
- Preparing students to study in India; and
- Best practice internship models.

Each breakout group will be led by a facilitator, who will help the group to develop recommendations for universities considering mobility programs. A note taker will record the recommendations, which will be presented to all participants at the conclusion of the workshop. Participants are requested to consider what practical recommendations their session should produce. A series of questions is provided at the end of this document, to stimulate discussion.

Time	Activity
09.15	Pre-seating of guests in Convocation Hall
10.05	<b>Prime Minister of Australia's arrival</b>
10.06	<b>Lighting of the Lamp and felicitation</b>
10.10	<b>Welcome Address</b> by Dr Rajan Welukar, Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai
10.15	<b>Address</b> by Dr R.J. Solomon, Endeavour Award Alumni
10.20	<b>Prime Minister's Address</b> <i>Launch of New Colombo Plan to India and inauguration of Australia India Student Mobility Workshop</i>
10.27	<b>MOU ceremony</b> <i>Student mobility agreements exchanged by Australian and Indian Vice-Chancellors</i>
10.32	<b>Official photo with Prime Minister</b> <i>With officials and VIPs</i>
10.32	<b>Morning tea</b> for all guests <i>Registration for Australia India Student Mobility Workshop participants</i>
11.30 – 11.45	<b>Australia India Student Mobility Workshop begins</b> <b>Welcome and presentation of flowers to Chairs</b> by Dr Rajan Welukar <b>Order of proceedings and introductions by Australian and Indian Chairs</b> – Mr Adam Luckhurst (Branch Manager, Department of Education) and Professor Dev Raj (Vice Chairman, University Grants Commission)
11.45 – 12.00	<b>International student mobility – an Indian perspective</b>
12.00 – 12.15	<b>Australian Government support for international student mobility</b> – Endeavour, Global Mobility Programmes and New Colombo Plan
12.15 – 13.45	<b>NETWORKING LUNCH</b>
13.45 – 14.45	<b>Concurrent Breakout Sessions</b>  <b><i>Session A: Synergies between Indian study abroad programmes for international students and the New Colombo Plan</i></b> <b>Facilitator: Professor Ramakrishna Ramaswamy (Vice Chancellor, University of Hyderabad)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion on potential linkages between Australia's New Colombo Plan and India's study abroad programmes</li> <li>• Key elements including institutional arrangements, cost sharing models and credit transfer mechanisms will be discussed to enhance Australian student mobility to India</li> </ul> <b><i>Session B: Inbound international student mobility programmes offered by government/universities/colleges</i></b> <b>Facilitator: Professor Talat Ahmad (Vice Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia University)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion on existing student mobility programmes and support by Indian and Australian governments/universities/colleges</li> <li>• Key elements including institutional arrangements, cost sharing models and credit recognition mechanisms will be discussed to enhance Australian student mobility to India</li> </ul> <b><i>Session C: Student support services</i></b>

	<p><b>Facilitator: Professor Sue Elliott, (Deputy Vice Chancellor – Engagement, University of Melbourne)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions on best practice student support services for international student mobility programmes.</li> <li>• Case studies on Australian and Indian university/college student support services.</li> <li>• Discussion with private third party student support providers on what services they offer.</li> </ul> <p><b>Session D: Preparing students to study in India</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Dr Ian Woolford (Head of Hindi program, La Trobe University)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparing Australian students for study in India – pre-departure briefings, student visa requirements and processes, etc</li> <li>• Experience sharing by Australian students in India and their recommendations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Session E: Best practice internship models</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Dr Wendy Martinec (Head of La Trobe Abroad, La Trobe University)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defining student internships in India and opportunities with Australian and Indian companies/NGOs</li> <li>• Expectations by institutions and companies/NGOs</li> <li>• Mechanisms to arrange internships</li> </ul>
<b>14.45 – 15.35</b>	<b>Breakout Session Findings</b> – breakout leads report on key discussion points and recommendations (10 min each)
<b>15.35 – 15.45</b>	<b>Workshop Outcomes and Recommendations</b> – Chairs summarise key outcomes of the day <b>Closing remarks</b> – by Chairs
<b>15.45 – 16.30</b>	<b>Afternoon Tea</b> <i>Institution to Institution Matching Meetings</i>
<b>16.30</b>	<b>Workshop concludes</b>

## **Workshop Participants**

### India

- Indian university/college representatives including VCs, Deans of International programmes and international office managers
- Ministry of Human Resource Development
- University Grants Commission
- Australia India Education Council higher education and student mobility working group leads
- Indian corporates/NGOs offering internships to international students
- Private third party student support providers

### Australia

- Australian university representatives including VCs, DVCs and international office managers
- Department of Education
- Austrade
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Australia India Education Council higher education and student mobility working group leads
- Australian students with experience of studying in India

## **QUESTIONS TO STIMULATE DISCUSSION FOR WORKING GROUPS**

### **Session A: Synergies between Indian study abroad programmes for international students and New Colombo Plan**

*Where are the synergies between the programmes (eg where does one program provide support where the other does not)?*

*How can the financial support offered under NCP and Indian programmes be best utilised by universities?*

*How many Australian students do universities expect that they can support under these programmes?*

*What further support can sending and receiving universities offer which is not covered by NCP and Indian programmes (eg international student support desks)?*

*How can universities share best practice models after the first year of NCP is complete?*

### **Session B: Inbound international student mobility programmes offered by government/universities/colleges in India**

*What are the most commonly offered models of international student programs in India?*

*What are some examples of best practice international student programs hosted in India?*

*What factors do Australian universities consider when awarding credit recognition for courses overseas?*

*What are the key elements that these programs require to ensure their success?*

*How are these programmes currently advertised and how can information on them best be shared with Australian institutions?*

### **Session C: Student support services**

*What are the key support needs of international students (eg accommodation/amenities/counselling/visa advice/mentoring/engagement with local community, security, medical care etc)?*

*What are best practice examples of support services offered to international students in India and Australia?*

*What private/third party student support services are available in India?*

*What models can Australian universities pursue to engage private/third party providers (eg consortium arrangements)?*

#### **Session D: Preparing students to study in India**

*What are the key components of pre-briefings for Australian students before their arrival in India?*

*What visa categories apply to students traveling to India, including those who are also undertaking internships?*

*What views do Australian students have on useful pre-briefings and support services, based on their own experiences in India?*

#### **Session E: Best practice internship models**

*How can internships be organised for Australian students in India with industry and NGOs?*

*What kinds of internships are available for Australian students in India with Australian and Indian companies and NGOs (eg duration/content/level of remuneration if any)?*

*What do Australian institutions consider to be elements of a successful internship for their students?*

*What do industry partners and NGOs expect from their interns?*