



The 3rd annual V.I.E. Grand Prize Competition (Grand Prix V.I.E.) was launched successfully in early June in Hong Kong, with the local CCEF, UBIFRANCE, French Agency for International Business Development, 50 VIEs and selected media in attendance. The competition showcases the diversity and quality of the V.I.E. missions in Hong Kong.

Third V.I.E. competition launched in Hong Kong

Beatrice Remy, CCEF Hong Kong

First launched in 2000, the V.I.E. (Volunteer for International Experience) programme has become a widely adopted tool for French companies looking to expand abroad. Its success is even greater in “entrepreneurial” Hong Kong, where V.I.E. individuals can be given significant responsibilities quickly. The V.I.E. programme acts as a springboard for many young executives’ careers: 95 percent of them find a permanent job at the end of their V.I.E. contract.

Entries for the competition will be accepted until 22 July, 2013 in the following three categories: SMEs, large companies, and bank & finance. Rewards and gifts with a total value in excess of HK\$100,000 include access to the CCEF members.

Simplified as V.I.E., the French International Internship Programme allows French companies, and their subsidiaries or business partners abroad, to employ a young person (French or other European) aged between 18 and 28, for a mission to work abroad within a flexible period from six to 24 months (renewable once). Hong Kong hosts the second highest number of V.I.E. participants in Asia, just after Shanghai. In May 2013, approximately 215 young people were part of a V.I.E. mission in 88 companies in Hong Kong. The missions are varied and determined by the nature of each business, from market research, team building to business development, market development, etc.

The competition is organised with the generous support of the following sponsors: Amundi Asset Management; BNP Paribas; Céline; Classic Fine Foods; Crédit Agricole Corporate & Investment Bank; Dragages Hong Kong; Lacoste; Natixis; Novotel Hong Kong; Pernod Ricard; Société Générale Corporate & Investment Banking; Stanton Chase International; TagHeuer; and Thomas, Mayer & Associés.

The prize-giving ceremony for the V.I.E. Grand Prize will take place on 9 October, 2013. **E**