



# Skills for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Developing Asia-Pacific

An International Forum

10-12 December 2013





### **Background**

The ADB is hosting the third annual International Skills Development Forum in Manila during 10-12 December 2013. This follows two previous Forums held in 2011 and 2012, which have helped to build a dialogue platform on skills development in the Asia Pacific region. On the one hand, the events highlighted best practices from advanced countries such as Australia, Canada, Germany, Korea and Singapore and successful models in emerging economies; on the other hand, pressing issues for developing countries were also deliberated upon - such as skills for employability, for competitiveness, for greening economies and skills for informal labor markets. Participants explored, among other things, strategies for increasing access to skills development, improving the quality and market relevance of training, national qualification frameworks, enhancing private sector participation and improving the prestige of TVET.

The 2013 ADB International Skills Development Forum will focus primarily on the themes of Youth and Technology in the context of skills development.

**Youth:** It is clear that while growing skills-jobs mismatches are affecting populations and economies in general, the problems faced by youth are particularly acute. 1 in 6 people around the world are aged 15-24 and they are disproportionately concentrated in the world's poorest countries. 1 in 5 young people have not completed primary education and 1 in 8 young people are unemployed and have not got the skills needed for work. 1 in 4 young people earn less than \$1.25 a day. Youth unemployment is 2 to 3 times higher than average unemployment rates. This is of particular concern to countries that have large youthful populations. The ability to create a workforce of educated, skilled and creative youth will determine the success of countries in the journey to become competitive in knowledge based industries and participate in higher value global chains.

The international development community is increasingly focusing on the issue of youth employment and the need to address education/skills and jobs mismatch. The 2013 ADB International Skills Development Forum aims to take this agenda forward with a call to action with concrete country level measures and initiatives for skills development and employment for youth. The Forum will include a special session to discuss policies and practices to strengthen youth participation in skills development for jobs and employability. A special feature will be the participation of a cross section of youth representatives from developing countries in Asia. The aim is to explore not only how policy makers and training institutions can support youth better for skills and employment, but also to engage on how youth can themselves contribute constructively to engaging with skills development and the world of work by collaborating with the government and the private sector.

**Technology:** Economic pressures and new models of education are presenting unprecedented competition to traditional models of education and skills development. There is a need to better adapt to students' needs and pursue innovative ICT-enabled teaching and learning models that are better engaging to youth. Digital and mobile technologies have created unprecedented opportunities to expand access to education and skills development. They enable interactive and transformational pedagogy to be introduced not only in classrooms but also outside as a continuum of learning and upskilling. ICT enables educational materials and content to be packaged as e-textbooks and learning apps. It augments prospects of real-time student and teacher information systems.

Worldwide, a variety of technologies is transforming the reach of education. In both developed and developing countries alike, blended and e-learning modalities have become powerful ways to reach learners. Technology can in fact help to set a level playing field for learning even in poorly resourced educational and training institutions. Yet, the effective and efficient adoption of technology for skills development and training is subject to many considerations. In addition to school education, for skills development too, the pace of adopting technology solutions to increase access to training as well as quality of learning is gathering speed. The ubiquitous presence of mobile telephones means that mLearning and other mobile-based services for workforce development of youth hold the promise of delivering high quality content with cost effective solutions.

In the light of transformational technology trends in recent years, the Forum will explore the great potential to harness the power of technology to improve access to skills development for the youth. The role they can play in transforming the pedagogy of teaching and training in a way that productively engages youth and enhances employability and workplace performance will be explored.

#### **Links to ADB Skills Forums, for information.**

##### **ADB Briefs:**

Skills for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Developing Asia and the Pacific

<http://www.adb.org/publications/skills-inclusive-and-sustainable-growth-developing-asia-and-pacific>

Skills for Competitiveness, Jobs, and Employability in Developing Asia-Pacific

<http://www.adb.org/publications/skills-competitiveness-jobs-and-employability-developing-asia-pacific>

Skills Development: Promising Approaches in Developed Countries and Emerging Economies

<http://www.adb.org/publications/skills-development-promising-approaches-developed-countries-and-emerging-economies>

##### **ADB Skills Development Blog**

<http://adbskillsdevelopment.wordpress.com>

**Skills Forum 2012 Agenda, Papers, and Participants**

<http://www.adb.org/news/events/skills-inclusive-and-sustainable-growth-developing-asia-pacific-2012>

**ADB-Springer Book on Skills Development for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Developing Asia-Pacific** (free to be downloaded)

<http://www.adb.org/publications/skills-development-inclusive-and-sustainable-growth-developing-asia-pacific>

**Skills Forum 2011 Agenda, Papers, and Participants**

<http://www.adb.org/news/events/skills-inclusive-and-sustainable-growth-developing-asia-pacific>

**2013 Skills Forum Events Page**

<http://www.adb.org/features/youth-employment-and-skills-development-asia-and-pacific>

**Day 1**  
**Tuesday, 10 December 2013**

08:00 – 08:30AM **Registration**

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08:30 – 09:30AM **Session 1 - Opening Session**

**Chair:** Jouko Sarvi, Practice Leader and Chair, Education Community of Practice, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Asian Development Bank

**Introduction to the Forum:** Shanti Jagannathan, Senior Education Specialist, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Asian Development Bank

**Opening Address:** Bindu Lohani, Vice President, Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank

Mark Pierce, Regional Director for Asia, Plan International

**Special Address:** Undersecretary Leon G. Flores III, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, National Youth Commission, Republic of the Philippines

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09:30 – 10:00AM **Coffee / Tea Break**

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10:00 – 11:30AM **Session 2 – Why do Skills Matter for the Youth?  
Voices and Aspirations of Youth and a Call for Action**

**Co-Chairs:** Shanti Jagannathan, Senior Education Specialist, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Asian Development Bank

John Trew, Youth Employment Specialist, Plan International

**Panelists:**

Youth Representatives from the Region

- Luigi de Vera, Ten Accomplished Youth Organizations Foundation
  - Nguyen Thi Huyen Quy, Plan International Vietnam
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11:30 – 01:00PM **Session 3 - Strategies for Youth Skills Development for Better Jobs in a Changing and Increasingly Digital World**

**Chair:** Ramesh Subramaniam, Deputy Director General, Southeast Asia Department, Asian Development Bank

**Panelists:**

- [\*Youth Transitions in Australia and their Relationship to the Retail and ICT Industry Sectors\*](#)  
Robin Shreeve, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Workforce and Productivity Agency
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- [Skills Development Initiative in India](#)  
R.L. Singh, Deputy Director General (Training), Directorate General of Employment and Training, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India
  - [Training Investment: An Opportunity for Quality Tourism](#)  
Rolando Cañizal, Assistant Secretary, Department of Tourism, Republic of the Philippines
  - [Strategies for Youth Skills Development for Better Jobs in a Changing and Increasingly Digital World: SEAMEO VocTech's Perspectives](#)  
Hj Md Sharifuddin bin Hj Md Salleh, Centre Director, and Dr. Paryono, Deputy Director for Professional Affairs, Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation Regional Centre for Vocational and Technical Education and Training

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01:00 – 02:30PM      **Lunch Break**

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02:30 – 04:00PM      **Session 4 – Youth Skills Development and Employment: Navigating Barriers and Optimizing Opportunities**

**Chair:** Rupert Maclean, Chair Professor, International Education and Director, Centre for Lifelong Learning Research and Development, The Hong Kong Institute of Education

**Panelists:**

- [Enhancing Employability: The Importance of Core Work Skills](#)  
Laura Brewer, Skills for Youth Employment Specialist, Skills and Employability Department, International Labour Organization
- [E-Tesda Initiatives – Empowering Youth through Skills Development](#)  
Maria Susan Dela Rama, Director, Planning Office, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, Republic of the Philippines
- [Promoting Professional Career through Vocational Based Higher Education](#)  
Eko Julianto Jajuli, Assistant Director for Academic Affairs, Shipbuilding Institute of Polytechnic Surabaya, Republic of Indonesia
- [Improving Skills for Employment and Enterprise - British Council's Global Enterprise Challenge](#)  
Chris Cooper, Senior Skills Adviser, Education and Society, British Council

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04:00 – 04:30PM      **Coffee / Tea Break**

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04:30 – 06:00PM      **Session 5 - Partnerships with the Private Sector for Skills Development: Lessons Learnt and New Departures**

**Chair:** Leah Gutierrez, Director, Human and Social Development Division, Southeast Asia Department, Asian Development Bank

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**Panelists:**

- [\*Partnerships with the Private Sector for Skills Development: Lessons Learnt and New Departures\*](#)  
Dilip Chenoy, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, National Skill Development Corporation, India
- [\*Evolving PPP Models for Skills Development: An Indian Private Sector Experience\*](#)  
RCM Reddy, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Skill Development Corporation
- [\*The Role of the Private Sector in Skills Development for Young People\*](#)  
Muriel Dunbar, Senior Skills Adviser, Cambridge Education
- [\*Skills to Succeed Program by Accenture\*](#)  
Manolito Tayag, Country Managing Director, Accenture

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06:00 – 07:30PM

**Reception**

ADB Headquarters

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Day 2  
Wednesday, 11 December 2013

08:30 – 10:00AM

**Session 6 - Technology in Skills Development for the iGen<sup>1</sup>**

**Chair:** Pierre Passin, Principal Information Technology Specialist (IT Service Management), Office of Information System and Technology, Asian Development Bank

**Panelists:**

- [\*Developing Innovative Economies through Technology for Skills Development\*](#)  
Anjan Ghosh, Regional Director - Corporate Affairs Asia Pacific, Intel
- [\*How Technology is Changing the Face of Education Globally\*](#)  
Philip Murray, Regional Vice President, Blackboard Inc.
- [\*Enhancing Skills Development through Mobile Services\*](#)  
Margaret Marie McDonough, United States Director, SoukTel Mobile Innovations
- [\*Nisai Learning – An Innovative Approach to Employability and Skills Training\*](#)  
Dhruv Patel, Chief Executive Officer, NISAI Virtual Academy
- [\*Engaging Millennials in Learning – Closing the Technology Gap\*](#)  
Siddharth Jain, Chief Creative Director, Playware Studios Asia Pte. Ltd

10:00 – 10:15AM

**Coffee / Tea Break**

10:15 – 11:45PM

**Session 7 - Reaching World Class Standards in Technical Education and Skills Development**

**Chair:** Ayumi Konishi, Director General, East Asia Department, Asian Development Bank

**Panelists:**

- [\*Partnerships for Success in TVET: The Nanyang Polytechnic Experience\*](#)  
Lee Mun Chan, Principal and Chief Executive Officer, Nanyang Polytechnic, Republic of Singapore
- [\*Accelerating the Reach Towards World Class Standards and the Growing Global Convergence\*](#)  
Paul Brennan, Vice President for International Partnerships, Association of Canadian Community Colleges

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<sup>1</sup> iGen refers to young generation in the internet, digital and technologically-driven world that is increasingly global



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- [\*Transforming Technical and Vocational Education and Training Systems to Meet the Youth Employment Challenge\*](#)

Arvil van Adams, International Technical and Vocational Education and Training Specialist and Asian Development Bank Consultant

- [\*Vocational Education in the People's Republic of China: The Current Situation, Experience and Policy\*](#)

Ning Rui, Deputy Director, Department of Vocational Education, Ministry of Education, People's Republic of China

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11:45 – 01:15PM

**Session 8 - Innovations in Financing Skills Development: In Search of New Paradigms**

**Chair:** Jouko Sarvi, Practice Leader and Chair, Education Community of Practice, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Asian Development Bank

**Panelists:**

- [\*Innovative Finance to Help Close the Skills Gap: Some Possibilities\*](#)  
Nicholas Burnett, Managing Director, Results for Development Institute
  - [\*Innovative Financing in Modern Education and Training Systems\*](#)  
Ronald Perkinson, International Education Specialist, Asian Development Bank Consultant
  - [\*Result Based Financing System in TVET\*](#)  
Bal Ram Paudel, Team Leader, Employment Fund, Nepal
  - [\*Case Studies of Funding Models for Skills Development with Industry Involvement\*](#)  
Vernon Wills, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Site Group International, Australia
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01:15 – 02:30PM

**Lunch Break**

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02:30 – 04:00PM

**Session 9 - Showcasing Promising Initiatives in Youth Skills Development for Inclusive Jobs**

**Chair:** Brajesh Panth, Lead Education Specialist, South Asia Department, Asian Development Bank

**Panelists:**

- [\*Skills Cloud: The Future of Matching Jobseekers with Jobs\*](#)  
Dexter Ligot-Gordon, Co-founder and Chief Operating Officer, Kalibr
  - [\*Inclusive Skills-Building: Potential Impacts and Approaches\*](#)  
Anu Madgavkar, Senior Fellow, McKinsey Global Institute
  - [\*Training the Youth for Ensuring Good Employment – The Bangladesh Perspective\*](#)  
Begum Shamsun Nahar, Director General (Additional Secretary), Bureau of Manpower, Employment & Training (BMET), Bangladesh
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- [\*Preparing Youth for Green Jobs through Skills Development\*](#)  
Sreenivas Narayanan, Group Managing Director, Asia Society for Social Improvement and Sustainable Transformation
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04:00 – 04:30PM **Coffee / Tea Break**

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04:30 – 06:00PM **Session 10 - International Cooperation in Skills Development – Renewing Approaches**

**Chair:** Ayako Inagaki, Principal Social Sector Specialist, South Asia Department, Asian Development Bank

**Panelists:**

- [\*Youth, Talent Development and Technology – Insights from the Global Talent Competitiveness as an Analysis and Policy Development Tool\*](#)  
Martina Mettgenberg, Lead Researcher, Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI), INSEAD
  - [\*Building on Core Elements of TVET in a Changing World\*](#)  
Beate Dippmar, Senior Technical Advisor, Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
  - [\*OECD Skills Strategy: Implications for Developing Countries in Asia\*](#)  
Shinyoung Jeon, Analyst, Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD)
  - [\*TVET Reform in the Kyrgyz Republic: Responding to the Development Challenge\*](#)  
Anar Beishembaeva, Head, Sector for International Relations, Agency for Vocational Education, Kyrgyz Republic
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**Day 3**  
**Thursday, 12 December 2013**

09:00 – 10:30AM

**Session 11 – Way Forward: Youth Skills Development and Employment: A Call to Action**

**Chair:** Paul Brennan, Vice President for International Partnerships, Association of Canadian Community Colleges

**Youth Rapporteurs:** Youth Skills Development for Employment: A Call to Action

- A.K.M. Ahsan Uddin, Muslim Aid Technical School, Bangladesh
- Nastasia Tysmans, Wise Learner's Choice, Philippines

10:30 – 11:00AM

**Coffee / Tea Break**

11:00 – 12:00PM

**Session 12 – Closing Session**

**Facilitators:**

- Jouko Sarvi, Practice Leader and Chair, Education Community of Practice, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Asian Development Bank
- Shanti Jagannathan, Senior Education Specialist, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Asian Development Bank

**ADB and Plan:** Skills Development for the Future: Priority Actions and Approaches

Audience poll

12:00 – 12:30PM

**Wrap Up and Conclusion**

12:30 – 02:30PM

**Lunch and Close of Forum**