Current Priorities in Technical and Vocational Education and Training
An International Forum

1–2 December 2015
ADB Headquarters, Manila, Philippines

Technical and vocational education and training (TVET) is a major priority for many countries. As Asian countries reach towards middle income status and beyond, governments increasingly realize that well educated and well trained young people are essential to improve productivity of workers, enhance use of technology, improve exports and increase remittances to contribute to higher economic growth and help people move up the value chain. Lack of skilled labor is often cited as a constraint to economic growth.

Given the huge challenges facing effective delivery of TVET programs, there is strong interest to learn from emerging good practices. The purpose of the 2015 International Forum is to assist ADB member countries meet those challenges; to find innovative and new solutions to current priorities in TVET.

Set in the context of changing economies, adaptive technologies and a new post-2015 global agenda for development, the focus of the Forum will be practical, with emphasis given to sharing perspectives and experiences on issues of high relevance. International experts, leading practitioners, policy makers, TVET service providers and stakeholders will share their work, experiences, and future plans.

The 5th ADB International Forum Current Priorities in Technical and Vocational Education and Training is on:

- Responding to employers’ needs – what they expect and want from TVET graduates;
- Adapting to changing conditions -- successful examples in TVET;
- Strategies on how to raise the quality of TVET;
- Successful modalities adopted world-wide to incorporate a secondary TVET track;
- Examples of how to promote public-private partnerships in delivering TVET programs;
- Options for mobilizing and diversifying funding for TVET (TVET Funds, PPPs); and
- Looking ahead to emerging priorities -- a glimpse around the corner.

ADB member countries will be supporting the post-2015 global development agenda. Under Sustainable Development Goal 4 on education, countries are urged to increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship. The learnings from the Forum will assist countries understand how TVET can contribute to meeting national sustainable development goals.


This year we also welcome a delegation of high-level officials joining the Forum as part of related Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) international activities held here in Manila.

As a platform for dialogue, learning and sharing, the Forum will contribute to positioning TVET as a strategic investment for ADB Developing Member Countries, with high returns that include inclusive economic growth, international competitiveness, and shared prosperity within the region.
08:30 – 9:00  **Forum desk open**

09:00 – 09:15  **Official Opening:**  **Mr. Wencai Zhang,** Vice President (Operations 1), ADB

09:15 – 10:15  **Current Priorities in TVET: Opening Panel:**
- Mr. Manish Sabharwal, Co-founder and Chair, TeamLease, India
- Prof. Jong-Wha Lee, Director, Asiatic Research Institute and Professor of Economics, South Korea University, South Korea
- Ms. Irene Isaac, Executive Director, Human Resources Development Fund, Malaysia
- Mr. C.M. Vignaesvaran, Chief Executive, Human Resource Development Fund, Malaysia
- Ms. Peta Furnell, Group Manager, Skills Market Group, Department of Education and Training, Australia

  **Moderator: Ms. Véronique Salze-Lozac'h,** Deputy Director General, Independent Evaluation Department, ADB.

10:15 – 10:25  **Forum overview:**  Aims and objectives for this year’s Forum

10:25 – 10:40  **Coffee / Tea Break**

10:40 – 11:30  **Plenary Addresses: Skilled Workforces - Perspectives**

  **Chair:**  **Mr. Sungsup Ra,** Director, Human and Social Development Division, South Asia Department, ADB.

  (i)  **Human Capital Development in South Asia:**  Prof. Jong-Wha Lee, Director, Asiatic Research Institute and Professor of Economics, South Korea University, South Korea

  (ii)  **What Business Expects and Wants from TVET Graduates:**  Mr. Manish Sabharwal, Chairman, TeamLease Services, India

11:30 – 13:00  **Raising the bar – quality and responsiveness.**  A major shift of different countries is to ensure high quality, market responsive skills development programs. In order to achieve this outcome, countries are working at evolving their approaches to quality assurance, qualifications recognition and benchmarking. Due to increased labor mobility, regions are developing frameworks for mutual recognition and quality assurance. This session will examine current and future modalities of quality assurance in the context of increased international cooperation.

  **Chair:**  **Ms. Ayako Inagaki,** Director, Human and Social Development Division, South East Asia Department, ADB.

  **Speakers:**
  -  **Quality Assurance:**  Mr. Stephen Auburn, TVET Quality Assurance Expert
• APACC for Accreditation and Certification of TVET Institutions in the Asia Pacific Region: Prof. G. Kulanthaivel, Asia-Pacific Accreditation and Certification Commission [video]
• Quality and Responsiveness Institute Approach, Nepal: Dr. Ram Hari Lamichhane, Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training, Nepal
• Dr. Paul Brennan, Vice President, International Partnerships, Colleges and Institutes, Canada
• Quality and responsiveness: the Australian experience: Ms. Peta Furnell, Group General Manager, Skills Market Group, Department of Education and Training, Australia

13:00 – 14:15 Group Photo followed by Networking Lunch

14:15 – 15:30 Bringing TVET up to speed – ICTs in TVET. There is widespread acceptance that jobs of the future will increasingly use technology, and that ICT enabled teaching and learning can add significant value when blended with traditional educational methods. However, the use of ICTs in TVET is not yet widespread and successful examples appear limited. It is important to gain understanding on possibilities and limitations as well as lessons learned from successful cases.

Chair: Ms. Amy Leung, Deputy Director General, East Asia Department, ADB.

Speakers:
• ICT-enhanced practices in TVET: Dr. Margarita Pavlova, Hong Kong Institute of Education
• ICT-enhanced Innovative Pedagogy in TVET: Mr. Petri Lounaskorpi, International ICT Pedagogy Expert, Finland
• Innovations in 3D Applied Technologies for Skills Development: Dr. Kiam Wee Ang, Principal, ITE College, Singapore [video]
• Off-shore and on-line: Up-skilling for overseas Filipino workers: Ms. Maria Susan P. Dela Rama, Executive Director, TESDA, Philippines

15:30 – 16:15 Plenary Addresses: Unpacking Modalities in TVET Financing

Chair: Ms. Lotte Schou-Zibell, Technical Advisor (Finance), ADB


(ii) National Training Funds - Developing World-class Skills Base for Future Prosperity: Mr. C.M. Vignaesvaran, Chief Executive, Human Resource Development Fund, Malaysia

16:15 – 16:30 Coffee / Tea Break

16:30 – 17:15 Financing TVET – Rethinking our Approach. Historically, TVET has been underfunded. Public resources available for TVET are likely to remain limited. Improving efficiency is essential, but cannot in itself compensate for financing gaps. How can public funds be best used to catalyze other resources? Increasingly common approaches are establishment of TVET Funds, the development of new modalities of engagement, and Public-Private Partnerships.
This session is divided into two concurrent streams:
Stream 1: Public-Private Partnerships

Chair: Mr. Brajesh Panth, Technical Advisor (Education) ADB

Presenters:
- **New Zealand’s Industry Training and Apprenticeship System: a PPP in Action:** Mr. Josh Williams, CEO, Industry Training Federation, New Zealand
- **Bangladesh Skills for Employment Investment Program: Opportunity to Transform the Skills Sector:** Mr. Abdur Rouf Talukder, Executive Project Director, Skills for Employment Investment Program, Bangladesh
- **Supporting Kerala’s Additional Skill Acquisition Program (ASAP) in Post-Basic Education**

This will be followed by issue based discussions.

Stream 2: Skills Development Funds and Results-based Funding

Chair: Ms. Lotte Schou-Zibell, Technical Advisor (Finance), ADB

Presenter: Dr. Robert Palmer, TVET Financing Expert

Country and issue based discussions.

17:30

**Publication Launch and Evening Reception ADB Courtyard**

The Role of Community Colleges in Skills Development: Lessons from the Canadian Experience for Developing Asia – a joint publication between ADB and Colleges and Institutes, Canada

**Launch: Ms. Shanti Jagannathan**, Senior Education Specialist, ADB, and **Dr. Paul Brennan**, Vice President, International Partnerships, Colleges and Institutes, Canada

Light dinner, cocktails and networking follow

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### DAY 2

**Wednesday, 2 December 2015, Multifunction Hall**

08:30

**Forum Desk Open**

09:25 – 09:30

**Introductory Session:** Overview of the objectives for Day 2.

09:30 – 11:00

**Off to a Good Start – Integrating TVET in Secondary Schools.** A number of countries in Asia have, over past years, offered vocational education at secondary school levels. Results have been mixed. Today, the issue of secondary vocational education is again re-emerging. This session will look at some of the successful models of secondary vocational education in operation throughout the world and provide case studies on some of the policy and practice issues being considered by countries wishing to develop a secondary vocational education track.

Chair: Mr. Xianbin Yao, Director General, Pacific Department, ADB
Speakers:
- **Vocational education in secondary schools A review of international practices**: Mr. Toby Linden, Lead Education Specialist, World Bank
- **Sustainable Pathways in the Vocationalization of Senior Schooling**: Ms. Jennifer Moloney, Vocational Learning Manager, Bendigo SSC, Australia [video]
- **Implementing Vocational Courses in Secondary Schools in Himachal Pradesh India**: Mr. Akshay Sood, Advisor, Planning, Government of Himachal Pradesh, India
- **Strengthened Technical-Vocational Education Program**: Mr. Elvin Ivan Y. Uy, Assistant Secretary, Department of Education, Philippines
- Prof. Rupert Maclean, Hong Kong Institute of Education

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee / Tea Break

11:30 – 12:15 Plenary Addresses: Opening Up TVET

Chair: Mr. Hong Wei, Deputy Director General, Central and West Asia Department, ADB

(i) **India’s Experience in Ensuring Quality with Rapid Scale-up of TVET**: Mr. Anant Prakash Pandey, PS to Chairman, National Skill Development Agency, India

(ii) **The Power of Parity**: McKinsey Global Institute, Short Video Presentation

(iii) **Improving Training and Employment Outcomes for Women**: Ms. Antara Ganguli, UN Women, Deputy Country Representative, Bangladesh

12:15 – 13:30 Networking Lunch

13:30 – 15:00 Innovation Marketplace. This session will be fast paced and interactive aimed at focusing directly on the ‘how to’ of innovation in TVET, showcasing elements from the Forum. Innovation leads will be given ten minutes for presentation and discussion with a small group gathered around them – focusing on elements of innovation which are scalable and replicable. Participants will rotate across the four stations during the marketplace to ensure they have an opportunity to engage with all ‘how to’ topics.

**Facilitator**: Mr. Jost Wagner

Station 1: **Skills via Virtual Reality**
Station 2: **Funding Employment Outcomes**
Station 3: **From Course into a Job**
Station 4: **Women into Training**

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee / Tea Break

15:30 – 16:30 Plenary Addresses: Innovation, and New Horizons

Chair: Mr. David Murchison, Executive Director, Canada, ADB

(i) **How Internet Changes Education: the example of MOOCs in China**. Dr. Min Tang, Counselor of the State Council, Executive Vice Chairman of YouChange and the President of YouChange Neo-Philanthropy University
(ii) **Building a new future – opportunity and TVET in Myanmar**
Dr. Sai Kyaw Naing Oo, Deputy Director General, Department of Technological and Vocational Education, Myanmar Ministry of Science and Technology

16:30 – 17:00 **Closing Session**

**Chair:** Mr. Stephen Groff, Vice President (Operations 2), ADB  
**Reflections:** Mr. Brajesh Panth, Technical Advisor (Education), ADB