



UNEVOC

United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

International Centre  
for Technical and Vocational  
Education and Training



## Editorial

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 29th issue of the Bulletin. The Bulletin has been restructured to focus on a specific thematic area and we hope that you will enjoy reading it. This issue focuses on youth and skills and presents a selection of UNESCO-UNEVOC's activities that have contributed to knowledge sharing and capacity development in this regard. A particular highlight was the two-day programme that was held in Bonn, Germany, to celebrate World Youth Skills Day and the launch the UNESCO Strategy for TVET (2016-2021). The programme demonstrated the importance of youth skills development and successfully identified areas for greater collaboration. One of the highlights of the programme was the organization of a youth panel discussion that discussed ways to improve the image of TVET through youth engagement.



Shyamal Majumdar © UNESCO-UNEVOC

Issues related to youth unemployment, access to decent work and quality education, fostering entrepreneurship and lifelong learning remain critical concerns. While the role of technical and vocational education and training in addressing these and many other issues has now been accepted by the international community, as shown in the Sustainable Development Goals, there is still a need for greater collaboration among key partners. In particular, the need to empower and give youth a voice in policy developments is now clearer than ever before.

In the past months we are pleased to have participated in and organized activities that have contributed to supporting Member States to enhance their TVET systems to give young people every chance to succeed.

For more detailed information on our work, please visit our website. On behalf of the entire UNESCO-UNEVOC team, I wish you a pleasant reading.

Shyamal Majumdar  
Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC

# World Youth Skills Day 2016 in Bonn

Over one hundred and forty technical and vocational education and training (TVET) stakeholders from over thirty-five countries met in Bonn, Germany, on 15 July to raise awareness about the importance of youth skills development. The day also launched *UNESCO's Strategy for TVET* which will guide the Organization's work on TVET for the period 2016 to 2021, and the meeting provided an opportunity for international, regional and national actors to gather and explore future areas for collaboration.

The fact that the Strategy was launched on *World Youth Skills Day*, an official UN recognized day celebrating youth skills, was no coincidence; one of the Strategy's priority areas is fostering youth employment and entrepreneurship. The launching of the Strategy and celebration of World Youth Skills Day provided an opportunity to discuss about pressing issues related to youth unemployment, decent work, access to quality and lifelong learning, and explore ways for TVET to contribute to the fulfilment of, amongst others, Sustainable Development Goal 4.

*According to a recent International Labour Organization (ILO) publication, 73.4 million young people were estimated to be unemployed in 2015 (13.1% youth unemployment rate)*

The highly engaging programme included a panel discussion where representatives from Germany, Nigeria, Costa Rica, Morocco and Serbia presented on innovative practices undertaken by their respective countries to transform their TVET systems to contribute to sustainable development. A second panel discussion convened youth representatives from WorldSkills International, Skills in Action and Net-Med, as well as the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) and national actors from Germany and Canada to discuss ways to



Participants at World Youth Skills Day 2016 in Bonn, Germany

leverage youth engagement in TVET. The session highlighted the importance of recognizing TVET as a tool for empowerment, a fact demonstrated by the inspiring stories shared by the youth participants. Youth empowerment was also picked up on in a breakout session on youth employment and entrepreneurship which discussed ways to enhance connectivity between employers and providers, and the importance of giving youth a say in the development of entrepreneurship programmes.

The day's closing remarks by David Atchoarena, Director of



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Participants take part in a skills demonstration at World Youth Skills Day 2016 in Bonn, Germany

the Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems at UNESCO, stressed the relevance of youth engagement with speakers highlighting the importance of young people playing an active role in designing policy responses. Youth engagement was also suggested as a way to promote the image of TVET, and in this regard mechanisms need to be developed to raise the social recognition of the importance of TVET in sustainable development. The fact that so many key stakeholders took part in the day-long programme epitomized the potential of partnerships and what could be accomplished through knowledge sharing and harmonized actions.

## Promoting youth skills for work and entrepreneurship in Eastern Africa

**O**n 16 to 18 March 2016, over fifty TVET stakeholders discussed and shared promising practices during a regional forum organized by the UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa, in partnership with the UNESCO-UNEVOC, the Seychelles National Commission for UNESCO and the Ministry of Education of Seychelles.



© UNESCO  
Participants at the regional meeting in the Seychelles

The regional forum focused on ways to promote youth skills for work and entrepreneurship and was the first regional consultation in Eastern Africa to support the new 2030 Education Agenda. The programme focused on three priority areas: (i) enhancing institutional capacities to promote employment intensive growth; (ii) enhancing youth skills and competencies for employability, entrepreneurship and business creation; and (iii) promoting job creation and enterprise development through public-private and private-private partnerships.

The forum was attended by thirteen Eastern African countries, including six UNEVOC Centres from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Mauritius, Nigeria, Seychelles and Tanzania. UNESCO-UNEVOC contributed to discussions on ways to enhance regional dialogue and cooperation in TVET, and also took the opportunity to meet with UNEVOC Centres and identify areas for future collaboration within the UNEVOC Network.

One of the main outcomes of the regional forum was the development of six recommendations for regional cooperation. The six recommendations, referred to as the 'Mahe Process to strengthen TVET in Eastern Africa', include:

- developing quality assurance mechanisms;
- enhancing the quality of TVET teacher training;
- strengthening the teaching of entrepreneurship, basic and generic skills in TVET;
- facilitating transition to self-employment;
- developing and strengthening partnerships with the private sector; and
- developing and strengthening funding mechanisms for youth enterprise start-ups.

To find out more news articles on UNESCO-UNEVOC's work, please visit our news portal: <http://www.unevoc.unesco.org/go.php?q=UNESCO-UNEVOC+News>

## Virtual conference on youth entrepreneurship on the TVeT Forum

**I**n this edition of UNESCO-UNEVOC's virtual conference the discussion focused on youth entrepreneurship in TVET. The conference took place from 18 to 29 July 2016 on the [UNESCO-UNEVOC TVeT Forum](#).

The virtual conference explored and discussed the key challenges young entrepreneurs face and the skills they require in order to develop successful ventures. Importantly, the virtual conference addressed the role that TVET can play in helping develop some of these skills.

Specifically, the virtual conference looked at the following questions:

- What are some of the key challenges that young entrepreneurs, in different markets and from different backgrounds, face? And how can programmes or policies help them address those challenges?
- What are the key skills that young entrepreneurs need to develop in order to be able to run prosperous ventures? And what role can TVET play in helping develop some of those skills?
- What are some key best practices that we can identify when implementing youth entrepreneurship skills development programmes?

The summary and synthesis report will be online soon and can be found on our website.

## News from UNEVOC Centres around the World

### Stakeholders engage in a capacity development programme in the Pacific

From 16 to 27 May, TAFE Queensland with the Asia Pacific Technical College (APTC) in Fiji organized a ten-day programme that focused on enhancing TVET in the Pacific. The programme, with the help of UNESCO-UNEVOC, sought to assist the Pacific Island nations to further develop effective TVET systems which will ultimately contribute to improving economic growth and increased uptake of TVET.

### SRTTU Tehran conducts TVET training programmes

From 17 May to 02 June, the Shahid Rajaei Teacher Training University Tehran (SRTTU), a member of the UNEVOC Network since 2006, conducted two technical teacher training programmes on Industrial Hydraulics and Pumps, and the Production and Processing of Geospatial Information. The programmes aimed at building the capacities of teachers who are already engaged in these vocational and technical fields, and equip them with the skills necessary to promote and enhance their teaching techniques.

### Collaborative research on return on investment in TVET

NCVER and UNESCO-UNEVOC, together with the Korean Research Institute for Vocational Education and Training (KRIVET), organized a conception meeting in Adelaide to discuss with selected UNEVOC Centres in Asia a collaborative research project to identify and highlight key issues in the measurement of the return on investment in TVET. Funding and financing are very important issues and understanding how stakeholders – from individuals, to enterprises, through to economies and societies – benefit is essential to understand better TVET systems and policies.



Meeting at the Annual Conference of Colleges and Institutes Canada

### Pan Canadian UNEVOC Centre holds annual conference

The Annual Conference of Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan), a UNEVOC Centre, brought together over 750 participants from colleges and institutes from across Canada, as well as over fifty international stakeholders. The Annual Conference, held in Quebec City from 25 to 26 May, discussed CICan's future activities, especially in light of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris climate agreement.

For more news from the UNEVOC Centres, please visit: <http://www.unevoc.unesco.org/go.php?q=UNEVOC+Network+-+Home&all=1>

## Resources

### TVeT Forum Virtual conferences



The synthesis report for the virtual conference on Return on Investment (ROI) in TVET, which took place from 9 to 16 May 2016 on the UNESCO-UNEVOC TVeT Forum, is now online.

The virtual conference sought to inform the wider TVET community about a current

research project currently undertaken by the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) in Australia, in collaboration with UNESCO-UNEVOC. Importantly, it was an opportunity for the community to share their ideas, expertise and experiences with the research team to strengthen and validate the initial bases for measuring ROI and identifying indicators.

The synthesis report addresses a number of topics, including:

- How could information on ROI benefit TVET systems?
- Which types of ROI are most important or relevant?
- What are some of the challenges when comparing ROI in TVET across different countries? How do we take into account the differing political, cultural and educational contexts when comparing returns?
- What data sources are currently available in your country to measure the ROI in TVET? What are the gaps and how can these gaps be addressed?

## Recently Published



### Shanghai Update Issue No. 5

The fifth issue of the Shanghai Update has just been published! This newsletter gives an overview of the activities undertaken by UNESCO and UNESCO-UNEVOC in response to the recommendations that Member States made to UNESCO at the Third International TVET Congress in Shanghai in May 2012.

### Virtual conference report on 'Return on Investment in TVET'

The virtual conference on 'Return on Investment in TVET' took place 9 to 16 May 2016 and attracted 230 participants from 83 countries.

See above for more details.





## Virtual conference report on 'Greening TVET in the context of climate change policy developments'

The virtual conference on 'Greening TVET in the context of climate change policy developments' took place 02 to 13 November 2015 and brought together 130 participants from 57 countries.

## Virtual conference report on 'UNESCO TVET Strategy 2016-2021'

The virtual conference on 'UNESCO's TVET Strategy 2016-2021' took place 28 September to 03 October 2015 and brought together 165 participants from 57 countries.



For more publications, please visit: [http://unevoc.unesco.org/go.php?q=page\\_unevoc\\_publications](http://unevoc.unesco.org/go.php?q=page_unevoc_publications)

## Visitors

### Delegation from South Caucasus visits UNESCO-UNEVOC

**21 June**

Seventeen TVET stakeholders from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia visited UNESCO-UNEVOC to learn more about the International Centre's activities, with a particular emphasis on the UNEVOC Network and the online services.

### UNESCO-UNEVOC finds common interests with SFIVET

**03 June**

A delegation from the Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (SFIVET) visited UNESCO-UNEVOC to discuss activities and areas of interest and identify areas of potential collaboration in the future.

### Delegation from Qatar visits UNESCO-UNEVOC

**23 May**

UNESCO-UNEVOC had the pleasure to welcome Mr Rupert Mclean, former Director of UNESCO-UNEVOC and current QAPCO Professional Chair in Vocational Studies as well as

UNEVOC Centre Coordinator for the College of the North-Atlantic Qatar (CNA-Q), and Mr Abdulla Ahmed Kamal Naji from the Qatar Petrochemical Company (QAPCO).

### ASEAN country delegation and GIZ visits UNESCO-UNEVOC

**02 May**

Thirteen ministry and national institute representatives from Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar and Vietnam visited UNESCO-UNEVOC as part of the GIZ RECOTVET initiative to find out more about the International Centre's role, mandate and activities in thematic priority areas.

### Workshop UNESCO IIEP Pôle de Dakar

**21-22 March**

Delegates from UNESCO IIEP Pôle de Dakar and IIEP Paris visited UNESCO-UNEVOC for a two-day programme to share information and identify future areas for collaboration.

### Newly appointed UNEVOC Centre Coordinator in Malta visits UNESCO-UNEVOC

**16 March**

Upon his new appointment as the UNEVOC Centre Coordinator in Malta, Mr Curmi, Senior Manager, Apprenticeship and Work-based Learning Department, Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology (MCAST) visited the UNESCO-UNEVOC.

## Upcoming events

### Recognizing Green Skills in Non-formal Learning Settings – A comparative study in Asia

**30-31 August, Hamburg, Germany**

Organized by UNESCO-UIL and UNEVOC Centre Education University of Hong Kong, the international symposium will review the latest progress in this aspect of the green skills agenda.

### Leadership Programme

**17-28 October, Bonn, Germany**

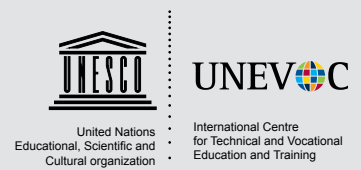
The TVET Leadership Programme seeks to capacitate potential leaders to become change agents and contribute to implementing the SDGs in their own countries. The programme, hosted by UNESCO-UNEVOC, targets TVET experts from in- and outside of the UNEVOC network.

## UNEVOC Bulletin

The Bulletin aims to inform the wider public on activities undertaken by the UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training. Each issue addresses a certain thematic issue and also acts a portal through which UNEVOC Centres can inform the rest of the Network about their activities.

The Bulletin is published twice a year and is available in all six UNESCO languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

For more information, or if you have any feedback, please contact Mr Wouter de Regt at [w.de-regt@unesco.org](mailto:w.de-regt@unesco.org).



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