**Sri Lanka UNEVOC Centre Hosts Nepal Delegation on TVET Study Tour**

Nepal is in its transition towards establishing an autonomous National Vocational Qualifications Authority (NVQA). In support of this new initiative, it is identified as a key prerequisite to develop the staff capacities to effectively involve public, private sector and other stakeholders to offer improved quality services in the entire skills testing & certification in Nepal. As a measure of obtaining on-site experience of functional Vocational Qualifications Systems (VQS) in other countries, Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission (TVEC), the apex body for Sri Lanka TVET system was chosen to benchmark and develop proposed NVQ system in Nepal.

High level TVET sector delegation consisting of Director-Curriculum Development; Capacity Development Specialist - NVQS; Deputy Director-NSTB; Executive Secretary-Contractors' Association visited TVEC UNEVOC Centre, Sri Lanka from 30th May to 3rd June 2016, for five-day specialized study. This study tour was sponsored by Swisscontact, which is an International Non-Government Organisation in Nepal and organized by TVEC UNEVOC Centre as the UNEVOC cluster co-ordinating centre for the South Asia region.

During the study, a lecture series on Sri Lanka TVET and NVQ system was conducted and the delegation visited public and private training providers who are collaborating with TVEC for NVQ development and implementation; Training institutions implementing NVQs; Employers of the graduates who have been awarded with the qualifications through Competency Based Training (CBT) especially in construction and hospitality sectors; and Advanced Construction Training Academy which operates Construction Sector Skills Council with sessions for sharing information and experience.

Further the delegation was given exposure on development of competency standards and conducting competency based assessments. Visits were taken place at Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission(TVEC)-Colombo 5, University of Vocational Technology(UNIVOTEC)-Rathmalana, Vocational Training Authority(VTA)-Narahenpita, College of Technology(CoT) – Maradana, Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management(SLITHM)-Colombo 4, Advanced Construction Training Academy(ACTA)-Battaramulla, Ceylon - German Technical Training Institute(CGTTI)-Katubedda.

