



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

UNEVOC

International Centre
for Technical and Vocational
Education and Training

Navigating the Maze of Digital Tools and Services

Thursday, 20 May 2021

10:00 – 11:30 CEST

Organized as part of the project – Strengthening the Responsiveness,
Agility and Resilience of TVET Institutions for the Post-COVID-19 Era

Agenda

Introduction

The global shift to distance and online learning in response to COVID-19 has accelerated the need to develop solutions at the TVET provider level and share good practices and guidelines pertaining to choosing digital services and tools. During the ongoing crisis, digital solutions have become a necessity, offering teachers the means to connect within their organization, and with students and social partners. At the organizational level, digital ecosystems have suddenly flourished and become a lifeline, enabling learning to continue. Yet many teachers are frustrated at the myriad of services and tools and are not comfortable with having to make hasty choices in terms of learning and unlearning the use of applications while developing new teaching and learning strategies on the go. For students, the situation can be even more challenging if teachers have not had the time and opportunity to coordinate choices pertaining to which digital tools and applications are used to enable and support communication and learning activities. The situation can leave TVET students frustrated, even alienated, and cause retention rates to drop.

Many aspects must be considered when choosing a digital approach: connectivity and device-related limitations, diversity of users and their digital competence, desired pedagogical approaches, readiness and availability of support services, budgetary concerns, and possible rules and regulations pertaining to storage of data and privacy. For digitalization to be successful, it is important to understand different perspectives: management, IT support and TVET teachers. What might be the ideal solution from a certain perspective, might not work on an institutional level.

This webinar will showcase different types of approaches and solutions and will address decisions on institutional services, such as learning management systems, as well as collaboration tools that can improve the quality of teaching and learning. The webinar will also showcase a model where students are involved in offering digital support services.

Discussion questions

1. What should a TVET institution take into consideration when developing a digital strategy and making digital service decisions?
2. Should we allow teachers to make individual choices on digital tools? Pros and cons.
3. An IT administrative perspective vs. learning perspective – do the two clash?
4. How can we support teachers and learners in the digital maze?

Audience

School administrators, school ICT managers, TVET teachers and trainers.

Technical platform and languages

The webinar will be held on Zoom in English with simultaneous French and Spanish interpretation. To access the French and Spanish channels, participants will have to download the Zoom desktop application in advance. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions, make comments and share relevant information and material through a chat feature.

Registration

[Please register for the webinar through this link.](#)

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10:00 - 10:15 (CEST)	Welcome , Soo-Hyang Choi, Director, UNESCO-UNEVOC Opening remarks , Jeanette Burmester, Head of Sector Project on TVET, GIZ
10:15 - 11:10	Panel discussion Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mervi Jansson, CEO, Omnia Education Partnerships Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Kiam-Wee Ang, Deputy CEO (Academics and Facilities), Institute of Technical Education, Singapore- Esko Lius, Key Expert on Digital Learning, Omnia – the Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region, Finland- Natalia Shevchenko-Savlakova, Head of the Centre for International Cooperation, Republican Institute for Vocational Education, Belarus Case DigiTutors: Harnessing students' skills for institutional digital support
11:10 – 11:25	Q&A
11:25 - 11:30	Closing remarks , Jens Liebe, Team Leader for Innovation and the Future of TVET, UNESCO-UNEVOC

Speakers

Kiam-Wee Ang is currently the Deputy CEO in charge of Academics and Facilities at the Institute of Technical Education (ITE), Singapore. His responsibilities include curriculum and facilities development to support teaching and learning, quality assessment for and of learning as well as introduction of education technologies that can enhance teaching and learning.

Prior to his appointment as Deputy CEO in January 2020, he was Principal of ITE College Central, one of the 3 colleges in ITE. As Principal of ITE College Central, he was responsible for professional and academic development as well as quality teaching and student-related activities for more than 11,000 students and 800 staff. Mr Ang holds a Bachelor of Science (Hons) and Doctor of Philosophy degree from the National University of Singapore, an Executive Master of Business Administration from Helsinki School of Economics and a Master of Education Research Methods from the University of Western Australia.



Jeanette Burmester leads the Sector Project on TVET at GIZ in Bonn, Germany. She has been working in development cooperation for more than 15 years and has headed various GIZ TVET projects in the Balkans, Ghana and Myanmar. Her technical expertise covers advice to public and private institutions on vocational education and training systems, the introduction of cooperative training elements, training in the informal sector, competency-based training, gender equality and linking the formal vocational education sector with the private sector. Jeanette has extensive experience in research and teaching and obtained her PhD in international vocational education and training in Germany.



Soo-Hyang Choi was appointed as Director of the UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training in January 2020. UNESCO-UNEVOC supports member states to ensure inclusive and equitable quality TVET and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. Ms Choi has a BA in Psychology (Chung-Ang University, Seoul, Korea) and an M. Ed and a PhD in Educational Psychology (Univ. of Alberta, Canada). She previously worked in the Korean Educational Development Institute (Seoul, Korea) and joined UNESCO Headquarters as Chief of the Early Childhood and Family Education Section in 1998. Subsequently, she held various chief positions at UNESCO Headquarters in the areas of inclusive education, field support and coordination, and technical, vocational and secondary education. In the field, she worked in Pakistan and Zimbabwe, and served as the UNESCO representative to Botswana, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe as well as to the Southern African Development Community. From 2012 to 2019, she was the Director of the Division for Peace and Sustainable Development within the Education Sector of UNESCO.



Mervi Jansson, MBA, CEO of Omnia Education Partnerships (OEP), has over 20 years of experience in TVET and has led national and international development projects, working closely with public and private organizations. Prior to being appointed CEO of OEP, Mervi was employed by Omnia – the Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region (Finland) for 10 years. Her responsibilities have included head of apprenticeship programmes in the business sector, member of the innovation team building the InnoOmnia concept, head of TVET professional development and developer of Omnia entrepreneurship study modules. Mervi has a strong background in entrepreneurship, e-learning and digital innovation. Over the years, she has designed and implemented TVET programmes and projects with several countries, gaining substantial insight about different TVET systems.



Jens Liebe is UNESCO-UNEVOC's Team Leader for 'Innovation and the Future of TVET', which focuses on supporting TVET staff for a digitalized world. It includes the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) project and i-hubs initiative. He further serves as Regional Focal Point for Europe, CIS and North America. His previous responsibilities include leading the UNEVOC Network Secretariat and the UNEVOC TVET Leadership Programme. Prior to joining UNESCO-UNEVOC, Jens held positions as Assistant Director and Programme Officer of the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC), and as a Senior Scientist at the Centre for Development Research (ZEF), University of Bonn.

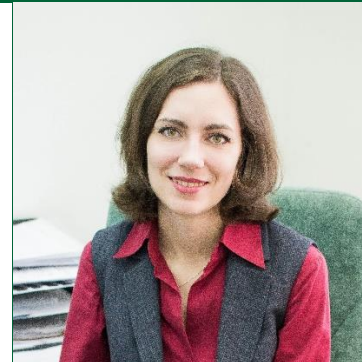


Esko Lius, M.A., Key Expert on Digital Learning at Omnia, Finland and a Component Leader in an EU Twinning project, has been facilitating digital transformation and new pedagogic strategies and practices in TVET for ten years, both in Finland and abroad on five continents. Before entering the vocational sector, he was responsible for developing pedagogies and technology solutions for an online upper secondary high school in Finland.



Natalia Shevchenko-Savlakova, Head of the Centre for International Cooperation in the Republican Institute for Vocational Education, PhD in Psychology and Assistant Professor at the Department of Vocational Education Technologies. Natalia graduated from Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno with a degree in Psychology.

She has had over 30 research works published. She currently leads experimental work on distance learning and networking in vocational and secondary vocational education. Natalia made a major contribution to the development of the WorldSkills Belarus movement and she is the organizer of the WorldSkills movement in Belarus. She trains national and international experts and takes part in updating the content of educational programmes of professional education in accordance with the world standards of WorldSkills. Natalia constantly participates in international and republican scientific and practical conferences and seminars.



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