



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

UNEVOC

International Centre
for Technical and Vocational
Education and Training

Digital Competence and the Future of Work - Pathways for TVET Institutions

Thursday, 18 March 2021
9h00 – 10h30 CET

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

Agenda

Introduction

The COVID-19 crisis has amplified the pace at which the world is migrating towards a digital economy. With digital technology infiltrating industries through robotization, AI and 3D printing, it is apparent that sufficient digital skills are part of a core skillset for the workforce and therefore need to be an integral part of TVET curricula and learning environments.

In addition to equipping youth with a relevant skillset, TVET can also play a key role in enabling continuous learning for adults, supporting career paths, and employability. Distance learning solutions can provide cost effective and ecological means for ensuring that a growing number of people are not excluded from the workforce due to lack of skills. However, the bandwagon of continuous learning requires connectivity and at minimum foundation-level digital skills. TVET needs to play its part in preparing both youth and adults with the required digital skills – adhering to both industry needs and enabling continuous learning.

The emerging digital economy creates new opportunities, but also threatens to widen the employability gap. In the digitalized economy, it is possible to create jobs globally. Digitalized services are no longer location based, and can be offered in a flexible manner from multiple locations. Innovative digital solutions, such as virtual reality-based environments, can enable access to high quality TVET training, regardless of location, making it possible to learn and demonstrate competence for a global job market.

SDG 4 targets for TVET describe key ICT skills. Many countries have already included digital skills into TVET curricula, but due to accelerating changes within industries, we need to ask ourselves what are the

core digital skills required for 2030 and beyond? Faced with the COVID-19 crisis and ongoing disruption, are we preparing TVET students for the future of work? What about the teachers? Are they receiving sufficient upskilling for digital technology as well as for designing and implementing distance learning? The transformation of TVET requires partnership and collaboration with the private sector. A broader vision of how innovation and digital solutions will become a part of TVET is a prerequisite for TVET to fully embrace change and train the workforce of tomorrow.

Discussion questions

1. What are some of the most prominent challenges related to digital competence within TVET?
2. How can TVET institutions support teachers in delivering digital learning?
3. How could innovative digital learning solutions improve quality and access to relevant TVET?
4. How can we develop partnerships between industry and TVET institutions supporting the upskilling of teaching staff and up-to-date learning environments for students?

Audience

Industry leaders, public and private sector TVET administrators, school ICT managers, TVET teachers and trainers.

Technical platform and languages

The webinar will be held on Zoom in English with simultaneous French interpreting. To access the French channel, 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.](#)

Thursday 18 March 2021

9:00 - 9:15 (CET)	Welcome , Soo-Hyang Choi, Director, UNESCO-UNEVOC Opening remarks , Jeanette Burmester, Head of Sector Project TVET, GIZ
9:15 - 10:10	Panel discussion Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mervi Jansson, CEO, Omnia Education Partnerships Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Anita Lehtikoinen, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education and Culture of Finland- Farida El Agamy, General Manager, Tharawat Family Business Forum, UAE- Stefano Merante, Programme Officer, ITCILO- Edwin Tarno, Chief Principal, Kenya Technical Trainers College
10:10 – 10:25	Polling and Q&A
10:25 - 10:30	Closing remarks , Jens Liebe, Team Leader for Innovation and the Future of TVET, UNESCO-UNEVOC

Speakers

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 has 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.



Farida El Agamy is an attorney-at-law, entrepreneur, and governance expert. She is the founding GM of the Tharawat Family Business Forum, the private network and knowledge hub for family-owned companies in the MENA. Ms El Agamy is also a second-generation family business member, is Editor-at-Large of the Tharawat magazine, and a Director both at Target Developments LLC and Orbis Terra Media LLC, her family's firms in Switzerland. In 2019, she joined her two co-founders in setting up Zoí, a company focused on developing sustainable solutions to FMCG products. Ms El Agamy holds a Master's in Law from the University of Freiburg, Switzerland and was admitted to the Bar in 2009.



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.



Anita Lehikoinen was appointed Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Education and Culture on 1 May 2013. She directs the activities of the Ministry together with the Ministers. The duties of the Permanent Secretary include monitoring of the preparation of matters at the Ministry and attending to the internal activities of the Ministry. Anita Lehikoinen has been employed with the Finnish Ministry of Education since 1989. Prior to her current position, she served as Director General in the Ministry, in charge of higher education and science policy development. She has also worked in the field of higher education, and was responsible for the implementation of the Bologna process in Finland and internationalization strategy for higher education, among other things. She has also been involved in work to reform the steering system of Finnish universities.



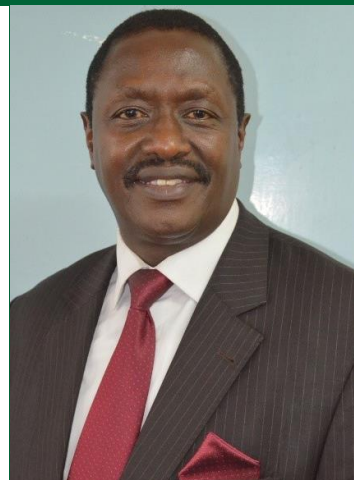
Jens Liebe is UNESCO-UNEVOC's team leader for 'Innovation and the Future of TVET', which focuses on supporting TVET staff for a digitalized world. It includes the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) project and i-hubs initiative. He further serves as Regional Focal Point for Europe, CIS and 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.



Stefano Merante is the programme officer in charge of the Skills portfolio within the Employment Policy and Analysis Programme of the International Training Centre of the ILO in Turin (Italy). He has worked in the field of TVET and skills development since 2005. After a brief experience in Latin America, he has managed international cooperation and technical assistance programmes and projects in different countries of English-speaking and French-speaking Sub-Saharan Africa. As a training engineer and programme manager, he has specific skills and experience in the creation of public-private partnerships and the development of Recognition of Prior Learning systems. He holds a Master's degree in Training and Employment Systems Design at the NSFEA (Toulouse, France) and a Master's degree in International Cooperation for Development at the IUSS - School for Advanced Studies of Pavia (Italy)



Edwin Tarno is the current Chief Principal at Kenya Technical Trainers College and is credited with the very many successes in many TVET institutions. In recognition of his contributions to TVET, Mr Tarno was awarded a national honour of the order of Head of State Commendation (HSC) by the President of the republic of Kenya. Among many other initiatives he was the lead trainer of Greening TVET champions in Africa, and hosting international conferences, awarding best paper presenters, and publishing success researches in greening TVET through the Africa Journal of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (AfriTVET Journal). Mr Tarno holds a PhD – Organizational Development and Transformation (ODT) from CEBU Doctors University, MBA – Entrepreneurship and Marketing (Double Major) from Moi University. He is the immediate former long serving chair of the Kenya Association of Technical Training Institutions (KATTI), and also the immediate former Executive Council Member of Commonwealth Association of Technical Universities and Polytechnics in Africa, (CAPA). He is widely published and a co-author of the book Emerging Trends and Challenges in TVET in Sub-Saharan Africa.



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