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International Centre for
Technical and Vocational
Education and Training

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

BILT Bridging Event:

Mapping current trends in TVET

for sustainable and digital transformation

21 June 2022 (in person)
22-23 June 2022 (online)

Hosted by Omnia, the Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region



The BILT Project is
Implemented by



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The BILT Bridging Event: Mapping
current trends in TVET for sustainable
and digital transformation is hosted by:



Conference objectives and format

This Bridging Event on Mapping current trends in TVET for sustainable and digital transformation will be the first hybrid conference of the BILT project. After two years of virtual meetings due to the Covid-19 pandemic, UNESCO-UNEVOC and BIBB, together with co-host Omnia, are pleased to invite around 50 participants to Espoo, Finland, as well as an unlimited number of online participants to engage in peer learning with UNEVOC Centres and other members of the global TVET community.

Purpose of the BILT Bridging Event for Europe

The purpose of the Bridging Event is to provide a platform to discuss trends in new qualifications and competencies in Europe. It will also present emerging trends in Africa and Asia-Pacific, and aims to provide direction for peer-learning opportunities: which sectors are particularly affected by the transformation towards sustainability and digitalization? Which competencies and qualifications will lose or gain importance?

21 June 2022 (on-site participation only)

Participants joining on site will engage in matchmaking sessions for peer learning about the processes of identifying new digital and green skills, integrating them into new qualifications and curricula, as well as implementing them into teaching and learning processes.

22-23 June 2022 (both on-site and online participation)

With inspiration drawn from a keynote speech on the 'Dual Transition of Greening and Digitalization', the second day of the conference will see participants from Europe, Africa and Asia-Pacific dive into discussions on current trends and opportunities in green and digital TVET. Particular focus will be given to the growing sectors of construction and tourism/hospitality.

This will be followed by a special afternoon session on the Omnia Skills Centre for Migrants (OSKE). Participants will be able to explore this innovative approach to the integration of migrants and discuss responses to the current migration-related challenges faced by TVET providers in Europe and worldwide.

On the third day, participants will examine action plans from Europe, Africa and Asia-Pacific that outline strategic goals in TVET for all three regions. They will learn about the 'BILT Agenda 2025' – a document that commits to concrete actions that enable the TVET community to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals.

In a virtual showroom, participants will have the chance to explore various innovative practice examples in the BILT themes of Greening, Digitalization, Entrepreneurship and Migration. The showroom provides opportunities for direct exchange between exhibitors and participants and offers a space for peer learning based on practical examples.

Finally, the Bridging Event will provide an opportunity to discuss the BILT Self-Reflection Tool (SRT) on new qualifications and competencies with the pilot institutions. The conference will also welcome the BILT Advisory Committee to its annual meeting for 2022.

Expected outcomes

The BILT Bridging Event for Europe will encourage participants to:

- Discuss perspectives and current challenges in green and digital TVET as well as the ‘Dual Transition of Greening and Digitalization’;
- Explore innovative approaches to the integration of refugees and migrants in TVET;
- Generate knowledge and support peer learning on excellent and innovative practices in TVET;
- Contribute to strengthening the UNEVOC Network, particularly in Europe but also in a bridging process with Asia-Pacific and Africa; and
- Raise awareness about the BILT Agenda 2025 and its alignment with global action plans.

Participants of the BILT Bridging Event for Europe

21 June 2022 is conceptualized as a fully in-person event. It will bring together European UNEVOC Centres and European members of the BILT community.

22 and 23 June 2022 will be streamed on an online conferencing platform. Online participation is open to institutions from all three BILT regions – Europe, Africa and Asia and the Pacific. On-site participation is extended to the members of the BILT Advisory Committee and to the SRT pilot institutions.

Background

BILT Agenda 2025

The BILT Agenda 2025 is a joint initiative by UNESCO-UNEVOC, BIBB and BMBF. It encompasses four long-term commitments, as well as concrete BILT project activities for the period from 2022 to 2025 to contribute to these commitments. More concretely, the BILT Agenda 2025 emphasizes that international collaboration and peer learning help to jointly overcome challenges; innovation and knowledge generation are crucial to modernize TVET systems; ideas must be put into practice through concrete actions; and finally, the ‘dual transition’ to greening and digitalization must be a common thread for the transformation of TVET systems around the world.

New qualifications and competencies for future-oriented TVET

The three-volume publication has been compiled as part of the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) project and is authored with the inputs of more than 30 TVET experts from Africa, Asia and Europe. Each volume aims to cater to the diverse needs of TVET-related institutions by exploring and understanding the Three I’s process: the accurate and timely identification of new qualifications and competencies, their integration into appealing and flexible curricula and training regulations, and their implementation through innovative teaching and learning practices and in adequate learning environments. The three volumes are unique in their context-specific scope, recognizing that stakeholders at each level face different, but related challenges. The insights contained in these documents are aimed at creating complementary approaches to governance, advocacy and delivery of NQCs in TVET. In addition, case examples show how existing and promising practices used in other TVET settings could inspire replication and/or adaptation within other contexts.

Self-Reflection Tool

The BILT project is currently developing one of the publication volumes on “TVET Delivery: providing innovative solutions” into a Self-Reflection Tool. The tool is intended to encourage TVET providers to assess their preparedness to identify new qualifications and competencies, integrate them into curricula and implement them in adequate learning environments. A pilot phase was implemented in the first quarter of 2022, when selected UNEVOC Centres were invited to co-develop and pilot the Self-Reflection Tool, to implement a Self-Reflection Workshop with the support of the BILT team and to provide feedback. These UNEVOC Centres will also play a relevant role in scaling up the methodology in their respective regions by disseminating the updated tool in the framework of multiplication workshops with other TVET providers.

Innovation and Learning Practices and BILT Learning Labs

In the context of the BILT project, an Innovation and Learning Practice (ILP) is a new approach that makes TVET more relevant to the needs of the economy, society and the environment. These practices address current challenges related to global trends in TVET systems in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Europe. The ILPs portray initiatives that belong to one of the BILT work streams: New Qualifications and Competencies, Greening, Digitalization, Entrepreneurship, or Migration. They offer a learning opportunity for other TVET stakeholders, with the possibility to adapt and replicate key elements of the approach in their specific context. A new webinar format, the ‘BILT Learning Labs’, has been developed to allow TVET stakeholders to explore specific ‘Innovation and Learning Practices’ from Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Europe in greater detail. The Learning Labs focus on the transferability of practices.

About the BILT project

The BILT project is a reference point for innovation and learning in TVET through UNEVOC Network collaboration within Europe, and in a bridging process with African and Asian partners. The project complements national developments to explore and support innovative, market-oriented and attractive modes of learning and cooperation in TVET. With qualifications and competencies in view, the BILT project supports collaborative activities that are targeted to better understand the state-of-play and enhance national as well as multi-national TVET capacities to generate new knowledge and to share information on TVET practices, e.g. through innovation and learning as well as implementation examples. In 2021, a structured exchange on the respective topic took place between UNEVOC Centres in the three project regions as well as other interested TVET stakeholders. Since the start of 2022, the project has focused on adjusting TVET systems to meet the dual transition to digital and green societies.

Agenda for the Networking for Europe (In person only)

BILT Bridging Event

Mapping current trends in TVET for sustainable and digital transformation

21 June 2022, 9:30 am – 16:45 pm EEST

9:15 – 9:30	Arrival
9:30 – 09:45 Plenary: Sampola	<p>Opening and welcome remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Päivi Korhonen</i>, Director, Communications, Omnia, The Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region, Finland • <i>Mr Michael Schwarz</i>, Senior Technical Advisor, Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), Germany • <i>Ms Sarah Elson-Rogers</i>, Team Leader for Innovation and the Future of TVET, UNESCO-UNEVOC
09:45 – 10:30 Plenary: Sampola	<p>European innovation happens now! New qualifications and competencies for green and digital TVET</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Ms Natalie Ax</i>, Project Officer, UNESCO-UNEVOC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Basheerhamad Shadrach</i>, International TVET Expert, India • <i>Ms Dana Stroeie</i>, Deputy Director, National Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training Development, Romania • <i>Mr Louis Aquilina</i>, Director, Partnerships & International Office, Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology, Malta <p>The objective of this session is to present common challenges that new digital and green skills needs create for TVET systems, and to explore trends in their responses. Participants are invited to share their latest developments and trends in their country context.</p>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 11:50 Meeting rooms: • Europe • Asia-Pacific • Sampola	<p>Crowdsourcing sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All participants <p>The objective of these sessions is to identify solution-oriented approaches and innovations from a country, stakeholder and practitioner perspective. The discussion in three groups will explore the following questions: Does the presented research reflect priorities and current challenges as experienced by participants? Which aspects should be further explored? Which measures can TVET stakeholders take to prepare for the green and digital transition?</p> <p>New digital qualifications and competencies in Europe</p> <p>Meeting room: Europe Moderator: <i>Ms Sarah Elson-Rogers</i>, UNESCO-UNEVOC</p> <p>New green qualifications and competencies in Europe</p> <p>Meeting room: Asia-Pacific Moderator: <i>Mr Michael Schwarz</i>, BIBB, Germany</p> <p>New qualifications and competencies for migrants in Europe</p> <p>Meeting room: Sampola Moderator: <i>Ms Sirje Hassinen</i>, Specialist, Omnia</p>
11:50 – 11:55	Transition break
11:55 – 12:15 Plenary: Sampola	<p>Summary</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Ms Natalie Ax</i>, UNESCO-UNEVOC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapporteurs of breakout groups <p>The groups' rapporteurs will summarize the main lines of discussion and results from the group work.</p>
12:15 – 13:30	Lunch break

<p>13:30 – 14:00</p> <p>Plenary: Sampola</p>	<p>Matchmaking for European Excellence – introduction</p> <p>Moderator: Ms Cara Schmitt, Project Officer, Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), Germany</p> <p>BILT project goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Oliver Diehl, Deputy Head of Division 'Innovation in Vocational Training', Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany <p>The Peer-Learning Wheel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Cara Schmitt, BIBB, Germany <p>Insights will be given on the BILT project goals for the new project phase, including stock-taking of the BILT community and an outlook to the project focus on digitalization and greening as well as the construction sector and the hospitality and tourism sector.</p> <p>The BILT Peer-Learning Wheel will be introduced. More than 100 institutions are already engaged in peer learning within the BILT project and represented in the wheel. The Peer-Learning Wheel is the starting point for the matchmaking sessions.</p>
<p>14:00 – 15:00</p> <p>Meeting rooms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europe • Asia-Pacific • Sampola 	<p>Matchmaking for European Excellence</p> <p>The objective of the matchmaking session is to strengthen cooperation and thematic exchange among European institutions. A targeted matching of institutions is aimed to support them with improving their ability to navigate the 'three I's process'.</p> <hr/> <p>Matchmaking Sessions I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted by Omnia, Finland: Cooperation with employers for new qualifications and competencies - Identification: Steady consultation of relevant stakeholders Meeting room: Sampola • Hosted by Sustainable Vocational Education and Training, Netherlands Meeting room: Europe • Hosted by TKNIKA, Spain Meeting room: 'Asia-Pacific'
<p>15:00 – 15:30</p>	<p>Coffee break</p>
<p>15:30 – 16:30</p> <p>Meeting rooms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europe • Asia-Pacific • Sampola 	<p>Matchmaking Sessions II</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted by Small Enterprises' Institute of the Hellenic Confederation of Professionals, Craftsmen and Merchants, Greece: Training and certification knowledge & skills in selected professions in the construction sector in the field of energy saving - Implementation: Application or development of innovative pedagogical methodologies Meeting room 'Sampola' • Hosted by Cometa, Italy: MiniMaster - Implementation: Application or development of innovative pedagogical methodologies Meeting room: Europe • Hosted by School Center Nova Gorica, Slovenia: Talentjourney - Identification: Anticipation of new qualifications and competencies and labour market trends Meeting room: Asia-Pacific
<p>16:30 – 16:45</p> <p>Plenary: Sampola</p>	<p>Wrapping up</p> <p>Ms Natalie Ax, UNESCO-UNEVOC</p> <p>Feedback, closing</p>

Agenda for the Networking for Europe (Online Meeting) - Day 1

BILT Bridging Event

Mapping current trends in TVET for sustainable and digital transformation

22 June 2022, 9:30 am – 16:30 pm EEST

9:15 – 9:30	Arrival - Online and on-site
9:30 – 09:45 Plenary: streamed	<p>Opening and welcome remarks: the BILT Agenda 2025</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Mr Wilson Lima Junior</i>, BILT Project Manager, UNESCO-UNEVOC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Tapio Siukonen</i>, Director of Administration, Omnia, The Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region, Finland • <i>Ms Catrin Hannken</i>, Deputy Director General for VET, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany • <i>Mr Friedrich Huebler</i>, Head of Office, UNESCO-UNEVOC
9:50 – 10:20 Plenary: streamed	<p>Keynote: The dual transition – a key commitment of the BILT Agenda 2025</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Ms Vera Hark</i>, BILT Project Manager, Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), Germany</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Jasper van Loo</i>, Department Coordinator/Senior Expert, Cedefop Author of “Digital, greener and more resilient: insights from Cedefop’s European skills forecast”
10:20 – 11:00 Plenary: streamed	<p>What’s on the horizon? Green & digital TVET trends in Africa, Asia-Pacific and Europe</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Mr Basheerhamad Shadrach</i>, International TVET Expert, India</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Dana Stroie</i>, Deputy Director, National Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training Development, Romania • <i>Mr Sayadaly Maudarbocus</i>, Ag. Director, Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD), Mauritius • <i>Mr Lim Teng Leng</i>, Deputy Director (International Relations), Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore <p>This session outlines major trends related to qualifications and competencies for greening and digitalization in TVET. It features the presentation and comparison of recent research conducted in Africa, Asia-Pacific and Europe. This is complemented by national perspectives from the three regions to explore current challenges and promising practices. Time will be allocated for Q&A.</p>
11:00 – 11:45	<p>Coffee & networking break; group photo for on site participants</p> <p>Join the ‘Networking’ area to meet and chat, or go via the ‘People’ tab to start 1:1 chats or meetings with up to 20 other participants.</p>
11:45 – 12:30 Meeting rooms on site and online:	<p>Crowdsourcing sessions: exploring TVET trends in the green & digital transformation</p> <p>The goal of the breakout sessions is to create a deeper understanding of innovation and trends in Europe, Africa and Asia. They aim to explore which aspects of greening and digitalization should be the focus of future action in TVET and to delve into the priority sectors identified in the research: construction and hospitality and tourism. Participants will examine jointly which technologies and which competencies will be affected by the trends described, and how TVET systems respond to them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europe • Asia-Pacific • Sampola
	<p>Green and digital transition in TVET in the hospitality and tourism sector</p> <p>Meeting room ‘Sampola’</p> <p>Moderators: <i>Mr Sayadaly Maudarbocus</i>, Mauritius Institute of Training and Development, Mauritius and <i>Mr Wilson Lima Junior</i>, UNESCO-UNEVOC</p> <p>Green and digital transition in TVET in the construction sector: the Integrative Built Environment Centre (IBEC) at Temasek Polytechnic</p> <p>Meeting room ‘Asia-Pacific’</p> <p>Moderators: <i>Mr Lim Teng Leng</i>, Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore and <i>Ms Vera Hark</i>, BIBB, Germany</p> <p>TVET for the successful integration of refugees</p> <p>Meeting room ‘Europe’</p> <p>Moderators: <i>Ms Annelie Dahlin-Jones</i>, Teacher, Centre for Flexible Learning, Soderhamn, Halsingland Education Association, Sweden, and <i>Ms Cara Schmitt</i>, BIBB, Germany</p>

12:30 – 12:40	Transition break
12:40 – 13:00 Plenary: streamed	<p>From reflection to action: outlining concrete goals & strategies for the TVET community</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Mr Wilson Lima Junior</i>, UNESCO-UNEVOC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapporteurs from breakout rooms <p>The goal of the session is to collect the results of the crowdsourcing sessions and to outline prospective ways of action for excellent TVET in a global community.</p>
13:00 – 14:00	<p>Lunch & networking break</p> <p>Join the "Networking" area to meet and chat, or go via the 'People' tab to start 1:1 chats or meetings with up to 20 other participants.</p>
<p>Special session on Omnia Skills Centre for Migrants (OSKE) Qualification and integration of migrants through TVET</p>	
14:00 – 15:00 Plenary: streamed	<p>The objective of this session is to share a local innovative practice, with OSKE being a successful example for the provision of services to immigrants to strengthen their professional skills and promote employment.</p> <p>Skill's Centre for Migrants as a part of Omnia's services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Sirkka Wiman</i>, Service Director, Omnia Skills Centre, Finland <p>Case: Learners paths from Skill's Centre to Practical Nurse Education qualification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Annukka Jamisto</i>, Service Manager, Omnia Skills Centre, Finland
15:00 – 15:15	<p>Coffee and networking break</p> <p>Join the 'Networking' area to meet and chat, or go via the 'People' tab to start 1:1 chats or meetings with up to 20 other participants.</p>
15:15 – 16:30 Plenary: streamed	<p>Interview and discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Mikaela Mandalios</i>, Service Manager, Omnia Skills Centre, Finland • Beneficiary of OSKE (tbc) <p>Keynote: Strategic planning & integration of immigrants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Teemu Haapalehto</i>, Manager of Immigration Affairs, City of Espoo, Finland
14:00 – 16:00 Meeting room on site: Africa and online	<p>Parallel session, by invitation only</p> <p>Enabling institutional development regarding new qualifications and competencies: The Self-Reflection Tool</p> <p>Moderators: <i>Ms Vera Hark</i>, BIBB, Germany and <i>Mr Wilson Lima Junior</i>, UNESCO-UNEVOC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRT pilot institutions
18:30	<p>Welcome cocktail and reception</p> <p>At the Hilton Kalastajatorppa Hotel</p>

Agenda for the Networking for Europe (Online Meeting) - Day 2

BILT Bridging Event

Mapping current trends in TVET for sustainable and digital transformation

23 June 2022, 9:30 am – 12:45 pm EEST

9:15 – 9:30	Arrival - Online and on-site
9:30 – 09:35 Plenary: streamed	Opening and welcome <i>Ms Tuula Antola</i> , General Director, Omnia, Finland
9:35 – 10:20 Plenary: streamed	The BILT Agenda 2025 and its global TVET context: Action plans in Europe, Africa and Asia-Pacific Moderator: <i>Ms Sarah Elson-Rogers</i> , UNESCO-UNEVOC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Friedrich Huebler</i>, Head of Office, UNESCO-UNEVOC • <i>Mr Nicholas Ouma</i>, Senior Youth Advisor in the Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (ESTI) Department, African Union • <i>Mr Isidro Lapeña</i>, Director General, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Philippines; Chair of the ASEAN TVET-Council • <i>Mr Joao Santos</i>, Senior Expert in the Directorate general for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission • <i>Mr Oliver Diehl</i>, Deputy Head of Division 'Innovation in Vocational Training', Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany
10:20 – 10:30	Transition break
10:30 – 11:10 Online	Virtual Showroom: Presentation of excellent and innovative practices I The virtual showroom displays innovative practices in BILT's thematic areas of digitalization, greening, migration and entrepreneurship. It provides opportunities for direct exchange between exhibitors and participants and offers a space for peer learning, based on practical examples. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reshaping Fashion Design Education with interactive Digital Media Tools, presented by Vocational Training Council, Hong Kong • Sustainable Learning Venues, presented by f-bb Forschungsinstitut Betriebliche Bildung, Germany • Anerkennung in Deutschland: Information portal of the German government for the recognition of foreign professional qualifications, presented by Federal Institute of Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), Germany • Promoting flexibility and personalization in TVET, presented by Omnia, The Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region, Finland • <i>On-site: tour of Omnia premises</i>
11:10 – 11:40 Online	Coffee and networking break Join the 'Networking' area to meet and chat, or go via the 'People' tab to start 1:1 chats or meetings with up to 20 other participants.

11:40 – 12:20 Online	<p>Virtual Showroom: Presentation of excellent and innovative practices II</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paint VR – Learn to paint like a pro with Virtual Reality, presented by SGB Dresden, Germany and Confederatie Bouw, Belgium • Young Africa – for the empowerment of young people in Africa, presented by Young Africa Mozambique • Empowering rural women through ICT in TVET, presented by AMMACHI Labs, Amrita University, India • Get involved with BILT, presented by the BILT project • <i>On-site tour of Omnia premises</i>
10:30 – 12:15 Meeting room on site: Africa and online	<p><i>Parallel session, by invitation only</i></p> <p>BILT Advisory Committee meeting</p> <p><i>Opening</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Friedrich Huebler</i>, Head of Office, UNESCO-UNEVOC • <i>Ms Catrin Hannken</i>, BMBF, Germany <p><i>Keynote: The Finnish TVET Reform – fostering innovation in times of uncertainty</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Petri Lempinen</i>, Director General of General Upper Secondary and Vocational Education and Training, Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture
12:20 – 12:30	Transition break
12:30 – 12:45 Plenary: streamed	<p>Where do we go from here? Navigating the next steps of the BILT agenda 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Petri Lempinen</i>, Ministry of Education and Culture, Finland • <i>Mr Friedrich Huebler</i>, UNESCO-UNEVOC • <i>Ms Tuula Antola</i>, Omnia, Finland
12:45 – 13:30	Joint lunch (optional)

Speaker Bios - Bridging Event

**Ms Päivi Korhonen**

Director of Communication and Marketing
Omnia, Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region, Finland

Ms Korhonen is a Director of Communication and Marketing and develops and designs the strategic communication and marketing at Omnia, Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region, Finland. Corporate image building and management is an important part of her work where launching of the Omnia strategy is an essential core task of communication and marketing segmented to the several stakeholder groups in the operational environment.

She is responsible for stakeholders' relationships and builds networks both nationally and internationally.

**Mr Michael Schwarz**

Senior Technical Advisor, German Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), Germany

Email: michael.schwarz@bibb.de

Mr Schwarz is the Deputy Head of the Division 'International Advisory Services / Cooperation with Partner Institutions' and Senior Technical Advisor at the German Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB) in Bonn, Germany.

His responsibilities at BIBB include the management of VET- projects and advisory services in Asia-Pacific, the Middle East, Europe and Africa in cooperation with Ministries, government agencies, partner institutions and social partners to improve work-based learning systems. Furthermore, he is in charge of the cooperation with multilateral agencies like UNESCO-UNEVOC and is the UNEVOC-Centre Coordinator for BIBB.

Currently he is Team Leader for the BILT (Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET) Project, which is carried out in cooperation with UNESCO-UNEVOC and funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education. Furthermore, he is heading an advisory project for the Vietnamese government in establishing a monitoring system for TVET (VET Report Vietnam) and in the development of a TVET strategy 2021-2030 and he is in charge of advising the Mongolian government on the new Education law. In recent years he has been conducting many short-term missions advising on steering mechanisms and TVET laws, on cost-benefit relations in TVET, on monitoring of TVET systems and on the development of occupational standards.

**Ms Sarah Elson-Rogers**

Team Leader, "Innovation and Future of TVET", UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for TVET, Germany

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Ms Elson-Rogers joined UNESCO-UNEVOC in July 2021 as Team Leader for the Innovation and Future of TVET programme, which includes the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) project. The team supports efforts to strengthen TVET systems in UNESCO's Member States with a focus on the themes of digitalization, greening, migration and entrepreneurship.

Prior to starting at UNESCO-UNEVOC, Ms Elson-Rogers worked in various national and international TVET contexts. She has worked for the UK Department of Education and the EU Centre for the Development of Vocational Education and Training (CEDEFOP). She has led projects on TVET financing and reporting on TVET policy trends. More recently, Ms Elson-Rogers has worked with bilateral and multilateral donors to design, implement and evaluate their TVET and labour market projects. She has worked in the EU, Africa, the Middle East and Eurasia with policymakers, researchers and TVET practitioners.



Ms Natalie Ax

BILT Project Officer, UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for TVET
Email: n.ax@unesco.org

Ms Ax joined the Innovation and Future of TVET team at UNESCO-UNEVOC in November 2020. She serves as Project Officer in the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) Project, where she leads the 'Bridging line' of BILT. In that context, she is responsible for the organization of BILT Bridging events and the renewal of the BILT online platform with the aim of strengthening the community and peer learning component of the project.

Ms Ax has more than ten years of experience working on digital transformation projects, both in the private sector and at the UN. Before joining UNESCO-UNEVOC, she worked for six years in IT consulting with a focus on change management and communication in large digital workplace projects. Prior to that, she served as Associate Expert at the Convention on Migratory Species under the UN Environment Programme and at the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs. Some of her responsibilities were to establish collaboration, knowledge and learning platforms, facilitate communities of practice, and conceptualize and carry out training sessions and workshops. Ms Ax holds a Master's degree in Political Science, English and Spanish.



Mr Basheerhamad Shadrach

Director of Commonwealth Education Media Centre for Asia Commonwealth of Learning, India
Email: me@shadrach.in

Mr Shadrach works with the Commonwealth of Learning in Canada as its Director of Commonwealth Education Media Centre for Asia, based in New Delhi. With over three decades of experience in the area of skill development and ICT4D, Mr Shadrach has led and managed a number of pioneering initiatives such as the India's first Development Information Network (indev) in 1999; global anti-corruption portal (CORIS) in 2002; India's first 24X7 call centre for farmers by a non-state actor (Lifelines India) in 2005; global grassroots lifeline learning network (telecentre.org Academy) in 2008; and a global digital learning network for women entrepreneurs (telecentre women campaign) in 2010; and, the Skill for Work initiative amongst 54 nations of the Commonwealth in 2020. He has also consulted for UNESCO-UNEVOC in the last eleven months or so, reviewing the latest trends in new qualifications and competencies in Asia as well as in Europe.



Ms Dana Stroeie

Deputy Director, National Centre for TVET Development, Ministry of National Education, Romania
Email : dana.stroeie@yahoo.com

Ms Stroeie is an experienced professional with key strengths in formulating strategies for education and training and in initiating and delivering successful high scale projects to improve the education and training systems. She has spent most of her career working in the field of vocational education and training

At European level, she is a member of EC groups of Directors General for VET, of Advisory Committee for VET and of the Steering Committee of the European Network for Quality Assurance in VET (EQAVET). At the national level, she is involved in the development of the initial VET in Romania, including the coordination of the elaboration and implementation of the national TVET strategies, coordinates the modernization of the initial VET curriculum, competence based assessment, teachers' training, development of learning materials. She has extensive experience in developing and implementing quality assurance mechanisms, at both system and provider level and is a founding member of the National Group for Quality Assurance in Education and Training (GNAC). She is the director of numerous teachers' training programmes accredited by the Romanian Ministry of Education

Ms Stroeie is the coordinator of the Romanian UNESCO – UNEVOC centre set up within the National Centre for TVET Development



Mr Louis Aquilina

Director, Erasmus+ Projects and Mobility Office, MCAST, Malta
 Coordinator UNEVOC Centre in Malta
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Mr Aquilina is a warranted engineer, who possesses a master's degree in engineering as well as a post graduate certificate in Vocational Education and Training (PGC in VET).

He worked in Microelectronics and Beverage industry for 22 years occupying various engineering and higher management positions. He has experience in manufacturing and process engineering, quality assurance, and problem solving techniques.

Mr Aquilina Joined the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology (MCAST) in 2009 as Senior Lecturer in Engineering (Electrical Engineering, Control Engineering, and Robotics). He was promoted to become a Director in 2014, and was responsible for the commercial operations of MCAST and the Partnerships Office. In 2017, he got assigned the role of Coordinator of the UNEVOC Centre at MCAST and was also appointed as the Director of the Erasmus+ Projects and Mobility Office. Currently he is leading, managing and coordinating 31 active EU Erasmus+ projects. He was one of the main drivers and contributors in launching the MCAST Globalisation Strategy 2021-2024.

In overall, he is highly interested in greening and sustainability; and currently sitting on the MCAST Greening Committee, which has the function to implement greening and sustainability principles at the College



Ms Sirje Hassinen

Expert of International Affairs, Omnia - The Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region, Finland

Ms Hassinen is an Expert of International Affairs at Omnia. The focus of her work is management and coordination of different international project, networking, organising study visits, different events, and conferences. She has got extensive experience in different international projects such as Interreg, Nordplus, LdV, Erasmus+, and SSA for over 15 years. Her expertise in projects are EU processes in education (EQF, ECVET, and EQAVET) and global trends. She led the Finnish - Japanese HANAKO Network for 11 years, and has worked closely with Estonian educational policy level. She has a Ph.D. in Linguistics; her doctoral thesis is about Estonian-Finnish bilingualism acquisition. As language teacher, she has a lot of experiences on different education levels, also as a teacher of Second Language for migrants. She published books and articles in multilingual and multicultural development.



Ms Cara Schmitt

Project Officer, Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), Germany
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Ms Schmitt joined the BILT Team in January 2022 as Project Officer at the German Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB). She is responsible for the "Bridging Line" of the Project and, in this context, for organizing the BILT Bridging events as well as consolidating the network community to enable peer learning.

Prior to joining the project team, Cara worked at the National Agency "Education for Europe" at BIBB, which implements the Erasmus+ programme in Germany in the field, of VET and adult education. She has several years of experience in monitoring and evaluating Erasmus+ projects. In this regard, she contributed to providing transnational mobility and learning opportunities for VET students as well as supporting internationalization and institutional development of VET providers. Cara holds joint degrees in Franco-German Studies: Cross border Communication and Cooperation from France, Luxembourg and Germany.



Mr Oliver Diehl

Deputy Head of Division 'Innovation in Vocational Training', Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany

Mr Diehl is the Deputy Head of Division at the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) in Bonn, Germany. Before taking up his current position, Mr Diehl was the Assistant Head of Basic Policy Issues in Vocational Education and Training at the BMBF. He joined the Ministry in 2002 and previously held positions in the areas of cooperation with Latin America, Mediterranean countries and Africa, and was involved in projects related to sustainability, culture, environment, and basic energy research. He was Head of the BMBF's FONA (Research for Sustainable development) Brussels Liaison Office from 2011 to 2013. Mr Diehl holds a PhD in Social Psychology from Mainz University, Germany.



Ms Terhi Haapaniemi

Pedagogical Manager, Omnia - The Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region, Finland

Ms Haapaniemi is currently working as a Pedagogical Manager at Omnia. She is leading a team of Work Life Teachers who develop new models on work based learning.

She has worked at Omnia since 2014 and has a strong background in apprenticeships and co-operation between learning institutions and companies. She has a Master's degree in Social Sciences, Pedagogical Qualification and Special Qualification in Business Consultancy.



Mr Mika Heino

Expert of International Activities, Omnia-The Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region, Finland

Mr Heino is an Expert of International Activities in Omnia, Espoo (Finland) and has a Master's degree in Hospitality Management. He has been working with various international projects dealing with development of VET and learning and teaching environments and methods as well as student mobility for 13 years mainly in Restaurant and Catering, Tourism, Laboratory, Bakery and Confectionary, Media and Gardening fields. Previously he has worked as a lecturer of Restaurant Business in Omnia Adult Education Centre.



Mr Rob de Vrind

Biologist (University of Nijmegen) and founder of Sustainable Vocational Education and Training, Netherlands

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Mr de Vrind is a biologist (University of Nijmegen) and founder of Sustainable Vocational Education and Training in the Netherlands and has been active in the foundation for 17 years. He is also the co-ordinator of sustainability at the Koning Willem College, a VET school for 14.000 students which is pronounced to be the most sustainable VET institute in the Netherlands. He was involved in more than ten European projects in sustainability and is now partner in the Expect project in which we look how education in the climate targets is provided in Europe.



Mr Iñigo Araiztegui

Teacher/Project Manager at the Internationalisation Department of Tknika, Spain

Mr Araiztegui holds a Degree in Philosophy, a Master's Degree in Teaching, and in Philosophy Science and Values. He has worked as a teacher and as a project manager at the Internationalisation Department of Tknika. He has coordinated teacher mobility programmes and innovation projects funded by different European Programmes. He represents Tknika in different international VET networks such as EfVET (European Forum of Vocational Education and Training), TA3 (Transatlantic Technology and Training Alliance), UNEVOC, WFCP (World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics), Chain5, or the CoVE CoP (Community of Practices of Centres of Vocational Excellence).



Ms Adrijana Hodak

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Ms Hodak is the Project leader of Talentjourney, a Platform of IoT vocational excellence. She is also a VET ambassador and project leader of Munera 3, a five-year ESF funded project that aims at training approximately 17,400 employees according to the needs of the modern labour market, industry 4.0 in tight collaboration with companies and smart specialization chains.

She has worked at the School Center Nova Gorica for 22 years where she has served as teacher of German Language and coordinator for international projects. Since 2007, she holds the position as the Head of Intercompany Training Center. She is an active member of Consortium of Slovenian School Centers since 2004, and the representative of the Consortium in EUproVET, a representational platform for European Vet providers for the last five years.



Mr Paolo Nardi

International Affairs and Research Officer, Cometa VET Centre, Italy

Mr Nardi is an International Affairs and Research Officer at Cometa VET Centre (Italy) and Project leader of the CoVE project GIVE (Governance for Inclusive Vocational Excellence). Currently, he is the Coordinator of the UNESCO-UNEVOC Centre for Italy. Co-opted Board Member of VETNET (association of researchers in VET). He has a Degree in Public Administration and International Institutions, a PhD in International Law and Economics at Università Bocconi and master's degree in Public Policy at Brunel University London. His research interests shifted from human geography (namely: nonprofit, social innovation and community development) to education and training, namely innovations in pedagogy and life skills



Mr Tapio Siukonen

Director of Administration, Omnia, The Joint Authority of Education, Espoo Region, Finland

Mr Siukonen is the Director of Administration where he develops and designs the administrative processes at Omnia, The Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region, Finland

He leads the human resource development and management of Omnia, and he is responsible for labour contract issues and related negotiations, and civil servants' contracts. Designing and implementing productivity indicators for staff, performance appraisal systems, training needs analysis and Coordination of policies and structures with other civil servant organizations in the region.



Ms Catrin Hannken

Deputy Director General for VET Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany

Ms Hannken works as Deputy Director-General for Vocational Training in the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

In the past years, she has been responsible for national and international projects and programmes in various education areas. Since last year, she has been the Co-Chair of the Advisory Committee for the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) Project.



Mr Friedrich Huebler

Acting Head of Office, UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for TVET

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Mr Huebler is the Acting Head of the UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for TVET. Prior to joining UNEVOC in November 2021, he was the Head of the Education Standards and Methodology Section at the UNESCO Institute for Statistics. In that position, he contributed to the methodological development of the global monitoring framework for Sustainable Development Goal 4 on education. He also supervised the documentation of UIS indicator methodology, and the production of education statistics and analysis based on household survey and census data. Before he moved to the UIS, he worked as Statistics and Monitoring Specialist at UNICEF. He holds an MA in Business Studies and Economics from the University of Bremen and a PhD in Economics from the New School for Social Research.



Ms Vera Hark

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Ms Hark is the Project Manager/Technical advisor for BILT at the German Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB). Prior to joining BIBB, Ms Hark worked on EU-funded projects in international education cooperation with a focus on VET in European border regions. She further contributed to European cooperation as a researcher for the University of Maastricht and as coordinator of a Franco-German exchange platform that facilitates international relations between professionals. Ms Hark holds joint degrees in Franco-German and European Studies from France and Germany



Mr Jasper van Loo

Coordinator, Department for VET and Skills- Cedefop, Greece

Mr van Loo is the coordinator of Cedefop's department for VET and Skills. He currently coordinates the labour market and skills analysis work of the agency and is part of the team investigating EU skills trends using online job vacancies. He has a Master's degree in quantitative and general economics and holds a Ph.D. in Social Sciences. As a researcher and project manager at the Dutch research centre for education and the labour market (ROA) Jasper led research projects on labour market issues, skills, employability and obsolescence of knowledge. He also worked on HRD and HRM, taking an economic perspective to human resources issues. Mr van Loo started working for Cedefop in 2007. He led the centre's early work on skill mismatch, coordinated the work on national VET systems and policies for several years, and led the centre's skills governance reviews.



Mr Sayadaly Maudarbocus

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Mr Maudarbocus is currently acting as a Director at the Mauritius Institute of Training & Development (MITD). He holds a degree in Civil Engineering and an Msc in Engineering Project Management. He is a Certified Quality Manager from the Indian Institute of Quality Management. Has been in the field of Technical Vocational Education & Training for past 30 years. He has co-organized the TVET Workshop for the UNESCO World conference on Education for Sustainable Development in 2014 in Japan and presented a paper on Greening of TVET programmes at the MITD at the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development in May 2021. He is also the country expert on the Inter-Country Quality Node for Technical and Vocational Skills Development (ICQN/TVSD) in Africa.



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Mr Lima Júnior serves as a Project Manager at UNESCO-UNEVOC. He is part of the Innovation and Future of TVET team, managing the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) Project.

He has authored articles on a variety of topics, including TVET, technical cooperation and offsets. He is a TVET graduate from the Brazilian National Service for Industrial Training (SENAI) and received his Master's degree in Business Administration from the FEAD – Centro de Gestao Empreendedora, Belo Horizonte. He also holds a Diploma in Countertrade and Offsets from the École Supérieure des Sciences Économiques et Commerciales - ESSEC, Paris.

Prior to his current assignment, he served as an Industrial Development Specialist in SENAI, where he participated in the implementation of the Innovation Institutes Network and was in charge of managing the provision of TVET services for Brazilian companies operating abroad. He has also held positions in international organizations such as the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund.



Mr Lim Teng Leng

Deputy Director International Relations, Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore

Mr Leng is currently the Deputy Director (International Relations) with Temasek Polytechnic. The department supports the enhancement of staff capability development, student learning experience and graduate employability through inculcating a Global Mindset, providing an enriching Global Experience, forming Global Partnership with industry and establishing a strong Global Branding for TP.

He served with the National Youth Council (NYC) in 1999 and the Confucius Institute (CI) of Nanyang Technological University in 2006. As the Head of International Affairs in NYC, he was responsible for promoting cooperation between Singapore and other countries in youth and youth leader exchanges. As the Manager (Partnership Development) in CI, he was responsible for developing projects and programmes between the institute and other stakeholders in promoting Chinese language and Chinese culture.

He joined CSC in 2007 and served in two departments till 2017. CSC, a statutory board under the Public Service Division, builds strategic capacity in governance, leadership, public administration and management for a networked government in Singapore. He was also in charge of organising training programmes and studies for foreign civil servants to understand Singapore's public sector management and governance. With the Institute of Governance and Policy (IGP) in CSC as the Deputy Director.



Ms Annelie Dahlin-Jones

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Ms Dahlin-Jones, is a language teacher from Sweden, working at Hälsinglands Educational Association (HEA), Sweden with SSL, Swedish as a second language, since 2015.

HEA is a public, regional, non-commercial collaboration between three municipalities, established in 2015, in the county of Hälsingland. The municipalities cooperate in education and training on various levels, from secondary level for youths, adult education, post-secondary VET and higher education. The municipalities within HEA organize education and vocational training for around 5000 students a year.

HEA makes it possible for the municipalities to offer a broad spectrum of courses that each municipality on its own would be unable to offer due to financial reasons. HEA has participated in numerous projects funded by EU/ESF.

The HEA is the national resource center for UNESCO/UNEVOC.



Ms Sirkka Wiman

Service Director, Omnia - The Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region
Finland

Ms Wiman is currently Service Director at Omnia- The Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region. The focus of her work is management of the pre-qualification services for immigrants and groups at risk of exclusion. She has over 30 years of experience in VET leadership and management and has worked in various management positions in the field of Vocational Education and Training at Omnia. She worked abroad in Namibia as Director at the Centre for Visually Impaired and as volunteer worker at the day center for children with disabilities.

Ms Wiman holds a Master of Arts in Educational Sciences, Pedagogical Qualification, Special Qualification in Management and Counselor and Coach Qualification. She has co-authored management, evaluation and assessment publications and participated in national and international level development work and steering committees.



Ms Annukka Jamisto

Service Manager, Omnia - The Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region, Finland

Ms Annukka Jamisto is the Service Manager of Omnia Skills Centre for Immigrants – OSC, at Omnia, Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region, Finland. He leads the OSC's multi-professional team (teachers, counsellors, employment services, work-life coaches, business coordinators) that provides guidance, training and employment services for immigrants living in Espoo. Co-operation and networking with various public administrations, employers and the third sector is a key part of the work.



Ms Mikaela Mandalios

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Ms Mandalios is currently the Teacher-in Charge for Education at Omnia Skills Centre.

She has over 15 years of experience in teaching, guidance counselling and is in charge for education in labour policy education such as integration training for immigrants. She has participated in national and international projects related to the integration of immigrants.

The focus of the current work at the Omnia Skills Centre is the day-to-day management and development of labour policy education for immigrants and the leadership of teaching staff.

She holds a Master of Arts in Educational Sciences, Pedagogical Qualification, Special Qualification in Guidance Counselling and Coach Qualification.



Mr Teemu Haapalehto

Manager of Immigration Affairs, City of Espoo, Finland



Ms Tuula Antola

General Director, Omnia - The Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region, Finland

Ms. Antola is the General Director of the Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo Region. She holds a M.Sc. in engineering from Aalto University and an Executive MBA from AaltoEE.

Prior to joining Omnia in 2021, she worked as Director of Economic and Business Development and a management group member at the City of Espoo. Prior to her public sector career, she gained her business experience e.g., as a Head-hunter in two global consulting companies, Marketing and Sales Director in the market research field of business, and Co-Founder and Entrepreneur at start-ups. She has wide experience in board work, both as Executive Board Member and Chairman.



Mr Nicholas Ouma

Senior Youth Advisor in the Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (ESTI) Department, African Union Commission

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Mr Ouma is an Education and Skills Development professional at the African Union Commission - Department of Education Science Technology and Innovation where he serves as a Senior Youth Advisor. His experience spans cross functional initiatives and outcomes within TVET, Employment, Youth Development and Empowerment spaces, with a focus on policies and programmes at both National and Continental Levels. Prior to his present role at the African Union, Nicholas previously served as a high school teacher, university lecturer and County Director of Youth Development in Kenya."



Mr Isidro Lapeña

Director General, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Philippines; Chair of the ASEAN TVET-Council

Mr Lapeña is the Director-General of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). He manages and supervises technical education and skills development (TESD) in the Philippines. On top of his agenda as TESDA chief, is to assist and facilitate the gainful employment or livelihood of the graduates after their training and education.

Prior to his appointment at TESDA, Mr Lapeña was the Commissioner of the Bureau of Customs (BOC) from 2017 to 2018, and a Director-General of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) from 2016 to 2017. In PDEA, he was able to significantly reduce drug supply and initiated intensified drug-clearing operations in the barangays. The policies implemented during his time cover internal affairs, work ethics, conduct of duties, and other operational procedures. He was also designated as the first chair of the Inter-Agency Committee on Anti-Drugs (ICAD).

In all the posts he held, he has established his reputation as a "hands-on" leader. As TESDA Secretary, he has visited far-flung areas never been reached by government executives, earning him the title, the "People's Secretary." He continues to serve with the values that the Philippine Military Academy has instilled in him: Courage, Integrity and Loyalty.



Mr João Santos

Senior expert, Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs, and Inclusion at the European Commission, Belgium

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Mr Santos is a Senior expert in the Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs, and Inclusion at the European Commission in Brussels. The Unit is responsible for Vocational Education and Training as well as for the policy orientation of the Erasmus+ programme in this sector. He previously worked as the coordinator of a geographical desk and was involved in the negotiations on the EU structural policies supported by the European Social Fund. His responsibilities included Employment, Skills, Social Protection and Social inclusion. He also worked on international relations covering the employment and social affairs dimension of the EU bilateral cooperation with China, the USA, and Canada, as well as on multilateral cooperation within the United Nations framework, on issues related to the Social Dimension of Globalization and the Decent work Agenda. From 2009 to 2013, he worked at the EU Delegation to China and Mongolia as a diplomatic Counsellor dealing with bilateral trade and investment issues, as well as people-to-people dialogue.



Mr Petri Lempinen

Director General, Ministry of Education and Culture, Finland

Mr Petri Lempinen is the Director General Director of General Upper Secondary Education and Vocational Education and Training in the Ministry of Education and Culture in Finland. He holds a PHD in Philosophy from the University of Turku.

He has been working in different positions in education policy since the 1990's in Finland and in the European Union. He has participated in the DGVT meetings in 2004-2010 and again starting from 2021. He has been a member in the ACVT and in the Cedefop Governing board.



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