Editorial

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 30th issue of the Bulletin. On behalf of the entire UNESCO-UNEVOC team I wish you all a happy new year.

This festive period is always a moment to reflect on achievements and lessons learnt and to renew our commitment for our further joint endeavours. At UNESCO-UNEVOC we can be very grateful for what has been a very eventful and successful year. In addition to improving our activities related to knowledge management and development, 2016 saw our strengthened collaboration with our UNEVOC Centres and international organizations bring to fruition a number of programmes of key importance. These programmes generated a new momentum and a move to action which has the potential of mobilizing many for a transformative TVET. Our activities over the past six months demonstrate this fact wholly.

A particular highlight was the two-week UNEVOC TVET Leadership Programme that was held in Bonn, Germany, from 17 to 28 October. The programme is the first of its kind and aimed to develop the capacity of TVET leaders from around the world to empower them to contribute to sustainable institutions, societies and economies. The overwhelming positive feedback received from participants not only affirmed the programme’s constructive value, but also stressed participants’ keenness to move to action.

Similarly, capacity development programmes implemented in Paraguay and Morocco promise to deliver outcomes which show the value of the UNEVOC Network.

2016 also marked the 20th anniversary of the UN in Bonn, and it is fair to say that our bonds with the other UN agencies have never been stronger than they are now.

On behalf of the entire UNESCO-UNEVOC team, I wish you a pleasant reading and we look forward to continuing our collaboration in 2017.

Shyamal Majumdar
Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC

TVET leaders move to action

A perceived bottleneck in effecting change in TVET institutions is the lack of change leaders. The UNEVOC TVET Leadership Programme, organized by UNESCO-UNEVOC, is the first of its kind and addresses this bottleneck by empowering change leaders to put into action a transformative vision of TVET. Twenty-two mid- to senior-level experts from 20 countries convened for the two-week programme that was held on the UN Campus in Bonn, Germany, from 17 to 28 October 2016.

From international policy developments to greening TVET and integrating ICT into TVET, the hands-on and interactive programme honed participants’ leadership skills and supported them to identify pathways through which they can contribute towards sustainable institutions, societies and economies. The programme focused on three qualities that determine a leader’s ability to drive change efficiently and successfully: strategic knowledge (vision for change); thematic knowledge (knowledge for change); and leadership and management skills (skills to drive change).

Vision for change: leaders need to have a clear vision to trigger and lead change. The UNEVOC TVET Leadership programme invited experts to discuss global developments in TVET, including the impact the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will have on transforming TVET. The discussions helped participants to align the future visions of their institutions and regions with global policy developments.

Knowledge for change: TVET leaders need to make decisions based on sound thematic knowledge base. They are experts in their fields, familiar with current theories, facts and figures and are able to defend their decisions convincingly when they are questioned or challenged. Throughout the ten-day programme participants were encouraged to exchange views on the part TVET should play in key thematic areas, including facilitating the transition to green economies and sustainable societies, fostering youth employment and entrepreneurship, and promoting equity and gender equality.

Participants of the UNEVOC TVET Leadership Programme in Bonn, Germany
Skills to drive change: TVET leaders are able to capitalize on their knowledge to translate ideas into goals and eventually into action. The UNEVOC TVET Leadership Programme looked at key leadership and management skills and discussed the link between effective leadership and changing mind-sets inside a workplace. One of the outcomes of the programme was the development of institutional and regional proposals. The resulting high-quality regional and institutional proposals demonstrated the programme’s constructive value and participants’ keenness to move to action.

Please visit the UNEVOC TVET Leadership Programme webpage for further information.

Supporting rural youth to acquire green skills

8–11 November 2016

Access to education and training that allows rural youth to have decent work opportunities is still limited in Paraguay. The Fundación Paraguaya, a UNEVOC Centre since 2013, uses innovative approaches to meet learning needs of rural youth. One example of such an activity is the recent capacity development programme which was implemented with the support of the TVET Academy, the Ministry of Education and Culture, and UNESCO-UNEVOC.

The capacity development programme developed agricultural curriculum videos and material to be uploaded on the TVET Academy online platform and used by teachers and students in rural schools. The content has a focus on teaching sustainable practices in agricultural activities. The videos have been very well received in Paraguay and are now used in 12 schools around the country, improving the quality of lessons for over 270 students. The two-day regional workshop held on the San Francisco campus of the Fundación Paraguaya facilitated exchange of experience among 8 UNEVOC Centres from Latin American countries about the use of ICT in rural settings, and showed how similar approaches could be used elsewhere.

UNESCO-UNEVOC organized a two-day UNEVOC Network cluster meeting after the workshop to engage UNEVOC Centres in discussing global TVET developments and issues in Latin America and explore and agree on collaborative action.

Teaching entrepreneurship with new technologies

15–18 November, 2016

Promoting entrepreneurial skills is recognized as one way to help youth access the world of work in the Arab region, where the youth unemployment rate is one of the highest in the world. The ENSET-Rabat in Morocco, a UNEVOC Centre since 1995, implemented a capacity development programme with the support of UNESCO-UNEVOC to promote teaching entrepreneurship through the use of technology.

The capacity development programme discussed potential ways to strengthen teaching of entrepreneurship. More than 30 TVET managers and teachers from Algeria, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia were trained over a four day period in the areas of teaching entrepreneurship and developing MOOCs.

The workshop also discussed the state of entrepreneurship education in the Arab region, and presented a review on UNESCO’s previous work in the region. Likewise, participants analysed the situation in their countries, including the integration of entrepreneurship skills in their curricula and programmes. Two promising practices from Morocco and Lebanon on embedding entrepreneurship education into curricula were also presented to show examples of innovative ideas that have worked in the region.

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

Perspective

Every issue ‘Perspective’ gives the opportunity for those involved in UNESCO-UNEVOC’s activities to voice their view on the programme. Funmilayo Doherty from the Yaba College of Technology in Nigeria gives her impression of the UNEVOC TVET Leadership Programme.

Which aspects of the TVET Leadership Programme were most useful for you and why?

The programme was highly educative and informative for me. The entire programme was useful, but just to mention a few, the introductory lecture by Borhene Chakroun gave a good understanding of the SDGs and UNESCO’s role. The Icebreaker helped all the participants to interact easily even on the first day of meeting. The lecture on Greening TVET and leadership skills were also very useful and interesting for me. Indeed I gained knowledge, I acquired skills and I have a clear vision of what is expected of me. It was not all work, work, and I also had fun and met new friends within the UNEVOC network.

After the programme, what does being a ‘leader’ mean to you?

The programme gave me a good understanding of what a leader is supposed to be; a change agent, who sees possibilities and is ready to make sacrifices in order to achieve his/her goals. A leader sets targets and does all to achieve that goal. A leader will also identify likeminded people to work with.

What are some of the Yaba College of Technology’s plans for the coming year?

In 2017 we hope to implement some greening TVET initiatives including green research, green campus and green skills. Green research is already in place in YCT; for example solar inverters and lights designed by engineering students are used presently to power some offices, and skills in biogas production just to mention a few. We hope to do more by looking at greening TVET as a whole institutional approach and to promote sustainability in Yaba College of Technology. We also hope to collaborate in this area with other stakeholders and government agencies in Nigeria.
Selected news from UNEVOC Centres around the World

Recognizing the contribution of TVET teachers and trainers

The IPTI in Cameroon and TESDA in the Philippines were among those who organized events to celebrate the contribution of teachers and trainers to TVET in their countries. The celebrations were held on the occasion of World Teachers’ Day on 05 October. This year’s theme focused on valuing teachers and improving their working status. The choice of theme was no coincidence as this year marked the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, which established the rights and responsibilities of teachers as well as international standards for their training, recruitment, employment, teaching and learning conditions.

UNEVOC Centre organizes first ever international conference on TVET to be held in Pakistan

The conference was organized by the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission in Pakistan, a UNEVOC Centre since 2008. It was held on 03 October and was attended by representatives from the private sector, training institutes, ambassadors, and other delegates from more than fifteen countries. The conference offered a platform to exchange best practices and experiences which will help Pakistan to improve its TVET system in the future. The major obstacles to the development of TVET in Pakistan include, amongst other things, curriculum development, generating employment opportunities for youth, and improving strategies for skill development.

UNEVOC Centres celebrate World Youth Skills Day 2016

On the occasion of World Youth Skills Day on 15 July a number of UNEVOC Centres organized activities which raised awareness of the importance of investing in youth skills as a means of promoting employment and sustainable development. UNEVOC Centres from Bhutan, Jamaica, Mexico, Niger, Nigeria and Paraguay informed the rest of the UNEVOC Network about their activities.

For more information on the UNEVOC Centres’ activities and World Youth Skills Day please visit the dedicated website.

News from the Knowledge Management team

Promising Practices Database

Since its launch in 2013 the Promising Practices Database has informed about innovative practices – ‘success stories’ – that have responded to local, regional or national challenges and promoted TVET in some profound way. The Knowledge Management team at UNESCO-UNEVOC has for the last six months been working on redeveloping the online service to make the reports more concise, user friendly and informative.

Four new Promising Practices have been launched in the new format, and many more will be published in the coming months.

The four new Promising Practices are:
- Laboratoria, Peru (Youth employment, Gender equality)
- REACH, Vietnam (Youth employment)
- Young Africa, Southern Africa (Entrepreneurship, Gender equality)
- Ammachi Lab, India (ICT in TVET, Gender equality)

Please visit the Promising Practices Database regularly the coming months and see for yourself the enhancements made to the service.

World TVET Database

The World TVET Database currently contains 80 reports on TVET systems in countries all over the world. The country reports are compiled and validated by experts in the country. The format of the country reports has been revised over the last six months, and the service aims to launch its new country reports very soon. The new country reports will facilitate further users to learn from relevant information from different countries. Updating mechanisms will also ensure that country reports remain up-to-date.

As well as working on the structure of the country reports, the following reports have been added over the past six months:
- Georgia
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Trinidad and Tobago
- United Republic of Tanzania

Please visit the World TVET Database for more country profiles.

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

UNESCO-UNEVOC’s online services can be visited at: http://www.unevoc.unesco.org/go.php?q=UNEVOC+Resources
Recently Published

Shanghai Update Issue No. 6

The sixth issue of the Shanghai Update 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.

Upcoming events

UNESCO-UNEVOC Virtual conference: Private sector engagement in TVET

16–22 January, 2017. UNESCO-UNEVOC TVeT Forum

The 17th edition of the virtual conference will focus on ways to engage the private sector in the financing of TVET. Specifically, the virtual conference looks at a recent study conducted by UNESCO and partners in Southeast Asian countries. The virtual conference will be moderated by Christine Uhder from GRET, a French development agency. Please register here to sign up for the virtual conference.

Virtual conference report on ‘Youth entrepreneurship’

The virtual conference on ‘Youth entrepreneurship’ took place from 18 to 29 July 2016 and attracted 146 participants from 58.


This biennial report provides a comprehensive overview of UNESCO-UNEVOC’s activities in TVET in 2014 and 2015.

Visitors

Delegation from Vietnam visits UNESCO-UNEVOC

29 November

As part of the BMZ-Federal State Programme “Green TVET Initiative Hessen – Vietnam”, 15 senior- to mid-level delegates from the various ministries and TVET stakeholders in Vietnam visited UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre to learn about global TVET developments, including the UNESCO Strategy for TVET (2016–2021), as well as the UNESCO-UNEVOC’s activities with regards to greening TVET.

For more publications, please visit: http://unevoc.unesco.org/go.php?q=page_unevoc_publications

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Mr Qian Tang, UNESCO’s Assistant Director-General for Education, visited UNESCO-UNEVOC on 30 August, 2016.

For more information, or if you have any feedback, please contact Wouter de Regt at w.de-regt@unesco.org.