Economic development and employment
Labour market-oriented technical and vocational education and training systems

The challenge

The relevance of technical and vocational education and training (TVET) is measured by the productive employment that graduates find after training. But a lack of experts combined with a high unemployment rate is symptomatic of many partner countries. This is due to their demographic development and heterogeneous economic structures: Modern industrial and service sectors exist side by side with traditional crafts and trades. However, many of the existing TVET systems do not respond to the complexity of this situation, which means that TVET content does not match companies' needs.

Education and training is a prerequisite for economic growth, because it ensures that vacancies are filled with qualified staff. Our advice on increasing the efficiency and market orientation of TVET systems helps to tailor initial and further training to the needs of different industrial and business sectors.

Our approach

We promote technical and vocational education and training that is responsive to the job market and is jointly designed by the state, the business sector and civil society. Our advisory approach focuses on processes and implementation. Policy advice is frequently linked to the development of qualification frameworks that underpin the quality management of TVET via standards and the certification and accreditation of training institutions. When it comes to implementation, we make sure that experience with new structures can be incorporated into the further development of policies and strategies.

Professional, methodological and social skills evolve from learning phases integrated into the work process. The skills obtained in this way are essential to enable graduates to assume responsibility for their work, participate in society and embrace lifelong learning on their own initiative.

We use Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) to harness new resources for TVET and to align our work more closely with companies' requirements.

Our services

We advise decision-makers from government, the business sector and civil society on drawing up TVET policies and strategies. This includes designing the normative framework. We facilitate decision-making processes and enable our partners to access experience gained in other countries.

We support the functional orientation of institutions as well as decentralisation and regionalisation processes. We also promote the national and international networking of public and private-sector education and training services. We advise on implementing sustainable financing models for TVET.

We strengthen institutions involved in researching, developing and managing TVET by conducting organisational development measures, training experts and managers, and providing access to international expertise in the sector.

Important topics are:

- Analyses of labour market requirements
- Job profiles
- Standards and curricula
- Qualifying training staff
- Providing teaching and learning materials
- Examination systems and certification.
Our services include knowledge management and results-based monitoring of TVET.

To address the high levels of youth unemployment that exist in many countries, we foster approaches that facilitate the transition from general to technical and vocational education and training for young people and promote their integration into the employment system.

Our services ensure that partner countries can meet requirements of labour market-oriented TVET. For this, we use a network of competent professional and research institutions.

The benefits

Labour-market-oriented TVET ensures the employability of workers and improves their chances of securing gainful employment. It is geared to social needs as well as economic requirements. Having access to qualified staff, increases companies’ chances of becoming more productive and innovative. This makes enterprises and regions more competitive and has a positive influence on the investment climate.

We enable TVET policy decisions to be made on the basis of comprehensive information and with the involvement of the business sector and civil society. We strengthen the capacities of the responsible institutions to implement policy directives.

Optimising workflows, tapping new resources and using existing resources more efficiently broadens the range and availability of training. Socially disadvantaged population groups benefit in particular. In terms of organisation and content, the skills development courses take into account the learner’s situation. This reduces the number of people dropping out of education and training prematurely.

An example from the field

Uzbekistan has a lack of qualified experts, especially in the fields of information and communication technologies. Existing initial training courses do not cooperate sufficiently with the business sector. The lack of experts contrasts with dramatic growth in the number of working-age people, which is why the Government of Uzbekistan is pinning its hopes on the expanding service sector, and the generally positive impact it expects this to have on employment.

On behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the GIZ project ‘TVET in the Information and Technology Sector’ is supporting structural changes that will move Uzbekistan closer to becoming a competition-based service economy. Working together with the business sector, the job profiles for three trades have been adapted to labour market requirements and teachers have been instructed in using modern teaching methods. More than 10,000 young people are presently being trained at 32 vocational colleges. All of these measures help to enhance the employability of the graduates and reduce youth unemployment. A nationwide school administration system at more than 1,600 vocational colleges supports the decision-making processes in Uzbekistan’s TVET.

Contact

Dr. Klaus-Dieter Meiningner  
E tvet@giz.de  
T +49 61 96 79-1241  
I www.giz.de