Background Paper

TVET FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES -

An invitation to participate in an international research project by writing a paper, workshopping your ideas at an international Seminar, and then revising your paper for publication as a chapter in a book in the Springer series on Technical and Vocational Education and Training: Issues, Concerns and Prospects edited by Rupert Maclean and David Wilson.

Other partners include: the Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education (CPSC, Philippines), the Korean Research Institute on Vocational and Technical Education (KRIVET), the Australian National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER), InWEnt (Capacity Building International, Germany), and the Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA).
The UNESCO International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (UNESCO-UNEVOC) and UNESCO Headquarters Paris, in close partnership with the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), organised and hosted in Bonn (25 to 28 October 2004) an International Experts Meeting on Technical and Vocational Education and Training, entitled *Learning for Work, Citizenship and Sustainability*. This was a follow-up meeting to the 1999 Seoul Congress (Seoul+5).

The meeting concluded with the unanimous acceptance of the *Bonn Declaration on Learning for Work, Citizenship and Sustainability*, which argues that:

> . . . since education is considered the key to effective development strategies, technical and vocational education and training (TVET) must be the master key that can alleviate poverty, promote peace, conserve the environment, improve the quality of life for all and help achieve sustainable development.

This is in line with major UNESCO priorities such as Education for All, poverty alleviation, meeting the needs of youth, woman and girls and the disadvantaged, equity and sustainable development. These are key themes in the 2005-2014 UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

As a result, The Bonn Declaration called for

> . . . approaches to development that harmonize economic prosperity, environmental conservation and social well-being. We therefore call for responses to globalization that humanize rather than marginalize, and for applications of information and communication technology that narrow the digital divide

However, while strategies for achieving this goal are not widespread, a range of international experiences is beginning to suggest ways forward. These initiatives include national TVET policy reforms, reoriented curricula, sustainable campus management programs, and examples of innovative approaches to integrating learning in TVET with on-the-job training and in community service. Thus, the relevance and implications of education for sustainable development for the workforce development have been explored in a number of significant UNESCO-UNEVOC activities. These include:

- The focus of the Seoul+5 conference in October 2004 on *Learning for Work, Citizenship and Sustainability*, preparation of a Discussion Paper and Conference Report on this theme
The widespread dissemination of the Bonn Declaration on Learning for Work, Citizenship and Sustainability

The preparation of a ten-year Action Plan on TVET and sustainable development to guide UNESCO in the development of its Implementation Scheme for the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

Activities in 2005 to put the Action Plan into operation, including the preparation of a special issue of UNESCO’s journal Prospects on TVET and sustainable development and convening the first two of a series of regional dissemination and capacity building conferences on the outcomes of the Seoul+5 conference in October 2004 on Learning for Work, Citizenship and Sustainability in the Asia-Pacific region (in partnership with the Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education) and the Office of the Vocational Education Commission of Thailand) and in Oman for the Arab States.

Building upon these initiatives, the UNESCO UNEVOC International Centre is planning an International Experts’ Meeting to synthesise and extend current examples of international best practice in reorienting TVET for sustainable development. Thus, the aim of the project is:

- To consolidate international understanding of the relevance of sustainable development within TVET settings and disseminate strategies for addressing the questions, issues and problems that arise in developing policies and programmes based upon a reorientation of TVET for sustainable development by:
  - Reviewing the nature, purpose and scope of development and sustainable development and the relevance of the changing international discourse for TVET
  - Analysing invited case studies of best practice in reorienting TVET for sustainable development.
  - Analysing the opportunities for, and challenges to, reorienting TVET for sustainable development.
  - Identifying strategies for building capacity in reorienting TVET for sustainable development.

Preparation for the Meeting has involved:

- The identification and analysis of:
  - major issues, opportunities and challenges pertaining to the integration of TVET into sustainable development around the world
  - the leading international case studies on the integration of TVET into sustainable development.
- Invitations to leading thinkers around the world to write papers on these points
- Planning a workshop process through which
- The invited papers are discussed by TVET specialists from around the world and authors (who are able to attend)
- A meta-analysis of the papers identifies key issues
- Authors are invited to revise their papers in the light of these discussions

The publication of a cutting-edge book of the resulting papers on key issues, concerns and prospects concerning TVET for sustainable development.

An outline and structure of the book – and invited paper authors – is provided on page 5.

The project, workshop and book are aimed at an international audience of policy makers, researchers and practitioners, especially within UNESCO member states and UNEVOC Centres, and will be widely distributed world-wide to UN partner agencies, international multi and bi-lateral funding agencies, Non-Government Organisations and other relevant individuals and organisations with an interest in TVET and in sustainable development.

This wide scope will ensure that the important matter of TVET for sustainable development becomes a key part of the agenda to be followed during the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development.

The workshop will involve the critical review of the prepared papers to ensure their relevance and usefulness to TVET systems, administrators, institutions and practitioners, especially in developing countries, countries in transition and those in a post-conflict situation.

The book, to be edited by John Fien (RMIT) and Rupert Maclean (UNESCO-UNEVOC) will be published in the UNESCO-UNEVOC Book Series on Technical and Vocational Education and Training: Issues, Concerns and Prospects (edited by Rupert Maclean) by the international publisher Springer, initially in English, with possibilities for other UNESCO languages (eg Chinese, French and Russian) to be vigorously explored.
TVET for Sustainable Development
Opportunities and Challenges

Seminar and Book Outline
Invited Papers and Authors

1. **Introduction**: John Fien and Rupert Maclean

**Section 1 - New Thinking on Development**

2. **The World Situation and Implications for TVET** - Man-Gon Park

3. **Human Rights, Poverty and Development** – Bhausaheb Ubale

4. **Unpacking Sustainable Development** – John Fien and David Wilson

5. **Technical and Vocational Education and Development** – Parmanand Varma

**Synthesis of section: Author – TBA**

**Section 2 – The TVET Response**

6. **VET and Ecologism: Charting the Terrain** – Damon Anderson

7. **Achieving Education for All through TVET** – Phillip Hughes

8. **Achieving Rural Transformation through TVET** – David Atchoarena

9. **Basic Education for Sustainable Livelihoods** – John Lawrence


11. **Sustainability Competencies: Skills to Last – Generic Sustainable Development Skills for the Workforce** – Chris Chinien and France Boutin

12. **Intercultural Education for Promoting Sustainable Development in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)** – Johanna Lasonen

13. **Training for Cross-Cultural Communication** – RMIT Vietnam

14. **Developing Entrepreneurship for Rural Youth and Women** – Tariq Mahmood

Synthesis of section: Author – TBA

Section 3 - Enhancing and Supporting TVET for SD


17. School Enterprise Development and Vocational Education: School-Based Enterprises and Environmental Sustainability – Alberto Arenas


20. Formujer Programme - A training policy model for enhancing employability and gender equity – Elenice M. Leite


22. Greening Campuses: State of the Campus Environment - Mary McIntosh


24. Germany, A Case Study of National Policy Support – Michael Haertel

25. Integrating Sustainable Development into TVET in Oman - Dr. Abdallah Bin Khamis Bin Ali AmboSaeedi


27. Learning To Do: An ESD Support Resource for TVET - Lourdes R. Quisumbing and Maria Lourdes Q. Baybay

28. The Role of Information and Communication Technologies in TVET for Sustainable Development - Boris Kotsik

Synthesis of section: Author – TBA

Section 4 - Conclusion
29. **TVET and Sustainable Development: Synthesis** - Tom Karmel and Phil Loveder (NCVER)