



## 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).

## VET for Sustainable Development Opportunities and Challenges

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.

# DRAFT – UNDER DEVELOPMENT

## 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
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2. **The World Situation and Implications for TVET** - Man-Gon Park
3. **Human Rights, Poverty and Development** – Bhausahab 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
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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
10. **Technology Education and the Search for Truth, Beauty and Love** – William Pretzer
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

15. 'Greening' FE Curricula – A Position Paper – Shirley Ali Khan

Synthesis of section: Author – TBA

Section 3 - Enhancing and Supporting TVET for SD
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16. **Industry Support for Sustainable Development through TVET: Case Study of Tata Council for Community Initiatives** - Anant Nadkarni

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

18. **Businesses Promoting Youth Employment: *Business Guide to Youth Employment*** – *New Zealand Business Council for Sustainable Development*

19. **Business in the Community: Business and Entrepreneurship Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century** – Jaimie Cloud

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

22. **Addressing Migrants' Problems in Learning: Vocational Skills in the Three Gorges Reservoir Area of China** - Zhao Jiping, Liu Yu and Veronica Volkoff

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

23. **Learning to Last: A Case Study of National Policy Support** – Judith Cohen

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

26. **Sustainability Covenants, A Case Study of Government-College Partnership** – Greg Waddell, Beth McLachlan, Frank Mitchell and Terry A'Hearn

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