

TVET FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES -

An International Experts' Meeting organised by the UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), Bonn, Germany

RMIT International University Vietnam

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

2-5 July 2006

Welcome



I am very pleased to welcome you to the UNESCO-UNEVOC International Experts' Meeting on TVET for Sustainable Development: Opportunities and Challenges.

Contributing to the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD), with regard to workforce education and technical and vocational education and training, is a priority for the UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre, located in Bonn Germany.

UNESCO-UNEVOC Bonn is the focal point within UNESCO for UNESCO's contribution to the DESD with regard to skills development for employability. UNESCO-UNEVOC believes that only by providing access to high quality TVET for All, will Sustainable Development and Education for All be achieved. While education is the key to development, TVET is the Master Key, which opens the doors to poverty alleviation, rising standards of living, greater justice, equity and fairness in our various societies. This meeting in Vietnam launches UNESCO-UNEVOC's contribution to the DESD.

I would particularly like to thank all the co-sponsors of this meeting whose logos are on the front page and whose greetings follow. Quite literally, it would never have happened without their hard work and in-kind and financial support.

RMIT University (Melbourne, Australia) and RMIT International University Vietnam are gracious hosts, and we thank them for their leadership in this most important meeting.

Rupert Maclean, Director, UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre, Bonn, Germany



RMIT International University Vietnam warmly welcomes to its campus in Ho Chi Minh City all delegates of the UNESCO-UNEVOC International Experts' meeting on Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). We are delighted to host this meeting on our campus and look forward to sharing with you the 'opportunities and challenges' that underpin our work in education and training in Vietnam and the region

Michael Mann, President, RMIT International University Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam



The School of Education at RMIT University in Melbourne is the base where this very important meeting was planned. From there, our part of the Secretariat was busy liaising with all participants, governments, UNESCO-UNEVOC Centres, and a great many international agencies. This has helped us make many wonderful friends, and it is a pleasure to actually see you here in Ho Chi Minh City. We warmly welcome all participants and look forward to a very stimulating three days of presentations and discussions.

> Annette Gough, Head, School of Education, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia



It is a pleasure to co-organise this International Experts' Meeting with the UNESCO-UNEVOC and other sponsors. The Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education (CPSC), an inter-governmental organization of 29 member countries for human resources development through TVET in Asia and the Pacific region, shares equal role and responsibility in drawing relevant information from stakeholders about pressing concerns and issues in TVET. From here, we, as a hub for HRD through TVET, can focus on strategic approaches to discuss how to build and fortify common international understanding on re-structuring TVET pertinent to its contribution to sustainable development.

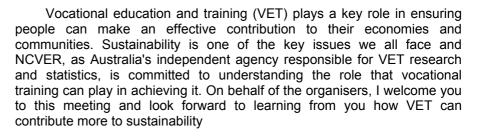
On behalf of CPSC, let me congratulate all those who have put this project together and those who responded to the call for discussion of opportunities and challenges in TVET for sustainable development.

Man-Gon Park, Director-General and CEO, Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education (CPSC) Manila, Philippines



In today's rapidly changing knowledge economy, TVET is increasingly regarded as the key to improving the competitiveness of workers and helping countries achieve sustainable economic growth. The Korea Research Institute for Vocational Education and Training is proud to be a co-sponsor of this meaningful event that will bring together international experts to deliberate on the global challenge of reorienting technical and vocational education and training for sustainable development. I am certain this workshop will serve to enhance TVET systems and to disseminate international best practices to countries around the world. Let us all strive for the success of this meeting.

Jang-Ho Kim, President, Korea Research Institute for Vocational Education and Training (KRIVET), Seoul, Korea



Tom Karmel, Director, National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER), Adelaide, Australia



InWEnt – Capacity Building International - is a joint initiative of the Federal Government, the federal states and the private sector in Germany. That we have a general awareness regarding matters and objectives of sustainable development is demonstrated by the fact, that one of our biggest departments is the "Department for Sustainable Business Development". The integration of Divisions for Vocational Education and Training in this Department further shows InWEnt's understanding of the importance and role, that VET should have in processes for promoting Sustainable Development. We have been working with the TVET sector in Vietnam for around 15 years in various aspects of development and co-operation. Thus, it is a pleasure for me to welcome a round of international TVET experts to the International Expert Meeting "TVET for Sustainable Development" organised in Vietnam by UNESCO-UNEVOC.

Harry Stolte, Director InWEnt (Capacity Development International), Germany



NIVA is the leading institute for water-related research in Norway and we take a great care in developing local competences and capacities in many of our international projects. We have worked in several projects/initiatives in training and capacity building for water professionals in several countries in Europe, Latin America and Asia. We believe that our knowledge and experience in training of professionals and technical personnel in water and environment will be valuable for UNEVOC partners. We strongly believe that such training makes great contribution to sustainable development. On behalf of the sponsors, I would like to welcome the international TVET experts to the International Expert Meeting "TVET for Sustainable Development" organised in Vietnam by UNESCO-UNEVOC.

Kim Chi Tran

Senior Adviser for International Project Development Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA), Oslo, Norway



On 1 April 2004, New Energy Performance AS – (NEPAS) was established with Institute for Energy Technology (IFE) as the majority shareholder. NEPAS is working closely with both the authorities and the industrial sector in matters related to energy efficiency and renewable energy sources. This capacity combined with highly experienced staff in energy modelling, benchmarking, energy management, financial issues and skill upgrading, NEPAS is in a favourable position with regard to project participation on a local, national and international levels.

The NEPAS mission is to disseminate results from technological and non-technological research within the areas of Rational Use of Energy (RUE) and Renewable Energy Sources (RES) to the market. On the national level, NEPAS will continue the role played by IFE in developing new tools and methodologies for small and medium size enterprises (SMEs) and municipalities. On the international market NEPAS will continue to develop study programmes for students and experts in industry.

On behalf of the sponsors, I would like to welcome the participants to the International Expert Meeting "TVET for Sustainable Development" organised in Vietnam by UNESCO-UNEVOC.

> Thor Henning Gulbrandsen Senior Adviser, Institute for Energy Technology (IFE) and New Energy Performance (NEPAS), Oslo, Norway

Secretariat

The Secretariat for the conference is provided by UNESCO-UNEVOC, RMIT University (Melbourne, Australia) and RMIT International University Vietnam. Limited photocopying services are available and ten computers for email access and printing are located in Room 1.3.31. Please contact any member of the Secretariat for assistance with any matter at the Registration Desk or Secretariat (Room1.2.01). Mobile telephone numbers available to us on location are 090 386 3946 (Rupert Maclean), 090 386 3947 (John Fien), 090 386 3915 (Iris Bergmann), and 091 805 7005 (Thu Nguyen).



Conference Co-Convenor Rupert Maclean Director, UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre Bonn, Germany



Conference Co-Convenor John Fien RMIT University Melbourne, Australia



Conference Coordinator Iris Bergmann RMIT University Melbourne, Australia



Conference Resource Person and Co-Rapporteur Naing Yee Mar Consultant, UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre Bonn, Germany



Conference Secretarial Support Coordinator Josiane Blanc-Mannheim Assistant to the Director UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre, Bonn, Germany



Conference Resource Person and Co-Rapporteur Annette Gough RMIT University Melbourne, Australia



Director, Marketing and Communications Suzanne Ardagh RMIT Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam



Conference Resource Person and Co-Rapporteur Esther Charlesworth RMIT University Melbourne, Australia



Conference Venue Manager Thu Nguyen Visits and Events Officer RMIT Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

TVET FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES -

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Background and Objectives

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, women 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 has organised this 2006 International Experts' Meeting in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, to synthesise and extend current examples of international best practice in reorienting TVET for sustainable development.

As a major contribution to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, the Meeting will share and consolidate international experiences and 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.

This will be achieved through a programme that:

- Reviews the nature, purpose and scope of development and sustainable development and the relevance of the changing international discourse for TVET
- Analyses invited case studies of best practice in reorienting TVET for sustainable development.
- Analyses the opportunities for, and challenges to, reorienting TVET for sustainable development.
- Identifies 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, as well as 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
- Invitations to leading international TVET specialists to join these authors in a workshop process which critically analyses these papers.

Following the Meeting, the authors will be invited to revise their papers in the light of these discussions for possible publication in a cutting-edge book on key issues, concerns and prospects concerning TVET for sustainable development. A rigorous process of peer-review will then be used to select the papers for inclusion in the book. The book, to be edited by RMIT University, UNESCO-UNEVOC and CPSC will be published in the UNESCO-UNEVOC Book Series on *Technical and Vocational Education and Training: Issues, Concerns and Prospects* (Series Editors: Rupert Maclean and David Wilson) by the international publisher Springer, initially in English, with possibilities for other UNESCO languages (eg Chinese, French and Russian) to be vigorously explored.

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.

This event represents the launch of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development with regard to Technical and Vocational Education and Training.

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PROGRAMME

Sunday 2 July: Arrival

18.30 **Evening Welcome Reception** at Renaissance Hotel hosted by UNESCO-UNEVOC

Monday 3 July

08.30 Depart from Hotel for RMIT Vietnam - Please meet in Hotel Lobby 10 minutes early

09.00 **Opening Ceremony**

Chair John Fien, Innovation Professor of Sustainability, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia

Welcome

- Andrew Scown, Vice-President, RMIT Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- Hoang Ngoc Vinh, Deputy-Director General Department of Professional Education, Ministry of Education And Training, Hanoi, Vietnam

Launch of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development for Technical and Vocational Education

• Rupert Maclean, Director, UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre, Bonn, Germany

Candle Lighting Ceremony

- Man-Gon Park, Director-General and CEO, Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education (CPSC), Manila, Philippines
- Jang-Ho Kim, President, Korean Research Institute for Technician Education (KRIVET), Seoul, Korea
- Tom Karmel, Director, National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER), Adelaide, Australia
- Harry Stolte, Director, InWEnt (Capacity Development International), Germany
- Kim Chi Tran, Senior Scientist, Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA), Oslo, Norway
- Thor Henning Gulbrandsen, IFE/NEPAS, Oslo, Norway
- 2 participants on behalf of all participants
- Andrew Scown, Vice-President, RMIT Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- Annette Gough, Head, School of Education, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia

Official Photograph

10.30 Morning Tea: Lygon Café, Level 2

11.00 Session 1 New Thinking on Development

Chair: Maria Lourdes Q. Baybay, College Dean, Miriam College, Quezon City, Philippines

- The World Trends and its Implications for HRD through TVET Man-Gon Park, CPSC, Philippines
- From Welfare to Learnfare: A New Social Security Model for Sustainable Development - Jang-Ho Kim, KRIVET, Korea
- Unpacking Sustainable Development John Fien, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia
- Consideration of Sustainable Development in Modular Curriculum Approach Harry Stolte, InWEnt, Germany
- Response: Annette Gough, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia
- 12.30 Lunch: Pre-Theatre Area and Lygon Café, Level 2

13.30 Session 2 The TVET Response 1: Towards Economic and Environmental Sustainability

- Chair: Johanna Lasonen, Senior Researcher, Institute for Educational Research, University of Jyväskylä, Finland
 - Promoting Entrepreneurship in Curriculum of TVET Sector for Sustainable Development - Suresh K. Dhameja, CPSC, Philippines
 - Developing Entrepreneurship for Rural Youth and Women Tariq Mahmood, National Institute of Science and Technical Education (NISTE), Pakistan
 - Sustainable Development through the Provision of Knowledge-Based Skilled Workforce
 Suresh K. Dhameja, CPSC, Philippines, and Shyamal Majumdar, National Institute of Technical Teacher's Training and Research (NITTTR), India
 - *Greening Vocational Education* Shirley Ali Khan, Bulmer Foundation, UK
- 15.00 Afternoon Tea: Lygon Café, Level 2

15.30 Session 3: Small Group Discussions with Paper Presenters

Participants are invited to select the presenter of one paper and go to that room to discuss ways in which the ideas in the paper may be enhanced, eg by clarifying key messages and issues, and integrating examples from your own experience.

Man-Gon Park	Room 1.1.02
John Fien Shirley Ali Khan	Yarra Room
Harry Stolte	Flinders Room
Suresh K. Dhameja Shyamal Majumdar	Dandenong Room
Tariq Mahmood	Room 1.2.9

16.30 Session 4: Plenary: Group Reports

Chair: Annette Gough, Head, School of Education, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia 5 minute reports from each group

- 17.30 Depart for Hotel
- 19.00 Depart Hotel for Conference Dinner Please meet in Hotel Lobby 10 minutes early
- 19.30 Conference Dinner On board "Bonsai I" from Bach Dang Pier

Hosted by UNESCO-UNEVOC

Tuesday 4 July

08.30 Depart from Hotel for RMIT Vietnam - Please meet in Hotel Lobby 10 minutes early

09.00 Session 5 The TVET Response 2: Towards Social and Cultural Sustainability

Chair: Man-Gon Park, Director-General and CEO, CPSC, Philippines

- Adult and Vocational Education for Social Sustainability: A new Concept for TVET for Sustainable Development Stephen Mckenzie, University of South Australia, Australia
- Strategies for Promoting Gender Equity through TVET in Korea Young-Hyun Lee, KRIVET, Korea
- Intercultural Education for Promoting Sustainable Development in TVET Johanna Lasonen, University of Jyväskylä, Finland
- *TVET in India: Policy Perspectives and Challenges Ahead* Jagmohan Singh Rajput, NCERT, India
- 10.30 Morning Tea: Lygon Café, Level 2

11.00 Session 6 Enhancing and Supporting TVET for SD 1

Chair: Jang-Ho Kim, President, KRIVET, Korea

- *TVET for SD: Policy Making Strategies and Project Experiences in Germany* Michael Haertel, Bundesinstitut für Berufsbildung (BIBB), Germany
- Integrating Sustainable Development into TVET in Oman Abdullah Ambusaidi, College of Education, Sultan Qaboos Universisty, Oman
- *Technical and Vocational Education for Sustainable Development* Kyaw Soe Win, Ministry of Labour, Myanmar
- The Main Ideas for Sustainable Development in Vocational Secondary School in Indonesia - Mian Siahaan and Arie Wibowo Khurniawan, Indonesia
- 12.30 Lunch: Pre-Theatre Area and Lygon Café, Level 2

13.30 Session 7 Enhancing and Supporting TVET for SD 2

- Chair: Lourdes R. Quisumbing Pesident, Founding President, UNESCO-APNIEVE Network, Manila, Philippines,
 - Case study Vietnam: Train-the-Trainer-Network for Facilitating Regional and National Sustainable Development - Bui The Dung, Centre of Technology Development Promotion (CSD), Vietnam
 - New Developments in TVET-Teacher Training in Europe with Background of Sustainable Development - Frank Bünning, Institute of Vocational Education and Training, University "Otto von Guericke" Magdeburg, Germany
 - Postgraduate Training Programs for Energy Experts in Industry in Eastern Europe Thor Henning Gulbrandsen, IFE/NEPAS, Norway
 - Sustainability Covenants, A Case Study of Government-College Partnership Beth McLachlan, Kangan Batman TAFE, Australia

15.00 Afternoon Tea: Lygon Café, Level 2

15.30 Session 8: Small Group Discussions with Paper Presenters

Participants are invited to select the presenters of one set of papers and go to that room to discuss ways in which the ideas in the papers may be enhanced, eg by clarifying key messages and issues, and integrating examples from your own experience.

Stephen McKenzie Young-Hyun Lee	Room 1.1.02
Johanna Lasonen Beth McLachlan	Yarra Room
Michael Haertel Abdullah Ambusaidi	Flinders Room
Jang-Ho Kim Jagmohan Singh Rajput	Dandenong Room
Bui The Dung Kyaw See Win	Room 1.2.9
Frank Bünning Thor Henning Gulbrandsen	Room 1.2.10

16.30 Session 9: Plenary: Group Reports

Chair: Annette Gough, Head, School of Education, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia 5 minute reports from each group

17.30 Depart for Hotel and Free Evening

Wednesday 5 July

8.30 Depart from Hotel for RMIT Vietnam – Meet in Hotel Lobby 10 minutes early

09.00 Session 10: Enhancing and Supporting TVET for SD 3

Chair: Tom Karmel, Director, NCVER, Australia

- Achieving Sustainability in TVET through a Program of Accreditation and Certification -Ligaya Valmonte, Faculty in Technology Education, CPSC, Philippines
- Workforce and Workplace Mobility with Computer-Supported Cooperative Works Man-Gon Park, Myong Hee Kim and Ligaya Valmonte, CPSC, Philippines
- The Role of Information and Communication Technologies in TVET for Sustainable Development - Boris Kotsik, UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education, Russia
- *Prospects and Perspectives of Ubiquitous Teaching and Learning Systems* Myong Hee Kim, CPSC, Philippines
- 10.30 Morning Tea: Lygon Café, Level 2

11.00 Session 11: Enhancing and Supporting TVET for SD 4

Chair: Michael Haertel, BIBB, Germany

- Evaluating TVET Programs through Appreciative Inquiry Alberto Arenas, College of Education, University of Arizona, USA
- Championing New Literacies in the Workplace: Bridging the Divide between the Learning Rich and Learning Poor David Johnson, St Anthonys College, Oxford, UK
- Approaches Dealing with the Problems in Learning Vocational Skills of the Migrants in the Three-Gorges Reservoir Area Zhao Jiping and Liu Yu Chongqing Industry Polytechnic College, China
- Learning To Do: An ESD Support Resource for TVET Lourdes R. Quisumbing, UNESCO-Asia Pacific Network for International Education and Values Education, and Maria Lourdes Q. Baybay, Miriam College, Philippines
- 12.30 Lunch: Pre-Theatre Area and Lygon Café, Level 2

13.30 Session 12: Small Group Discussions with Paper Presenters

Participants are invited to select the presenter of one paper and go to that room to discuss ways in which the ideas in the paper may be enhanced, eg by clarifying key messages and issues, and integrating examples from your own experience.

Ligaya Valmonte (Accreditation)	Room 1.1.02
Man-Gon Park, Myong Hee Kim and Ligaya Valmonti	Yarra Room
Boris Kotsik	Flinders Room
Alberto Arenas David Johnson	Dandenong Room
Lourdes R. Quisumbing and Maria Lourdes Q. Baybay	Room 1.2.9
Zhao Jiping and Liu Yu	Room 1.2.10

14.30 Session 13: Plenary: Group Reports

Chair: Annette Gough, Head, School of Education, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia 5 minute reports from each group

15.30 Afternoon Tea: Lygon Café, Level 2

16.00 Session 14: Plenary

Chair: Andrew Scown, Vice President Academic, RMIT Vietnam

- A Sustainable Education: History, Local Knowledge and TVET– William Pretzer, The Henry Ford, Dearborn, USA
- TVET and Sustainable Development: Synthesis Tom Karmel and Phil Loveder, NCVER, Australia

17.00 Closing Ceremony

Chair: Andrew Scown, Vice President Academic, RMIT Vietnam

- 2 participants reflect on conference
- Man-Gon Park (on behalf of all sponsoring partners)
- Rupert Maclean

17.30 Farewell Reception

Hosted by RMIT Vietnam: Lygon Café, Level 2

19.00 Bus to Hotel

TVET FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES -

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Logistics

Conference Hotel

The conference hotel is: Renaissance Riverside Hotel Saigon 8-15 Ton Duc Thang Street Ho Chi Minh City Telephone: (84 8) 822 0033 Fax (84 8) 822 2900

A bus will depart from the hotel foyer at 8.30 am each day of the conference to take participants to the RMIT International University Vietnam campus in Saigon South. The bus will take participants back to the Renaissance Riverside Hotel at the completion of each day's activities.

If you miss the bus, please ask the concierge to call a **Yellow Taxi** for you.

Financial Matters

UNESCO-UNEVOC is covering the costs of:

Hotel accommodation and breakfasts at the hotel Coach travel to and from the hotel to the conference venue each day Conference refreshments and lunches Welcome Reception (Sunday night), a Conference Dinner (Monday night), and a Farewell Reception (Wednesday night).

The Conference Dinner will be on the dragon boat "Bonsai I", embarking around 19.30 pm at Bach Dang pier. We will be meeting at 19.00 (please be 10 minutes early) in the Hotel Foyer for a 5-minute walk to the pier. The dinner will involve:

- Welcome cocktail-reception on boarding
- Buffet dinner on the main deck
- Traditional Music by the "Hoa Mai" orchestra.
- 21.30 PM approximately drop off at Bach Dang pier

Tuesday night (4 July) is a free evening and participants will be responsible for their own costs for dinner, etc.

Participants will also be responsible for the costs of incidental hotel expenses, including laundry and dry cleaning, mini-bar, telephone, internet, business centre, etc.

Please note that upon departure at the airport in Vietnam, a Passenger Service Charge of 14 USD will be collected by the Airport Authority. Please budget for this.

Internet Access

Ten computers with internet access will be available for your use in Room 1.3.31. If you wish, you can access the wireless network with your laptop. This requires software installation. Please check at the registration desk for an appointment for an IT technician to assist you.

There is also internet access in your hotel room. This can be booked in 24 hour blocks, costing US \$18++. Those costs will be charged to your personal account.

The Weather and Dress Advice

The south of Vietnam experiences two seasons, very hot and rainy from May to November, and dry from December to April. The temperature in Ho Chi Minh City averages 28°C (82.4F) and rarely falls below 20°C (68F). July is rainy season. Temperatures are likely to be in the 30s°C, and it is very humid. Be prepared for sudden rain.

Please feel free to choose comfortable clothing - ties optional.

National dress may be worn to the conference dinner.

Do's and Dont's in Vietnam

It is recommended that you take some precautions to ensure your stay is enjoyable:

- Do not leave the hotel with large sums of money, traveller cheques, your passport or jewellery.
- Be careful with food and beverages from the roadside vendors due to hygiene conditions. We do not recommend you eat roadside food.
- Do not drink the tap water.
- Do not use cyclo service after dusk, and be very clear about the cost to hire a cyclo before you get on.
- Avoid changing money at any shop at the street. (You can buy Vietnamese Dong at the hotel.)
- Be careful with pickpockets and motorbike snatchers when walking on the street and in the main tourist areas.
- Seek assistance from the hotel's concierge if you require a taxi.