

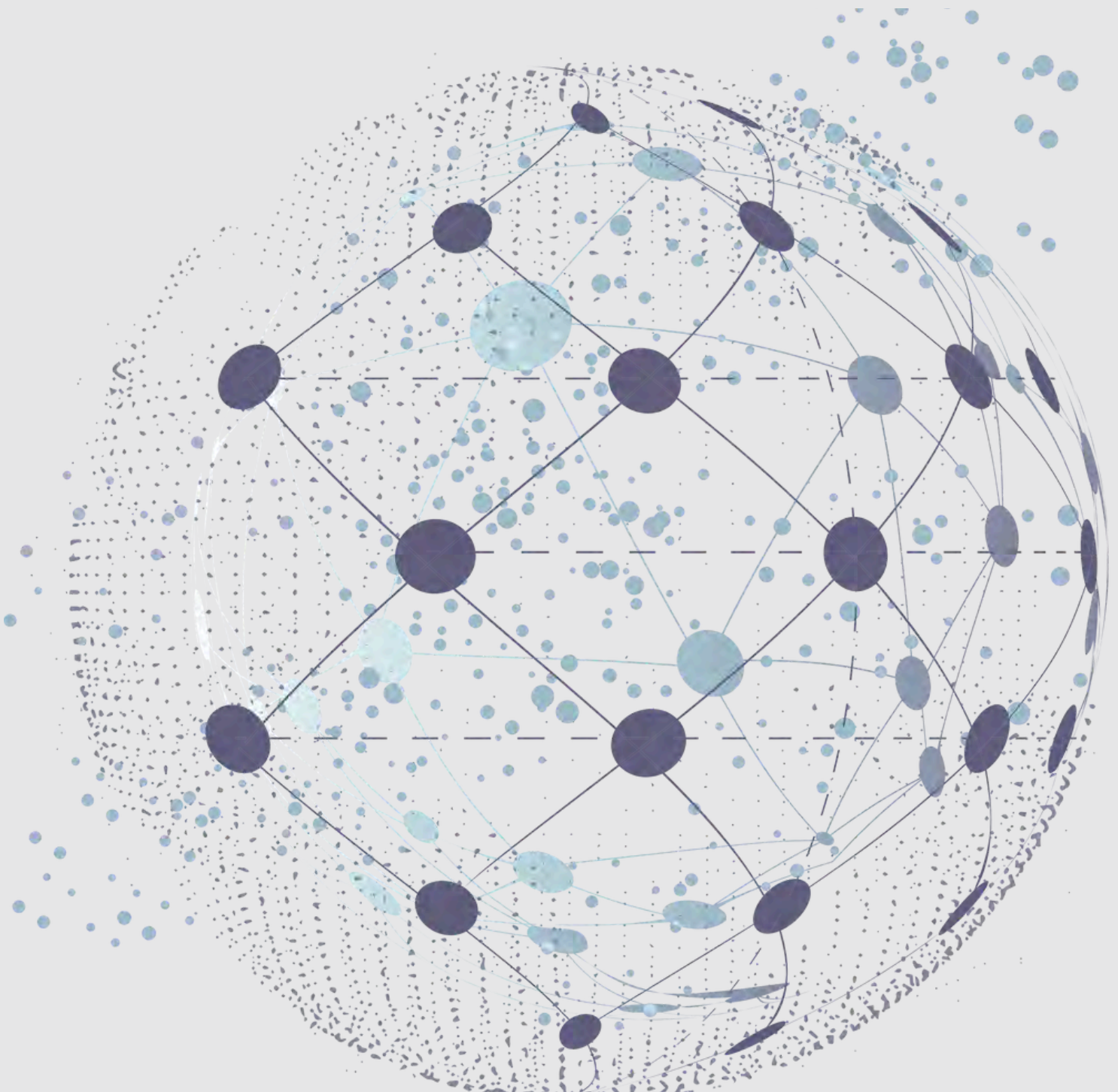


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International Centre for  
Technical and Vocational  
Education and Training

# UNEVOC Network Spotlight

Issue #4: November 2023 - March 2024



Here is a round-up of the latest engagements in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) undertaken by UNESCO-UNEVOC and UNEVOC Centres from November 2023 to March 2024.

## UNESCO-UNEVOC in Bonn, Germany



### UNEVOC welcomes TVET officials from Kenya

On 6 November 2023, UNESCO-UNEVOC welcomed experts from several Kenyan TVET organizations. The study tour focused on (i) quality dual TVET (ii) international trends in TVET and (iii) private sector partnerships to enhance youth employment. Friedrich Huebler, Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC, presented UNEVOC's upcoming projects and activities. Recent updates from the UNEVOC Network Secretariat, TVET toolkits, and the latest activities of Inclusion and Youth Employability team were showcased by UNESCO-UNEVOC.

### AUDA-NEPAD and GIZ visits UNEVOC

UNESCO-UNEVOC hosted a delegation from AUDA-NEPAD (African Union Development Agency) and GIZ (Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) on 15 November 2023. The delegation consisted of Symerre-Grey Johnson, Director in Human Capital and Institution Development Directorate at AUDA-NEPAD, Daphine Muzawazi, Programme Officer at AUDA-NEPAD, Sabine Klaus, Programme Manager at SIFA-GIZ, and Zipho Tshapela, Technical Advisor at SIFA-GIZ. The visit provided a platform for UNEVOC, AUDA-NEPAD and GIZ to exchange on recent achievements, innovative ideas and explore potential partnerships.

Symerre-Grey Johnson from AUDA-NEPAD shared the Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA) and discussed possible linkages with the work of SIFA on the African Skills Portal for Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship (ASPYEE) platform.

### Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM) visits UNESCO-UNEVOC

UNESCO-UNEVOC hosted a delegation from Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM – UNEVOC Centre in Malaysia) on 14 November 2023. The visit aimed to strengthen the cooperation between UNESCO-UNEVOC and UTHM, as well as showcase UTHM's role as a leading UNEVOC centre within Malaysia and the ASEAN region.

Prof. Ts. Abdul Rasid Abdul Razzaq, Dean, Faculty of Technical and Vocational Education, presented the UTHM's strategy for academic and research collaboration in TVET. The UNEVOC team presented UNESCO's Strategy for TVET 2022-2029, recent updates from the UNEVOC Network Secretariat, the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) project and the Technical Cooperation Unit.



### Georgian Parliament visits UNESCO-UNEVOC

On 7 December 2023, UNESCO-UNEVOC welcomed a delegation from the Georgian Parliament. Representatives included Mariam Laskhi, Member of Parliament of Georgia (member of the Foreign Relations Committee and the Education and Science Committee), Irakli Shatakishvili, Member of Parliament of Georgia (member of the Education Committee), Rati Pruidze (member of the Education and Science Committee), and Otar Nishnianidze, Georgian Consulate in Germany.

During the visit, the delegation discussed thematic priorities for the development of TVET in Georgia, including topics such as TVET data and labour market analysis, Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) data, the legislative frameworks of VET in different countries, and the recently established Vocational Skills Agency in Georgia. The exchange emphasized the importance of partnerships and resource sharing to advance the development of TVET in Georgia with the support of UNESCO-UNEVOC.



### Temasek Polytechnic (TP-UNEVOC Centre in Singapore) visits UNEVOC

On 12 March 2024, UNESCO-UNEVOC welcomed a delegation from Temasek Polytechnic (TP-UNEVOC Centre in Singapore), led by Peter Lam, Principal and CEO of the institution. Tay Boon Keat, Director of Research, Innovation, and Enterprise (RIE) and Partnership Development at Temasek Polytechnic, highlighted the RIE programmes and industrial partnership initiatives in Temasek Polytechnic and underscored the deployment of artificial intelligence in curriculum. Lim Teng Leng, Acting Director, International Relations, Temasek Polytechnic and Adrian Chia, Assistant Manager, International Relations, Temasek Polytechnic were also part of the delegation.

Members from UNESCO-UNEVOC showcased key initiatives and programmes, including UNEVOC's new Medium-Term Strategy (2024-2026). The visit provided a valuable opportunity to further strengthen the joint effort between Temasek Polytechnic and UNESCO-UNEVOC, as well as exchange insights and good practices to explore potential cooperation in the future.



### European Forum of Technical and Vocational Education and Training visits UNEVOC

UNESCO-UNEVOC received a delegation from the European Forum of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (EfVET) on 19 February 2024.

The UNEVOC team presented key activities of UNESCO-UNEVOC, updates of BILT project and the Inclusion and Youth Employability programme. Paolo Nardi, Executive Director of EfVET and Stefano Tirati, Vice President for Outreach Strategy, highlighted the role of EfVET as a platform to engage TVET practitioners and institutions and provide policy suggestions at the European and national level.



### Visit from the Ministry of Labour and Skills of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

On 29 January 2024, UNESCO-UNEVOC welcomed 24 officials from the Ethiopian Parliament and The Ministry of Labour and Skills of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, led by Minister Muferihat Kamil Ahmed. The visit was part of a study tour organized within the project titled 'Support to the Ethiopian Refugee and Host Community Programme', funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW).

In her keynote speech, Minister Ahmed said that the visit was an opportunity to explore strategies with UNEVOC to strengthen TVET in Ethiopia. The discussion covered topics such as inclusion, innovation, greening and cooperation in TVET as well as fostering networking opportunities through the UNEVOC Network and the Technical Cooperation Unit. The delegation was also introduced to UNESCO-UNEVOC's knowledge resources.

The visit also shared knowledge and experiences on capacity-building and improving the governance of integrating youth and refugees into labour market with proper skills.

More information is available [here](#).



### PUCE-TEC visits UNESCO-UNEVOC

On 25 March 2024, UNESCO-UNEVOC welcomed a delegation from Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador Technical and Technological Academic Unit (PUCE TEC), the recently inaugurated UNEVOC Centre from Ecuador. The delegation consisted of Pablo Plou and Jeaneth Ponce. Olivier Pieume, Chief of the Technical Cooperation Unit, Team Leader for the UNEVOC Network Secretariat at UNESCO-UNEVOC, introduced UNESCO-UNEVOC's new Medium-Term Strategy 2024-2026 and highlighted the key thematic areas of UNEVOC's work in TVET. The UNEVOC team presented its different knowledge products and the BILT project.

Both sides explored the regional and national cooperation opportunities for the upcoming coming events and programmes and reiterated their willingness to promote the development of TVET in Ecuador and Latin America. The visit also provided an opportunity to present the UNEVOC Network plaque to PUCE TEC.



### Webinar: Empowering Human Teaching Talent with Digital Skills

UNESCO-UNEVOC's Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET project (BILT), in partnership with the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP), hosted a webinar titled "Empowering human teaching talent with digital skills" on 9 November 2023.

The webinar consisted of two presentations from VET experts at CEDEFOP on (i) digital skill requirements and skills mismatch for teaching professionals and (ii) EU member state policy responses to digital skills development for VET teachers and trainers. The webinars took as part of the 2023 European Year of Skills initiative.

More information is available [here](#).



### International Self-Assessment Tool Webinar

UNESCO-UNEVOC's Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET project (BILT), in partnership with the European Training Foundation (ETF), hosted a webinar titled "Internationalizing vocational excellence: a new self-assessment tool for TVET" on 7 November 2024. As part of UNESCO-UNEVOC's work to create a database TVET toolkits, the webinar showcased the work of ETF in developing an International Self-Assessment Tool for Centres of Vocational Excellence (ISATCOVE) to monitor the organization of excellence of vocational skills providers.

More information is available [here](#).

### Expert on Loan from Shenzhen Polytechnic University

Congkun Yang, from Shenzhen Polytechnic University (SZPU-UNEVOC Centre in China), recently joined the UNESCO-UNEVOC team in January 2024 as an Expert on Loan. With nearly 20 years of experience in TVET, he supports the implementation of the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) project in the areas of research and publications and assists in the coordination of the BILT Self-Reflection Tool. He is also a member of UNEVOC's Greening Committee – a new team established to implement the UNESCO Environmental Management System (EMS).

Prior to joining UNESCO-UNEVOC, he worked at Shenzhen Polytechnic University as the Deputy Director of the International Office.



### TVET Innovation Framework: Promoting Excellence in Brazil (i-Hubs project)

UNESCO-UNEVOC, in collaboration with the National Council for the Federal Network of Vocational, Scientific and Technological Education Institutions (CONIF-UNEVOC Centre in Brazil), Instituto Federal Fluminense (IFF), and Ministry of Education of Brazilian Government (UNEVOC Centre in Brazil), initiated a project on 'TVET Innovation Framework: Promoting excellence in Brazil', also known as the i-hubs project. The project seeks to establish an innovation framework for TVET institutions, empowering their capacity in providing cutting-edge knowledge and skills.

The project was launched in January 2024. Six TVET institutions in Brazil were selected to take part in the training. These institutions are Instituto Federal Fluminense (IFF) (the project partner), Instituto Federal de Espírito Santo (IFES), Instituto Federal Santa Catarina (IFSC), Instituto Federal Brasília (IFB), Instituto Federal do Acre (IFAC), Instituto Federal do Maranhão (IFMA).

The training workshop of the project was launched in March 2024 at the Vila Velha Campus in Brazil, and evaluated the innovation capacity as well as challenges, strengths, and opportunities for future partnership of respective institutions. Friedrich Huebler, Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC, delivered a welcome speech as a representative from UNESCO-UNEVOC, and joined the training sessions with participants. The trainings were facilitated by Dionisio Parise, UNESCO consultant and Giacomo Bosio, Programme Assistant, Technical Cooperation Unit at UNESCO-UNEVOC.

The project builds on UNESCO-UNEVOC's innovation framework, intended to support TVET institutions in assessing how prepared they are to (i) participate in ongoing innovation processes, and (ii) determine whether the institution's ecosystem is favourable to the development of knowledge and innovation. The project fosters the relationship

between TVET institutions and the productive sector, promotes the development of institutional competencies through transversal skills and techniques, and innovates learning processes, products and services.

More information is available [here](#).



### Zero Waste Day

Zero Waste Day was celebrated on 30 March 2024. UNESCO-UNEVOC encouraged UNEVOC Centres to organize activities to raise awareness about waste reduction and sustainable consumption.

Iloilo Science and Technology University (ISAT U – UNEVOC Centre in the Philippines) organized an activity on 27 March 2024, titled "Trashformers" during their Gender Responsive Leadership Training where ISAT U Student Ambassadors were tasked to transform old tarpaulins into functional and aesthetic bags. Bashkir Institute of Social Technologies (branch of) the Educational Institution of Trade Unions "Academy of Labour and Social Relations" (BIST – UNEVOC Centre in the Russian Federation) organized a series of educational activities about waste issues between 26 to 29 March 2024. National Skills University Islamabad (NSU – UNEVOC Centre in Pakistan) organized an event to share its model to convert waste into compost on 29 March 2024. Bow Valley College (BVC-UNEVOC Centre in Canada) organized a one-day workshop on 3 April 2024, titled "What's in our waste" to capacitate participants on how to do a waste audit and to create a follow-up action plan. The National Board for Technical Education (NBTE – UNEVOC Centre in Nigeria) organized an awareness webinar on waste recycling on 4 April 2024.

## UNESCO-UNEVOC in the field



### UNEVOC at COP 28 Greening Education Hub Session

UNESCO-UNEVOC, in partnership with the Higher Colleges of Technology (HCT - UNEVOC Centre in United Arab Emirates), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and World Skills International (WSI), organized two sessions at COP 28 to highlight the achievements of empowering youth through their engagement in TVET. Priscilla Gatonye, Programme Officer, Inclusion and Youth Employability at UNESCO-UNEVOC, represented UNESCO-UNEVOC at COP28, and moderated two sessions at the event.

The first session on “Skills as an Enabler for Youth to Participate in a Just and Green Transition”, was held on 5 December 2023. The session focused on the experiences and insights of how young people can contribute to the green transition, particularly the strategies for engagement, policy, and research. The second session titled “Skills development to enable youth to participate in the green transition through meaningful youth engagement, articulation, and representation” took place on 7 December 2023.

The second session focused on relevant interventions to help transform TVET and develop skills that match the new standards in professional working environments and meet the needs of technological and material advances.

More information is available [here](#).



### Inauguration Ceremony of PUCE-TEC (UNEVOC Centre in Ecuador)

On 28 February 2024, the Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador Technical and Technological Academic Unit (PUCE TEC) held an inauguration ceremony to celebrate its membership to the UNEVOC Network. It is the first Ecuadorian institution to become a member of the UNEVOC Network. The entry of PUCE TEC underscores a significant commitment shared with UNESCO-UNEVOC to enhance the quality of TVET teaching and learning opportunities in the country and region.

Keynote speakers at the hybrid event included Fernando Ponce León, Rector of the Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador; Fabián Valdivieso, Secretary General of the Ecuadorian Commission of Cooperation with UNESCO; Saadia Sánchez, Director in Charge of UNESCO Quito; Friedrich Huebler, Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC; and Pablo Plou, Head of the UNEVOC Centre PUCE TEC.

More information is available [here](#).



## The 42nd Session of the UNESCO General Conference

*Paris, France*

Friedrich Huebler, Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC, attended the 42nd session of the UNESCO General Conference, that took place in UNESCO Headquarter in Paris from 7 to 22 November 2023. As the highest governing body which determines the policies and the main lines of work of UNESCO, the General Conference meets every two years and is attended by representatives of Member States, associate members, and non-governmental organizations.

The conference also provided an opportunity for UNESCO-UNEVOC to foster further cooperation with counterparts such as the Global Skills Academy, the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning, and the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP).

## International Vocational Excellence Conference

*Turin, Italy*

Kenny Muscat, BILT Project Manager and Regional Focal Point for the UNEVOC Network in Europe, CIS, and North America at UNESCO-UNEVOC attended the Consultation Panel meeting for the ISATCOVE (International Self-Assessment Tool for Centres of Vocational Excellence), held on 8 November 2023 in Turin, Italy.

Kenny Muscat also attended the ETF (European Training Foundation) conference on 'Building a strong international cooperation on Vocational Excellence: Final conference of the project "International dimension of Centres of Vocational Excellence," held from 9 to 10 November 2023 in Turin, Italy. The conference focused on the ISATECOVE, Centres of Vocational Excellence, internationalization, and the ETF Network for Excellence targeting greening; social inclusion; autonomy and public-private partnership; and entrepreneurship.

The conference brought together TVET providers and policy makers to exchange on regional and international cooperation and collaboration. Iñigo Araiztegui Arraiz, Director of Internationalisation Department, Tknika (UNEVOC Centre in Spain) attended the conference.

More information is available [here](#).



## International VET Conference

*Berlin, Germany*

On 9 November 2023, UNESCO-UNEVOC participated in the International VET Conference titled "Worldwide Policy Cooperation for Excellence in VET" in Berlin, which was organized by WorldSkills Germany and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

The conference discussed challenges of respective national vocational systems, innovative strategies in TVET and possibilities for interregional vocational training cooperation such as industry partnerships and flexible learning pathways.

Borhene Chakroun, Director in Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems in UNESCO gave a keynote speech at the conference. UNESCO-UNEVOC was represented by Alexandra Filippova, Assistant Programme Officer for the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) project at UNESCO-UNEVOC, and Felister Munyi, Programme Assistant of BILT project at UNESCO-UNEVOC. They highlighted the pivotal role of UNESCO-UNEVOC international exchange and development in TVET.

More information is available [here](#).



### UNESCO Conference on 'Education Data and Statistics'

Friedrich Huebler, Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC, participated in the first UNESCO Conference on Education Data and Statistics, held from 7 to 9 February 2024 in Paris, France. The Conference provided an inclusive and open expert forum for monitoring, advising, and steering the international community's efforts to develop methodologies, standards and indicators.

Ahead of the Conference, UNESCO-UNEVOC and the UNESCO Section of Youth, Literacy and Skills Development organized a pre-conference engagement session titled 'Data on TVET and skills development: Current state and options for future development'. The session explored how data can inform the alignment of skills development with industry needs. It covered topics such as participation in TVET, assessment of the professional skills of TVET learners, and labor market trends to ensure that TVET programs are responsive and relevant. Friedrich Huebler, Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC and moderator of the session, introduced the topic with an overview of TVET statistics in the monitoring framework of Sustainable Development Goal 4 on education. The panellists included Mantas Sekmokas, Cedefop; Philipp Grollmann, TU Dortmund University; Mauro Pelucchi, Lightcast; Eduarda Castel-Branco, European Training Foundation; and Michael Ward, OECD.

The next Conference on Education Data and Statistics will be held from 21 to 23 April 2027 at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France.

More information is available [here](#).



### Workshop on 'Digital Transformation of Vocational Educational and Training (VET)'

UNESCO-UNEVOC participated in a workshop titled on 'Digital transformation of Vocational Educational and Training (VET)', organized by the European Commission's Joint Research Unit (JRC) in Seville, Spain from 7 to 8 March 2024. Max Ehlers, Team Leader for Knowledge Management and IT at UNESCO-UNEVOC, presented UNESCO-UNEVOC's activities in digital transformation at the event.

The workshop showcased recent research conducted by JRC on digital transformation of VET. The main goal of the workshop was to reflect, analyse and fine-tune preliminary findings from the JRC work done in the field, based on the different profiles and expertise of the participants. More than 30 VET experts participated in the event, including Swiss Federal University for Vocational Education and Training (SFUVET-UNEVOC Centre in Switzerland), National Service for Industrial Training (SENAI-UNEVOC Centre in Brazil), and Tknika (UNEVOC Centre in Spain).

More information is available [here](#).





### Training Workshop on 'Green and Circular Economy Opportunities'

With support from UNESCO-UNEVOC and its partner, Circulab, Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD-UNEVOC Centre in Mauritius), embarked on the Greening TVET Institution Action Plan project with the aim to adopt greening in the different areas of operation of TVET institutions.

The project supports UNEVOC Centres to mainstream climate action and engage in green skills development. This includes greening existing strategies, campus operations, curricula and programmes, and upskilling of managers and teachers.

UNESCO-UNEVOC co-facilitated a training workshop on Green and Circular Economy opportunities, in partnership with Circulab in February 2024. The three-day in person training of trainers (TOT) programme was opened by Soodesh Satkam Callichurn, The Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training of Mauritius. UNESCO-UNEVOC was represented by Kenny Muscat, BILT Project Manager.

The programme trained 18 MITD personnel in circular economy principles and complemented by technical input drawn from UNESCO-UNEVOC's BILT project.

The project was supported with funding contributions from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

More information is available [here](#).

### The Asia-Europe Meeting

UNESCO-UNEVOC was invited to the Asia – Europe Meeting (ASEM) 2nd Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM2) under the theme "Leaving no one behind," held in Floriana, Malta from 25 to 26 January 2024. The meeting discussed the Stocktaking report "From Bangkok to Malta: 2022 to 2024," as well as share updates on the ASEM Expert Groups. Kenny Muscat, BILT Project Manager and Regional Focal Point for the UNEVOC Network in Europe, CIS, and North America represented UNESCO-UNVOC at the meeting.

ASEM is an intergovernmental forum that brings together Asian and European countries to promote dialogue and cooperation on political, cultural, and social issues. It consists of 30 European and 21 Asian countries, the European Union and the ASEAN Secretariat. The in-person meeting was hosted by the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA) and the ASEM Education Secretariat (currently held by the Italian Ministry).

# UNESCO-UNEVOC TVET Leadership Programme 2023



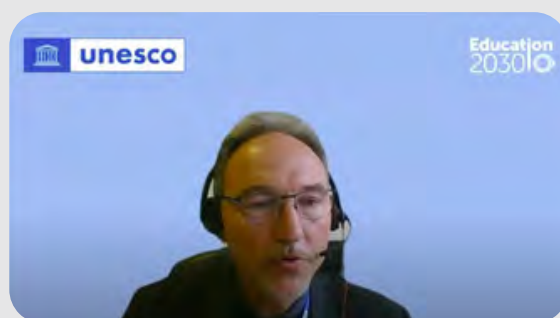
The 2023 edition of the UNESCO-UNEVOC TVET Leadership Programme (TLP) ran from October to December. The programme focused on 'Managing change through transformative TVET Leadership' and was designed to sharpen leaders' vision, share up-to-date knowledge and provide a platform for skills development. The TLP 2023 was designed by the UNEVOC Network Secretariat, and co-facilitated by OneWorld Sustainable Investments.

159 mid-to-senior-level TVET professionals from 67 countries were selected to take part in the online programme. Four core technical modules emphasized global visions and strategies in TVET and current thematic trends, as well as management and leadership skills for transformative initiatives. Participants were asked to develop a proposal of anticipated strategies from what they have learned that could ultimately be adopted in their institutional and system contexts. By delivering online learning resources and peer-learning activities, as well as engaging with professionals and experts, the programme made a significant step in building the capacities of TVET leaders and preparing their institutions for a more sustainable and impactful future.

To mark the end of the programme, UNESCO-UNEVOC organized a virtual graduation session. The graduates of the TLP 2023 will join an alumni network of 800 TVET leaders, managers and staff from more than 130 countries.

UNESCO-UNEVOC conveys its appreciation to the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) for their continuous support of the programme.

More information is available [here](#).



# UNEVOC Network Coaction Initiative

The UNEVOC Network Coaction Initiative is a programme designed and coordinated by UNESCO-UNEVOC that supports UNEVOC Centres in their development and implementation of joint projects based on topics of shared interests.



## The first conference of the Latin American Mentoring Network Project

Under the leadership of Fundación Instituto Duoc UC (Duoc UC - UNEVOC Centre in Chile), the first Working Conference of the Latin American Mentoring Network Project took place from 14 to 16 November 2023 in Santiago, Chile. The event aimed to share gender equality and opportunities for women in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). The activity brought together experts and researchers from the Federal Institutes of Brasília (IFB) and Bahia (IFBA), the National Council of Institutions of the Federal Network of Professional, Scientific and Technological Education (CONIF- UNEVOC Centre in Brazil), National Institute for Employment and Professional Training (INEFOP-UNEVOC Centre in Uruguay), Fundação Paraguaia (UNEVOC Centre in Paraguay), Iloilo Science and Technology University (ISAT U-UNEVOC Centre in Philippines) and the Executive Secretary of Technical Vocational Education, Ministry of Education of Chile (Se-ETP- UNEVOC Centre in Chile).

The event provided a platform for women researchers to participate in discussions on promoting career opportunities for women in STEM and promote synergies between UNEVOC centres in Latin America through the establishment of a mentoring program.

More information is available [here](#).



## Online workshop for TVET teachers

The University of Nigeria Nsukka (UNN - UNEVOC Centre in Nigeria) organized an online training for TVET teachers from 14 to 15 November 2023, as a part of the UNEVOC Network Coaction Initiative project titled “Strengthening TVET institutions for effective instructional delivery and sustainable private sector engagement.” This project was implemented in collaboration Yaba College of Technology (YCT- UNEVOC Centre in Nigeria), Human Resource Development Council (HRDC- UNEVOC Centre in Botswana), National Board for Technical Education (NBTE- UNEVOC Centre in Nigeria), Commission for TVET (COTVET- UNEVOC Centre in Ghana). The project aimed to strengthen TVET institutions by focusing on capacity building for instructors and teachers in effective instructional delivery, inclusiveness, and sustainable engagement with the private sector.

The training provided its participants with the knowledge and an opportunity to engage in discussions on topics such as digitalization in TVET, inclusive TVET, and fostering cooperation between TVET institution and private sectors. Professor Emmanuel C. Osinem, UNEVOC Centre Coordinator at UNN, delivered a welcome speech in the opening session and actively engaged the participants of the training. Olivier Pieume, Chief of the Technical Cooperation Unit, Team Leader for the UNEVOC Network Secretariat at UNESCO- UNEVOC, provided opening remarks at the training.

# UNEVOC Network and the Global Skills Academy

Global Skills Academy (GSA) was established as part of the Global Education Coalition (GEC) with the mission to support ten million youth and adults worldwide in building skills for improved employability and resilience by 2029. It aims to achieve this by leveraging strategic partnerships with the UNEVOC Network.



## Fourth annual meeting of the Global Education Coalition

The 4th annual meeting of the Global Education Coalition (GEC), kicked off with more than 200 participants from around the world on 25 March 2024 at UNESCO HQ, Paris. The GEC is a dynamic global platform for multistakeholder cooperation to drive education transformation to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4).

With the launch of the 2024 GEC report, the past year has seen the Coalition's impact extend significantly through the successful launch of the Digital Transformation Collaborative (DTC) and the first in-country implementation taking place in Egypt's Ministry of Education and Technical Education. The Coalition's Missions – Global Skills Academy (GSA), Global Teacher Campus (GTC), Global Learning House (GLH), and Driving Gender-transformative Education – have continued to drive impressive results thanks to the active contributions made by their partners.

This annual meeting shared best practices, celebrated success, increased partner commitment, promoted meaningful multistakeholder collaboration for positive education transformation, collectively addressing challenges related to scalability, sustainability, equity, and relevance.

Over 100 Coalition's members attended the meeting. Borhene Chakroun, Director in Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems in UNESCO,

shared his insights about strengthening multistakeholder partnerships and shrinking digital gaps for teaching and learning at the meeting. Friedrich Huebler, Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC, participated in the meeting and exchanged information with counterparts on how UNESCO-UNEVOC can contribute to the goals of GEC in TVET, particularly the role of artificial intelligence in education.

More information is available [here](#).



## Equipping young people with the skills to keep abreast with labour market trends

Under the operational framework of the Global Skills Academy (GSA), Fundación Telefónica partnered with three UNEVOC Network members – Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje (SENA-UNEVOC Centre in Colombia), Servicio Nacional de Adiestramiento en Trabajo Industrial (SENATI-UNEVOC Centre in Peru), and the Instituto Nacional de Capacitación y Educación Socialista (INCES-UNEVOC Centre in Venezuela). They implemented Conecta Empleo, a no-cost digital training program that includes career guidance tools. The initiative aims to enhance the employability of young people by aligning their skills with the demands of the local labour market. In 2023, the trainings have already reached 8,600 people, 52% of whom are young people under the age of 34. More than half of those who have benefited from the training are from Venezuela B.R. (59%), with 30% from Peru and 11% from Colombia.

More information is available [here](#).



### **Huawei Green Development Summit 2024**

The Huawei Green Development Summit was organized on 27 February 2024, as part of the Mobile World Congress 2024 in Barcelona, Spain. Huawei is an active member of the UNESCO Global Education Coalition (GEC) and a key partner of the Global Skills Academy (GSA).

The Huawei Green Development Summit and the Mobile World Congress 2024 provided a significant platform for advancing discussions on the crucial role of TVET and skills development in fostering inclusive and sustainable economies. The Huawei Green Development Summit highlighted the use of green ICT technologies to bridge the digital divide and promote sustainable development.

Friedrich Huebler, Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC, and Soledad Patiño, UNESCO Global Skills Academy Coordinator, were invited by Huawei to deliver a joint presentation on the GSA's mission and the UNEVOC Network with a focus on digital skills development.

More information is available [here](#).



### **Delivering no-cost digital skills training in the Philippines**

The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA-UNEVOC Centre in the Philippines) continues to partner with Microsoft to narrow the digital divide and provide better employment opportunities to students across the country. Designed to help individuals gain the digital skills necessary to engage in a digital economy and improve livelihoods, the Microsoft Digital Literacy Course, which is available in the Microsoft Learn platform, is available to anyone who wants to learn about the fundamentals of using digital technologies. It equips learners with the knowledge to utilize common computer applications and devices to prepare digital content, collaborate virtually, complete online transactions and communications, access information online through the Internet, and more. Since the partnership launched in November 2021, over 60,000 learners aged 18-34 have signed up to Microsoft's Digital Literacy course and close to 30,000 learners have already completed the training.

More information is available [here](#).

# UNEVOC Network and UNESCO Chairs/UNITWIN Network

The UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme mobilizes the expertise of higher education and research institutions to address the interdependent challenges of today's increasingly complex world. UNESCO Chairs share and promote interdisciplinary research and knowledge align that with UNESCO's priorities. The UNITWIN Network is a network that consist of universities and aims to facilitate co-operation in specific thematic areas.



## GloMED project with the University of Lapland (Finland)

**The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK)**  
*Hong Kong, China*

UNESCO Chair in Regional Education Development and Lifelong Learning and the UNEVOC Centre at the Education University of Hong Kong partnered with the University of Lapland on the Global Media Education (GloMED) project, funded by the Finnish National Agency for Education. It was based on the collaboration between the two universities in the UNITWIN/UNESCO Network on Teacher Education for Social Justice and Diversity in Education. The project sought to develop a joint study course on Global Media Education to improve the understanding of digital media literacy and competences, through collaborative knowledge exchange between experts.

More information is available [here](#).

## Report on 'Digital Transformation in Global TVET: Methodology and Practices'

**Shenzhen Polytechnic University (SZPU)**  
*Shenzhen, Guangdong Province, China*

The UNESCO Chair on Digitalization in TVET and the UNEVOC Centre at Shenzhen Polytechnic University announced the release of its latest research report, "Digital Transformation in Global TVET: Methodology and Practices." This report offers an in-depth analysis of the methodological foundation of digital transformation within the

TVET sector highlighting the latest trends, critical dimensions, and promising practices from around the globe.

More information is available [here](#).



## 2023 TVET Leadership Programme on Digital Transformation

**Shenzhen Polytechnic University (SZPU)**  
*Shenzhen, China*

The 2023 TVET leadership workshop on Digital Transformation, organized by the UNESCO Chair on Digitalization in TVET and the UNEVOC Centre at Shenzhen Polytechnic University, was held from 13 to 18 November 2023. This workshop equipped TVET leaders worldwide with insights and strategies to promote and execute a digital transformation in their respective institutions. 22 TVET leaders and professionals from 16 countries participated in the workshop. Robert Parua, Education Programme Specialist of UNESCO Multi-Sectoral Regional Office for East Asia, provided opening remarks on the workshop, presented on "Background and Strategies of Digital Transformation in TVET", as well as introduced participants to the SDGs, UNESCO's TVET strategy and UNESCO platforms in ICTs in education.

The workshop also included a visit to Huawei Company, introducing participants to emerging digital technologies and Huawei's ICT talent education ecosystem.

More information is available [here](#).

# Activities of UNEVOC Centres

## Africa



### **Celebration of the World Engineering Day Technical University of Mombasa (TUM)**

*Mombasa, Kenya*

The Technical University of Mombasa (TUM-UNEVOC Centre in Kenya), in partnership with the Institution of Engineering Technologists and Technicians Council (IET-K), Shofco, and the Kenya Engineering Technology Registration Board (KETRB), organized World Engineering Day on 'Engineering Solutions for a Sustainable World', which was attended by over 140 TUM engineering students.

The event aimed to educate students on industry roles, career suggestions, and new member recruiting. Students demonstrated innovations like a Road Power Station and a GSM-Based Infant Cry Monitoring device. TUM also honored engineers worldwide and celebrated their contributions to the African continent and sustainable development.

More information is available [here](#).

### **Two new publications by the UNEVOC Centre in Uganda**

**Kyambogo University, Center for Vocational  
Pedagogy and Lifelong Learning (KYU)**

*Kampala, Nakawa, Uganda*

KYU has released 2 new publications as a part of its Vocational Pedagogy initiative. The titles of the publications are (i) Social and Practical Knowledge from the Vocational Pedagogy Initiative in Uganda

and (ii) Experiences in using Participatory Action Research tools in TVET learning environments.

The Vocational Pedagogy Initiative was originally launched in 2008 when an international stakeholder conference was held in Kampala. The conference aimed to put in place and implement TVET development strategies for the Uganda and the region at large. Since then, several initiatives have been undertaken such as developing TVET publications and strengthening collaboration with relevant stakeholders the world of work and digitalizing TVET.

More information is available [here](#).



### **Online workshop on 'Digital Literacy Competency for TVET Teachers'**

**National Board for Technical Education (NBTE)**

*Online*

NBTE launched an intensive one-week online training, designed to introduce TVET teachers in Nigeria to basic digital competence skills. The workshop focused on practical applications of digital tools and strategies to enhance teaching and learning in vocational education settings. The session was attended by more than 300 participants from 39 TVET institutions.

More information is available [here](#).

### **Job Fair**

#### **Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD)**

*Phoenix, Mauritius*

MITD Ebène Campus organized a job fair, providing a platform for hoteliers, tour operators, and airline companies to meet potential employees. MITD trainees in Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure, and Engineering fields, as well as students from the University of Mauritius, University of Technology Mauritius, Charles Telfair Institute, and VATEL, were invited to attend.

The job fair enabled trainees to explore employment opportunities and career development plans through presentations and interviews. Industry stakeholders showcased their exhibits, presented employment requirements, and discussed opportunities and career development plans with potential future employees.

### **Student industrial placement lobbying activity** **Soche Technical College (SocheTech)**

*Blantyre, Malawi*

To ensure every student gets the opportunity for industry attachment before graduating, SocheTech secured funds through the Skills for a Vibrant Economy (SAVE) project.

A team of 13 members visited various companies to find suitable placements for industrial attachment. In the TEVET curriculum in Malawi, students must complete an industrial attachment relevant to their course to cover practical modules not taught in class. Without these attachments, students cannot complete the required industrial modules and therefore cannot graduate. Thanks to the SAVE project, more students can now successfully fulfil this requirement and move towards graduation.



### **Celebrating the 3rd graduation ceremony for Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) learners**

#### **Technical University of Mombasa (TUM)**

*Kwale, Kenya*

Technical University of Mombasa (TUM-UNEVOC Centre in Kenya) has been undertaking youth empowerment activities aimed at enrolling and providing training to young persons, especially women in technical courses of Instrumentation and Control, Lathe Machine Operations, and Manual Arc Welding. These programmes were developed by TUM with the support of GIZ (Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit).

More information is available [here](#).



# Arab States



## Hamdan International Forum for Talent Discovery and Development Forum

### Abu Dhabi Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ACTVET)

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

His Excellency Dr. Mubarak Saeed Al Shamsi, Director General of ACTVET, made a presentation at the 'Hamdan International Forum for Talent Discovery and Development 2023' hosted by Hamdan Foundation in Dubai on 14 November 2023. The presentation was made as a part of the forum's main session titled "Talent Discovery and Development in the UAE – Towards Sustainable Talent." The forum aimed to explore and cultivate talent with innovative skills in the United Arab Emirates, contributing to the establishment of a sustainable economy.

More information is available [here](#).

## Online workshop on innovation in TVET for the UNEVOC Network

### Abu Dhabi Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ACTVET)

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

ACTVET organised an online workshop for the members of the UNEVOC Network on "Innovation Ecosystem and Practices at Technical Education Institutions" on 16 November 2023. The workshop engaged a diverse audience, with a total of 61 attendees representing various UNEVOC Centres from the UAE, Pakistan, Costa Rica, Kenya. Olivier Pieume, Chief of the Technical Cooperation Unit, Team Leader for the UNEVOC Network Secretariat at UNESCO-UNEVOC, presented at the workshop.

Participants contributed to the rich and dynamic discussions, bringing a global perspective to the

event. The closing remarks from UNESCO-UNEVOC highlighted the importance of international collaboration and commitment to the goals and initiatives discussed during the gathering.

The session served as a platform for knowledge exchange and collaboration among participants from different corners of the world, fostering a sense of shared responsibility towards advancing TVET on a global scale.



## Online workshop on student-led vocational learning for the UNEVOC Network

### Abu Dhabi Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ACTVET)

Online

ACTVET organised an online workshop on student-led vocational learning for the members of the UNEVOC Network on 30 November 2023. A total of 91 attendees from diverse UNEVOC centres, including representatives from the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Russian Federation, Pakistan, Egypt, Malaysia, and Cuba joined the online workshop. Priscilla Gatonye, Programme Officer, Inclusion and Youth Employability at UNESCO-UNEVOC, provided opening remarks at the workshop.

The workshop featured young UAE nationals, both students and alumni, who shared compelling success stories from their vocational learning journeys. The session not only highlighted the global collaboration among UNEVOC centres but also celebrated the meaningful contributions of young talents in the field.



### WorldSkills Asia Abu Dhabi 2023

#### Abu Dhabi Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ACTVET)

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

ACTVET hosted the 2nd edition of the WorldSkills Asia competition, which took place from 27 to 29 November 2023 at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC). Participants included 670 delegates from 31 countries across 28 technical and vocational skills.

Technical and Vocational Training Corporation (TVTC - UNEVOC centre in Saudi Arabia), represented by the General Secretariat of the National Skills Competition, also participated in event. The team participated in four skills: mobile robots, welding, electrical connections, and fashion and style.

More information is available [here](#).



### 'YES To Work' winter 2023

#### Abu Dhabi Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ACTVET)

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

ACTVET successfully concluded the 24th edition of its national programme, 'YES To Work', held from 18 to 29 December 2023 across five emirates—Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, Dubai, Sharjah, and Ajman. Over 300 Emirati students and young individuals, aged 15 to 24, participated and gained practical experiences within chosen commercial, retail and hospitality establishments. This initiative aimed to equip them efficiently for future employment opportunities in the country's private sector.



### The Establishment of joint program “Red Sea National Academy”

#### Technical and Vocational Training Corporation (TVTC)

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

During the Human Capacity Initiative Conference in Riyadh, the establishment of the “Red Sea National Academy” was announced with the aim of preparing and implementing joint programs between TVTC, the Colleges of Excellence Company and the Red Sea International Company. The conference was held under the patronage of His Royal Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Prince Mohammed bin Salman. The Red Sea National Academy aims to qualify trainees in several specializations in line with the needs of the labour market in the region, in addition to qualifying local human cadres with the skills required to enable the tourism sector in the country.

More information is available [here](#).

### TVTC accredits 231 international professional certificates

#### Technical and Vocational Training Cooperation (TVTC)

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

TVTC recently approved 231 international, professional certificates in a number of specializations. These certificates have been made available electronically through the global professional certificates' portal. This is in line with TVTC's role to approve professional certificates and license operators to practice related activities in accordance with specific controls, develop and organize the professional certificates market.

More information is available [here](#).



**‘International Exhibition of Inventions, Innovations and Technology’ - MTE 2024”**

**Technical and Vocational Training Corporation (TVTC)**

*Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia*

Trainees from TVTC in Saudi Arabia attended the ‘International Exhibition of Inventions, Innovations and Technology,’ which was held in Malaysia in February 2024. Seven trainees from TVTC technical colleges won gold, silver and bronze medals at the event.

More information is available [here](#).



**World Skills Day**

**The University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST)**

*Doha, Qatar*

On 5 March 2024, UDST hosted its annual ‘Skills Day.’ More than 60 different competitions and activities organised as a part of the event featured various fields such as sustainability, smart projects, automation, renewable energy and more. It also provided opportunities for students to collaborate with peers as well as faculty members and implement their skills to real world.

More information is available [here](#).



**Skills Hub**

**Abu Dhabi Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ACTVET)**

*Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates*

The Skills Hub is a government initiative led by ACTVET, dedicated to advancing the skills of Emirati students in their third and fourth years of university. With a focus on aligning skills with current and future job market demands, Skills Hub offers comprehensive hands-on training across various fields, especially in terms of digital and manufacturing sector.

More information is available [here](#).



**TVET Innovation Week**

**Abu Dhabi Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ACTVET)**

*Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates*

ACTVET organized the TVET Innovation Week from 7 to 13 February 2024. 4478 students, 77 organisations and 87 universities participated in the TVET Innovation Week. The event brought together experts, industry representatives, entrepreneurs, students, and educators to exchange ideas and expertise on a range of critically important themes in the various fields that constitute TVET. The event represented a unique opportunity for students to acquire latest information about new programmes and professions in the field of TVET by visiting mini-exhibitions, workshops, and diverse seminars held at ACTVET’s affiliated educational institutions across the United Arab Emirates.

# Asia and the Pacific



## Launch of national 'Online Knowledge Assessment System'

**Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission, Ministry of Skills Development and Vocational Training (TVEC)**

*Colombo, Sri Lanka*

TVEC launched the 'Online Knowledge Assessment System' with support from the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the Government of Japan. This new system replaces the previous paper-based method for knowledge assessment in selected areas to award National Vocational Qualifications. Several distinguished guests, including TVET leaders, participated in the occasion.

More information is available [here](#).



## Shaping VET teachers for Australia's future: 9th Annual Conference on VET Teaching & VET Teacher Education

**The Australian Vocational Education and training Research Association (AVETRA)**

*Melbourne, Australia*

Margarita Pavlova, representing EdUHK participated in a panel session at the 9th Annual Conference on VET Teaching & VET Teacher Education. The conference was organised by

the Australian Vocational Education and Training Research Association (AVETRA) on 4 December 2023 in Melbourne, Australia. It focused on Australia's transition to a net zero carbon economy and its implications for skills development.

More information is available [here](#).



## 2023 Belt and Road International Conference on TVET

**Shenzhen Polytechnic University (SZPU)**

*Shenzhen, China*

SZPU participated in the 2023 Belt and Road International Conference on TVET, held from 28 to 29 December 2023 in Shenzhen, China. The conference was organized by the China Society for Technical and Vocational Education (CSTVE) and the Central Institute for Vocational and Technical Education of the Ministry of Education.

The conference, themed "Countries Learn from Each Other on TVET in a Digital-Driven Connected World," brought together over 2,000 representatives from governments, international organizations, universities, and enterprises. They discussed topics such as promoting resource sharing for TVET institutions globally and strengthening high-quality TVET systems under the multidimensional Belt and Road Connectivity Network. Distinguished leaders, including Xia Zehan, Director of the UNESCO Office in China, and Qin Changwei, Secretary-General of the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO, delivered speeches at the event.

More information is available [here](#).



**KOICA Korea and Ministry of Labor agree to strengthen information technology skills training and skills capacity for workers**

**Training Department, DGTVET, Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training**

*Phnom Penh, Cambodia*

His Excellency Heng Sour, Minister of Labor and Vocational Training (UNEVOC Centre in Cambodia) and His Excellency CHANG Won Sam, President of the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) agreed to strengthen cooperation on ICT skills training in a meeting on 15 March 2024. The Minister emphasized the need for IT training for young people to further strengthen their digital capabilities in line with current and future diverse market needs.

More information is available [here](#).

**'Building VET Systems to Advance Communities: Beyond Responsiveness'**

**School of Education and Professional Studies, Griffith University (Griffith)**

*Brisbane, Queensland, Australia*

Griffith University published an article titled 'Building VET Systems to Advance Communities: Beyond Responsiveness' in the journal 'Professional and Vocational Education'. The article builds on previous research to suggest that VET (Vocational Education and Training) advances the social and economic goals of communities by providing skills and empowerment. It highlights how VET contributes at the local level in ways that extend beyond merely responding to industry needs.

More information is available [here](#).



**Young Futuremakers Malaysia**

**Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM)**

*Batu Pahat, Johor, Malaysia*

More than 200 participants from UTHM, vocational colleges and industry attended the launch of the Young FutureMakers Malaysia Career Progression Map held at UTHM Johor. Under the theme "Global Partnership Initiative: Navigate Your Future," the International Labor Organization (ILO) partnered with UTHM and the Standard Chartered Foundation to create three career maps. These maps highlight career opportunities for individuals working in restaurants, bakeries, and those aspiring to become baristas. Each map provides detailed information on qualifications, basic and technical skills, benefits, and estimated salary scales for various positions within these three job sectors.

More information is available [here](#).

**Workshop for two delegations from ASEAN countries**

**School of Education and Professional Studies, Griffith University (Griffith)**

*Brisbane, Queensland, Australia*

A workshop for two ASEAN country delegations was organised on 31 January 2024 at the Gold Coast Campus of Griffith University (UNEVOC Centre in Australia). The workshops focused on "Improving the Standing of VET: Perspectives from Countries with Developing Economies, Employment-Based Training, and Continuing Professional Education and Training." Drawing on research programs from both overseas and Australia, the workshops presented and discussed findings on how to enhance the status of VET and the occupations it supports.



**Training of African TVET trainers**  
**Instructor Training and Research Center, Iran TVTO**  
**(ITC-Iran TVTO)**

*Karaj, Alborz, Islamic Republic of Iran*

ITC- Iran TVTO organized a training course for 24 TVET trainers from seven African countries namely Senegal, Mauritania, Cameroon, Mali, Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso and Guinea for two weeks from 24 February to 8 March 2024.

The training course was implemented in ITC's Automotive Technology Training Department. It covered various topics such as:

- advanced diesel engine management,
- power transmission; power generation,
- auto body repair using PDR,
- repair of new engines GDI and
- automatic gear box.

Several partners including Iran Khodro Company, Mehad Sanat Company and Techno Saaf Company contributed to the training. Study visits to the Iran Khodro Company, Iran biggest Auto Manufacturing Company, and to Tehran City was organized for the African participants.

More information is available [here](#).

**A dialogue forum with Professor Michael Gessler**  
**(University of Bremen)**

**School of Education and Professional Studies,**  
**Griffith University (Griffith)**

*Brisbane, Queensland, Australia*

A dialogue forum between Michael Gessler and Stephen Billett on understanding vocational and higher education in the German social context was held in March 2024. The German concepts of *beruf* (the value of skilled work), *bildung* (integration of

the value of skilled work into the conduct of work, quality of working life and the viability of enterprises) and occupational pedagogies were presented and discussed.

More Information is available [here](#).



**'Empowering Youth – Skills for Green Innovation:**  
**Fostering Green Transition to A Sustainable Future'**  
**Symposium**

**The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK)**

*Hong Kong, China*

A two-day symposium titled "Empowering Youth – Skills for Green Innovation: Fostering Green Transition to a Sustainable Future", organised by EdUHK and supported by the UNESCO Beijing office, attracted more than 50 participants and 11 speakers. It brought industry, youth organisations, educators, and students together to discuss issues of the green transition. Participants at the symposium explored how education can support the implementation of SDGs. They initiated a dialogue to develop joint projects aimed at identifying shared strategies and solutions for green innovation. Importantly, the symposium provided a platform for young people's voices to be heard.

Speakers at the event included Kenneth Barrientos, Team Leader for SDGs and Greening TVET and Regional Focal Point for the UNEVOC Network in Asia and the Pacific at UNESCO-UNEVOC, Affero Ismail, UNEVOC Centre Coordinator at Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM – UNEVOC Centre in Malaysia) and Margarita Pavlova, Head of UNEVOC Centre, EdUHK.

More information is available [here](#).

## **SZPU Published Journal “Vocation, Technology & Education (VTE)”**

**Shenzhen Polytechnic University (SZPU)**

*Shenzhen, Guangdong Province, China*

“Vocation, Technology & Education” (VTE, ISSN 3005-2157) is an international, open-access academic journal sponsored by SZPU. VTE is published quarterly in English and delivers high quality, peer-reviewed research. The journal focusses on multiple fields, including vocational pedagogy, higher education, vocational sociology, and educational technology. VTE also focuses on vocational and technical education and training at different levels and examines the relationship between modern professions and technology and their impact on education systems, concepts and innovation.

More information is available [here](#).

## **Awareness building on innovation, incubation, and entrepreneurship for tribal schools**

**Pandit Sunderlal Sharma Central Institute of Vocational Education (PSSCIVE)**

*Bhopal, India*

PSSCIVE conducted three drone technology bootcamps in different cities of the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh in February 2024. The bootcamp sessions covered topics such as drones, hands-on drone piloting, maintenance, building challenges, and racing competition. Attended by 90 students and six teachers from five schools, the bootcamps fostered awareness and skills in innovation, incubation, and entrepreneurship, with insights shared by PSSCIVE members.

More information is available [here](#).

## **Online training programme for developing master trainers on vocational pedagogy**

**Pandit Sunderlal Sharma Central Institute of Vocational Education (PSSCIVE)**

*Bhopal, India*

PSSCIVE organised a five-day online training for developing Master Trainers on Vocational Pedagogy from 26 February to 1 March 2024. 175 teachers from the Indian states of Goa, Kerala and Manipur participated in the training programme. Five faculty members of PSSCIVE facilitated sessions on Vocational Pedagogy, which also

included pre-assessment of participants every day. The training was coordinated by Vinay Swarup Mehrotra, UNEVOC Centre Coordinator at PSSCIVE.

More information is available [here](#).

## **Meeting of the ‘Curricular Area Group on Vocational Education’ (CAG-VE)**

**Pandit Sunderlal Sharma Central Institute of Vocational Education (PSSCIVE)**

*Bhopal, India*

The members of the Curricular Area Group on Vocational Education (CAG-VE) met at the Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET), New Delhi, from 8 to 12 January 2024, to formulate guidelines and syllabi for Grades 6-12 as per the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE) 2023. The meeting was attended by 18 external experts and two faculty members from PSSCIVE. The meeting was coordinated by Vinay Swarup Mehrotra, UNEVOC Centre Coordinator, PSSCIVE.

More information is available [here](#).

## **National conference on “Perspectives and Practices in Vocational Education and Training**

**Pandit Sunderlal Sharma Central Institute of Vocational Education (PSSCIVE)**

*Bhopal, India*

PSSCIVE hosted a National Conference on “Perspectives and Practices in Vocational Education and Training” from 1 to 2 February 2024, attracting over 100 participants nationwide. The conference was attended by ministerial delegates, namely Shri Inder Singh Parmar, Hon’ble Cabinet Minister-Higher Education, Technical Education and AYUSH Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh and Shri Gautam Tetwal, Hon’ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Employment, Government of Madhya Pradesh. The event focused on integrating technology into traditional skills, featuring 70 research papers covering themes like emerging technologies, entrepreneurship, and competency-based assessment. The conference concluded with a commitment to advancing vocational education and training in India.

More information is available [here](#).

## Europe, CIS and North America



**International conference in Bonn**  
**Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB)**  
*Bonn, Germany*

The Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB) in Germany organized an international conference on 'Vocational Education, Skilled Workers and Transformation in an International Perspective' from 30 November to 1 December 2023. The conference discussed contributions of skilled work to occupational task change and innovation. It provided an opportunity for researchers and professionals to discuss and exchange their insights and studies in technological and ecological innovation.

During the conference, Prof. Friedrich Hubert Esser, the President of BIBB, and Kirak Ryu, Head of the Skills Development and Qualifications Research department at Korea Research Institute for Vocational Education and Training (KRIVET-UNEVOC Centre in Republic of Korea) delivered speeches titled "Securing the demand for skilled labour in transformation-relevant professions" and "Skills policies to address digital transformation and social inequality in Korea" respectively. Participants from different countries, organizations and disciplines joined the event.

More information is available [here](#).



**Training on children's safety and security**  
**Azerbaijan Public Employment Agency (APEA)**  
*Baku, Azerbaijan*

On 17 December 2023, APEA and UNICEF conducted a training session on child protection and rights. The training sessions also emphasized the significance of reporting any case of violence against children to the relevant authorities.

The sessions successfully trained 50 babysitters with essential knowledge about child protection and reporting procedures. It fostered a collective commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of children under the care of babysitters.

More information is available [here](#).

**Workshop on VET research methods and research tools at the Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University in Georgia**  
**UNEVOC Centre "TVET for Sustainable Development" – Magdeburg**  
*Magdeburg, Germany*

Students in the accredited PhD program at the Otto-von-Guericke-University Magdeburg (UNEVOC Centre in Germany) received in-depth knowledge and hands-on experience in research methods and tools related to vocational education topics. This training aimed to support their future PhD theses and publications as part of the 'Vocational Education and Capacity Building in the Caucasian Country Georgia' (VoCasian) project.

More information is available [here](#).





**The All-Ukrainian Scientific and Practical Conference**  
**State Scientific Institution "Institute of Educational Content Modernization" of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine (IMZO)**  
*Online*

The All-Ukrainian Scientific and Practical Conference on 'A competent approach to the training of economic and technical specialists in the ZFPO' was held on 20 December 2023. The conference aimed to resolve the issue of training specialists in labour specialties. Participants discussed different directions of development for professional and technical education. They also highlighted the issues arising from using information and communication technologies in the educational process.

More information is available [here](#).

(UNEVOC Centre in Germany), in partnership with the Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University and funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). The VoCasian project develops PhD program for professional teachers and implements a graduate school for TVET training, increase the visibility of vocational training in Georgia and promote the training of TVET teachers.

More information is available [here](#).



**Workshop on 'Educational Leadership in Quality Assurance for TVET teachers'**  
**State Institute of Vocational Education and Training (SIOV)**  
*Bratislava, Slovakia*

The Slovak NRP EQAVET, based at SIOV, organised a workshop on 'Educational Leadership in Quality Assurance for TVET Teachers' in December 2023.

Participants of the training emphasized the importance of initially identifying the underlying issues and exploring resources to address them. They also recognized the significance of understanding individual employees' roles and work capabilities.

More information is available [here](#).



**The final conference of the German-Georgian research project VoCasian**  
**UNEVOC Centre "TVET for Sustainable Development" – Magdeburg**  
*Magdeburg, Germany*

The final conference of 'Vocational Education and Capacity Building in Georgia' (VoCasian) project took place in Magdeburg, Germany on 1 February 2024. The project was implemented jointly by the Otto-von-Guericke-University Magdeburg



### **Business simulation on secure cyberspace**

**University of Management (TISBI)**

*Kazan, Republic of Tatarstan, Russian Federation*

Students of the faculty of humanities took part in business simulation on secure cyberspace on 6 February 2024. The participants discussed the importance of netiquette, security rules to protect personal data and how to avoid cyber fraudsters on the Internet.

More information is available [here](#).



### **International conference on business and society**

**University of Management (TISBI)**

*Kazan, Republic of Tatarstan, Russian Federation*

An international conference on 'Business and Society Interaction in the Context of Information Processes and Technologies Transformations' was held on 1 December 2023 at TISBI to discuss digital transformation in the business and society. The conference discussed topics including artificial intelligence, blockchain, cutting-edge technologies. It also provided a platform for various researchers to exchange experience in science and education. It was noted that innovative approaches and collaboration between TVET providers and all stakeholders is necessary for up-to-date knowledge and skills in the labour market.

More information is available [here](#).



### **Student professional orientation event**

**Bashkir Institute of Social Technologies (branch of the Educational Institution of Trade Unions "Academy of Labour and Social Relations" (BIST))**

*Ufa, Republic Bashkortostan, Russian Federation*

BIST, together with the prototyping centre of the radio-electronic cluster of the Republic of Bashkortostan, held a career guidance event among 4th-year students in the field of applied informatics. The event provided career guidance and support to students while learning about future professional activities and responsibilities.

More information is available [here](#).

### **International youth project competition**

**Bashkir Institute of Social Technologies (branch of the Educational Institution of Trade Unions "Academy of Labour and Social Relations" (BIST))**

*Ufa, Republic Bashkortostan, Russian Federation*

BIST organised an international youth project competition on 'Artificial Intelligence Systems and Technologies for Digital Society,' with the support of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Bashkortostan, the Committee of the Republic of Bashkortostan for UNESCO, the Center for Information and Communication Technologies of the Republic of Bashkortostan.

The event aimed to promote the development of young people's intellectual potential and competitiveness in artificial intelligence technologies, highlighting its prospects and capabilities among the youth in the Russian Federation.

More information is available [here](#).

### **OSU DACUM facilitator training for 2024**

#### **The Ohio State University, Center on Education and Training for Employment (CETE)**

*Columbus, OH, United States of America*

Since March 2024, the DACUM International Training Centre of The Ohio State University, Center on Education and Training for Employment (CETE) provides in person and online training course to facilitate the Developing A Curriculum (DACUM) process. This involves identifying competency or occupational standards for various jobs, occupations, processes, or functions. By participating in these training courses, coordinators and specialists enhance their ability to develop course curricula, equipping them with the skills needed to succeed as DACUM facilitators.

More information is available [here](#).

### **Recommendations on short-cycle qualifications in Higher Education**

#### **Academic Information Centre (AIC)**

*Riga, Latvia*

AIC prepared a report on 'The recommendations on short-cycle qualifications in higher education.' AIC, as the coordinator of the 'Working group under the Thematic Peer Group A of European Higher Education Area on Qualifications Framework', elaborated recommendations about introducing short-cycle qualifications in higher education system. The document lists steps to be considered by the countries willing to implement short-cycle qualifications.

The activity was conducted within the framework of Erasmus+ project "Qualifications Frameworks for trust, transparency and diversity – TPG A" coordinated by AIC.

More information is available [here](#).

### **Biotech Connect Program**

#### **Hudson Valley Community College (HVCC)**

*New York, United States of America*

HVCC and the Capital District Educational Opportunity Centre partnered with Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences to bring a new and diverse audience to the career fields of biotechnology and biomanufacturing through the Biotech Connect program. The objective of Biotech Connect was to draw more underserved people such as post-secondary-GED/high school graduates, women, people of colour and refugees into a field that has been growing steadily in the Capital Region for decades. A free four-day introductory workshop was held in February to provide concepts, tools and skills needed for entry-level careers in biotech and biomanufacturing at HVCC South in Albany.

More information is available [here](#).

### **Apprenticeship roundtable for employers**

#### **Hudson Valley Community College (HVCC)**

*New York, United States of America*

On 1 March 2024, HVCC hosted an event titled 'Apprenticeships, SUNY Training Funds and You: An Employer Roundtable'. It brought together business owners to learn about New York State's Department of Labor Registered Apprenticeship program, and about funds available through the State University of New York (SUNY) for workforce training. Attendees learned how HVCC can help them getting started with apprenticeship training and how to access funding available through SUNY.

More information is available [here](#).

# Latin America and the Caribbean



**Annual campaign of 16 days of activism against gender-based violence of the ETP PROFET Project**  
**Ministry of Education / Directorate of Technical and Vocational Education (MINED)**

*La Habana, Cuba*

The institutions under MINED carried out multiple activities showcasing the implementation of the gender and inclusion strategy in training the skilled workforce. These activities are implemented under the Programme for Strengthening Technical and Vocational Education in Cuba (PROFET). These activities were undertaken to mark the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.

The PROFET project focuses on strengthening the vocational training process of young people and workers in TVET in selected specialties for their integration into employment. PROFET, which launched in 2019, promotes better access to employment by consolidating the links between professional technical education and labour entities and institutions. It also focuses on raising the quality of educational services from a gender perspective and prioritising the most vulnerable people.

More information is available [here](#).



**47th meeting of the leaders of professional and technological education institutions (REDITEC)**  
**National Council for the Federal Network of Vocational, Scientific and Technological Education Institutions (CONIF)**

*Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil*

The Federal Institute of Rio Grande do Norte, with support from CONIF and the Ministry of Education (MEC - UNEVOC Centre in Brazil), organised the 47th meeting of the Leaders of Professional and Technological Education Institutions (REDITEC) in November 2023. The event brought together around 1,000 leaders from the Brazilian Federal Network of Vocational, Scientific, and Technological Education to deepen the discussions about the TVET landscape, to help define management policies and strategies, as well as consolidate institutional projects.

More information is available [here](#).





### **VII Forum of High Technology: Education in Times of Artificial Intelligence**

**National Training Service of Industrial Work (SENATI)**

*Arequipa, Peru*

The 'VII International Forum on High Technology: Education in the times Artificial Intelligence' was held at the headquarters of SENATI in the city of Arequipa on 5 December 2023. Representatives and experts UNESCO IESALC, ILO CINTERFOR, Google, National Service for Industrial Training (SENAI - UNEVOC Centre in Brazil), Tecnológico de Monterrey, among others, shared their experiences and analysed the impact of artificial intelligence on education.

The event was divided into two blocks. Block 1: Impact of digital technologies in higher education and Block 2: Incorporation of digital technologies in practical training.

More information is available [here](#).

**Online workshop on vocational education**  
**Ministry of Education / Directorate of Technical and Vocational Education (MINED)**

*La Habana, Cuba*

Teachers and experts on vocational training were invited to present research results and best practices in an online workshop on future skilled workforce. Representatives of vocational training institutions from Argentina, Mexico, Panama, Spain, Colombia and Nicaragua participated online.

More information is available [here](#).



### **Inclusion and diversity in Higher Education**

**Instituto Profesional Duoc UC**

*Santiago, Chile*

In its institutional commitment to promote inclusion in the country, Duoc UC signed two important agreements with Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. These agreements will allow the levelling of studies for ex convicted women, guiding them in their entry and stay in higher education. They will also provide with means for including people living with Down's Syndrome in higher education.

More information is available [here](#).

### **Training for TVET teachers**

**Ministry of Education / Directorate of Technical and Vocational Education (MINED)**

*La Habana, Cuba*

As part of the project "Improvement of the training process of Technical and Professional Education students to promote the economic and social development of the territories", training courses on Economic-Financial Management Tools are being developed for teachers of Technical and Professional Education in the country. The purpose of this initiative is to strengthen the link between ETP institutions with production entities, services, and economic actors. It aims to enhance the development of professional skills and contribute to the socioeconomic development of the territories.

More information is available [here](#).



**International roadshow on digital media in TVET  
Federal Institute for Vocational Education and  
Training (BIBB) and National Service for Industrial  
Training (SENAI)**

*Brasilia, Brazil*

BIBB, in cooperation with the National Service for Industrial Training (SENAI-UNEVOC Centre in Brazil), presented best practices in the implementation of VET using digital media in an international roadshow, held for the first time in Latin America on 23 November 2023 in the country of Brazil. BIBB and SENAI together presented five practical examples from Latin America and Germany. 40 VET teachers and in-company trainers took part in the event.

More information is available [here](#).



**Training on generative artificial intelligence  
Higher School for Informatics of Haiti (ESIH)**

*Port au Prince, Haiti*

ESIH developed a program (in French) on generative AI. This program includes the following subjects:

1. Vocabulary and concepts related to generative AIs.
2. Introduction to prompt engineering with ChatGPT.
3. Advanced prompt engineering using patterns.
4. Developing generative AI based applications using Langchain, Flowise and Langflow.

To date, ESIH has trained over 16 public and private institutions, both Haitian and non-Haitian, through in-person and online sessions on this subject. The program is currently being integrated to Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF)'s international catalogue of "Formations Qualifiantes."

More information is available [here](#).



**Collaboration with LearnChile on  
internationalization at home  
Instituto Profesional Duoc UC**

*Santiago, Chile*

As a part of its internationalization strategy, Duoc UC held training sessions in January 2024 seeking to promote internationalization at home. The sessions were led by international expert, Eva Haug from the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences. She addressed issues on Internationalization of the Curriculum, COIL methodology and global awareness. The sessions focused on curricular and global issues to better prepare students and positively impact the educational community. This initiative was organized and carried out jointly with 3 other LearnChile institutions, strengthening national institutional collaboration and the internal capacities.

More information is available [here](#).



**Internationalisation at home week**  
**Instituto Profesional Duoc UC**  
*Santiago, Chile*

In the last week of November, Duoc UC undertook a week-long activity to promote and institutionalise ‘Internationalisation at Home’. Among them, 88 teachers participated in workshops delivered by Osvaldo Succi Jr. and Regiane Camargo. These workshops enabled teachers to conduct Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) projects. Additionally, Duoc UC hosted a Masterclass on ‘Internationalisation at Home’ with expert speakers from Centro Paula Souza (Brasil) and Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

More information is available [here](#).



**‘FIRST Robotics Competition’**  
**National Service for Industrial Training (SENAI)**  
*Brasília, Distrito Federal, Brazil*

The FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) was held by SENAI for students under 18 years old. 10-15 students from TVET schools had the opportunity to

design, build and program a robot for the competition. Students were encouraged to use their STEM knowledge to develop their technical skills in electromechanics projects, machining, automation, programming, and teamwork.

More information is available [here](#).



**Bridging innovation and education: WorldSkills**  
**‘Autonomous Mobile Robotics Training Camp’**  
**HEART National Service and Training Agency Trust**  
**(HEART NSTA)**  
*Kingston, Jamaica*

From 15 to 19 January 2024, HEART/NSTA organized a WorldSkills Autonomous Mobile Robotics Training Camp to promote innovation for TVET. Students from ten HEART/NSTA Trust Institutions and high schools across Jamaica, participated in the event, facilitated by experts from Singapore, Canada, South Africa, Trinidad & Tobago. The event showcased cutting-edge technologies and knowledge to industry leaders, educators, and aspiring robotics enthusiasts, and facilitated networking opportunities within the robotics industry. It was a groundbreaking event that brought together industry leaders, educators, and aspiring robotics enthusiasts.

More information is available [here](#).



### Follow-up meeting of the 'Regional Conference on Higher Education' (GRES+5)

Ministry of Education (MEC)

Brasilia, Brazil

The follow-up meeting of the 3rd Regional Conference on Higher Education (GRES+5), held from 13 to 15 March 2024 in Brasilia, Brazil. This meeting was organized by the Ministry of Education of the Federative Republic of Brazil (MEC – UNEVOC Centre in Brazil), the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES), the UNESCO International Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNESCO IESALC) and the Latin American and Caribbean Higher Education Area (ENLACES). The meeting was organised as a follow-up to the 3rd Regional Conference on Higher Education, which was held in 2018 in Argentina. Duoc UC (UNEVOC Centre in Chile) also participated in the meeting.

The meeting established priorities with a focus on the next Regional Conference on Higher Education to be held in 2028. The meeting included round tables, conferences, symposiums, and other activities. The activity addressed 12 thematic areas, and Duoc UC participated in theme 1 on "Higher education as part of the education system in Latin America", which seeks to highlight the role of technical and professional education in the region.

The meeting ended with the analysis and drafting of each of the thematic axes and the drafting of the Conference Declaration.

More information is available [here](#).



### 1st VcM 2024 CREA+ Vínculos Congress

Instituto Profesional Duoc UC

Santiago, Chile

In January 2024, Duoc UC organized the 1st VcM 2024 CREA+ Vínculos Congress, with the slogan "Let's share our experiences". The objective of the event was to exchange community engagement initiatives, identify good practices and establish a feedback mechanism to the academic processes of Duoc UC.

More than 100 proposals were received, ranging from pedagogic outcomes, institutional management, applied research, innovation, and internationalization. 21 proposals were selected to be showcased.

Various TVET stakeholders including the education community, companies, public entities and social organizations attended this event, exchanging the contributions of students and teachers to territorial challenges and community engagement.

More information is available [here](#).





### **International short-term Course: 'Textiles from the Andes (to the Pacific)'**

**Instituto Profesional Duoc UC**

*Santiago, Chile*

Duoc UC's Design School organized the second edition of the course "Textiles from the Andes (to the Pacific)", in collaboration with the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) in New York. Twelve students from different parts of the world joined seven locals to explore the Andean textile heritage, learning techniques such as spindle spinning and visiting emblematic places including the alpaca farm in Llay-Llay and the Violeta Parra's arpilleras exhibition. Participants highlighted the cultural richness of the course and the opportunity to interact with colleagues from different cultures, enriching their academic experience and knowledge on textile design.

More information is available [here](#).



### **International seminar on "Higher Education: Modernization and Human Development for Chile"**

**Instituto Profesional Duoc UC**

*Santiago, Chile*

The Undersecretariat of Higher Education organised a two-day event on 'Higher Education: Modernization and Human Development for Chile,' from 16 to 17 November 2023. During the event, discussions took place on topics related to the role of higher education as a strategic axis for the country's development. At the conclusion of the event, Undersecretary Víctor Orellana delivered a lecture where he presented the key points and challenges of the modernization agenda.

More information is available [here](#).



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## Stay in touch

The UNEVOC Network Spotlight informs the TVET community about the activities of UNEVOC Network members and the Network Secretariat. Readers can find out more about these and other activities on our website.

The Spotlight issue is only available in English.

For more information or to submit an article, please contact the UNEVOC Network Secretariat at [unevoc.network@unesco.org](mailto:unevoc.network@unesco.org).

