NEWS ON SKILLS AND EMPLOYABILITY

In **Nepal**, Ministry of Education has taken upon itself the task of implementing a $60 million project for vocational education and training. The Enhanced Vocational Education and Training (EVENT) project is recently launched four-year long project, which includes a $30 million loan from World Bank and aims to provide short or long-term vocational education to around 75,000 youth in the country.

In the **Philippines**, gender sensitivity was emphasized when TESDA and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) recently signed a letter of understanding for a partnership project in mainstreaming gender sensitivity and life skills in vocational training.

**READ MORE NEWS ON THE [SKILLS AND EMPLOYABILITY NETWORK](#)**

PILOT PROGRAM FOR LEATHER SECTOR WORKERS

The first Apprenticeship Pilot Program for the Leather Sector Workers of Bangladesh was recently launched in Kaliakoir, Gazipur. It is an initiative of the Centre of Excellence for Leather Skill (COEL) with support from USAID through its PRICE project and ILOs TVET Reform Project. COEL will act as one point service centre for skills development and productivity enhancement for the whole sector.

This sector has been identified as a thrust sector for its potential to achieve faster growth and employment generation. But the lack of skilled manpower is a threat to the development potentials in the sector. It is estimated that the sector requires more than 70,000 skilled and semi-skilled workers to propel it forward. This apprenticeship pilot program will bridge the gap through relevant and appropriate training to meet the sector’s needs.

Course curriculum will be approved by the Bangladesh Technical Education Board (BTEB) under the overall supervision of Department of Technical Education. The apprentices will be registered with the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET).

**READ MORE HERE**

EVENTS

- **Workshop on Public Private Partnership in TVET** 24 August 2011 | Cambodia
- **Capacity Building on Employers Services: Relations for NEA and Job Centres Staff** 5-9 September 2011 | Cambodia
- **Employment Counseling Workshop: Overseas Migration Component** 12-16 September 2011 | Lao PDR
- **ILO Skills Development Academy** 24 October-4 November 2011 | Turin, Italy
- **Skills and Employability Online Discussion Forum #2**

For more information about events go to the [Skills and Employability Network](#)

ONLINE DISCUSSION

We will host another online discussion on the Skills and Employability Network. Just like the previous discussions, we will have a moderator who is well known and has a lot of experience in the field of skills and employability in Asia and the Pacific.

We will publish more information on the portal shortly, please go [HERE](#) to see our last discussion that dealt with Regional Model Competency Standards for Skills Recognition and to get a sense of how the discussions work. We look forward to your active participation.

To become a member, visit this link and click on ‘register’ [http://skills-ap.ilo.bkk.or.th](http://skills-ap.ilo.bkk.or.th)
**ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT AND JUSTICE IN INDONESIA**

A multi-stakeholder workshop on *People with Disabilities in Indonesia: Access to Employment and Justice*, supported by ILO and AusAID, took place in Jakarta on 25-26 July 2011. Approximately 100 people participated, representing government, employers' and workers' organizations, disabled persons' organizations and youth groups, training and service providers, private sector and universities. The government was represented by all the relevant line ministries dealing with disability: Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, Social Affairs, Health, Foreign Affairs, Education, BAPPENAS - Ministry of National Development Planning, Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Law and Human Rights and Ombudsman. This only indicates the current interest from the Indonesian government, which is about to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD).

The workshop included presentations on technical and thematic discussions, sharing of good practices as well as group work that allowed participants to identify challenges and define priorities as well as recommendations. In general, participants voiced the need to revise the current national legal framework related to disability and ensure policy coherence and emphasised the need to align current policies and strategies to international standards, which will be required after the ratification of UNCRPD. More specifically, disabled people's organizations also voiced their need to be consulted much more frequently by the government, particularly when it comes to the ratification and enforcement of the UNCRPD.

**FEATURED RESOURCES**

*The dynamics of employment, the labour market and the economy in Nepal*. This paper is a part of the Employment Working Paper series. Authored by Shagun Khare and Anja Slany, the paper analyses the situation and aspects of employment, the labour market and the economy in Nepal.

*Qualifications Framework (QF)— A Platform for Skills Development: Hong Kong Experience* This is a presentation by Patrik Pang from the ADBI-OECD Conference on Skills Development in the Post-Crisis Context that was held in Tokyo, Japan in September 2010. It highlights the structure and characteristics of the Hong Kong QF as well as the progress of implementation and implications for the industry, especially Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and micro-enterprises.

*Promoting decent work for all: opening training and employment opportunities for persons with disabilities - Reader on disability*. This Reader Kit was prepared by the ILO as a resource for participants and organizations in supporting decent work for people with disabilities, and in particular for the multi-stakeholder national workshop in Jakarta (see information above).

The publication *Moving towards disability inclusion* provides insights into how disability perspectives may be incorporated into policies, laws, services and programmes, and the essential elements for sustainable and inclusive growth of societies. ILO-Irish Aid supported projects on disability (INCLUDE and PEPDEL) operating in Cambodia, Ethiopia, Thailand and Viet Nam provide the basis for the case stories, examples of good practice and lessons learned presented in this publication.

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