

Workplan of Skills Development Network through South-South Cooperation, 2021-2022

I. Background

1. ILO-China Project on Strengthening Skills Development in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar through South-South and Triangular Cooperation Project aims to improve the employability of workers and increase the productivity of enterprises through skills development and institutional capacity building.
2. As a long-term program, it focuses on three areas: (i) linking skills development to current labour market mechanisms, including employment services, vocational counselling etc.; (ii) developing skills qualification and competences standards, curriculum through networking and shaping alliance between beneficiary countries, Development Partner, ASEAN member states etc.; (iii) promoting knowledge sharing on skills development between TVET institutions through South-South Cooperation (SSC).
3. ILO-China Project partners in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar acknowledge that the demographic, green and technological transformation bring implications to the economies, industries and employment in many countries around the world. This is true in particularly in the context of recovering from COVID 19 pandemic. ILO-China Project stakeholders take that skills gap, adaptability of human resources and education to the changing labour market demands, life-long learning culture through up-skilling and re-skilling, and new forms of employment relations as some of the emerging issues that need to be addressed.
4. Skills development through South-South Cooperation for skills training centres, Technical and Vocational Education and Training institutions and on-line training are keys in achieving sustainable development and building forward better. With the capacity of skills centres and TVETs to rapidly respond to changing labour markets, it has the potential to: (i) support employment opportunities, (ii) increase competency and productivity, (iii) promote enterprise competitiveness, (iv) heighten job security, and (v) supporting green skills for green jobs – all of which are essential to sustainable development.
5. Many training institutions, enterprises, international organisations and other stakeholders in the region have been collaborating with the ILO to enhance skills development. Under the ILO-China Partnership Programme, the Skills Development Network through South-South Cooperation is an up-to-date addition to this pursuit. Better coordination and sharing of information among stakeholders can help address the aforementioned challenges.

II. Objectives

6. Developing skilled labour force responsive to the rapidly changing needs of the labour market, promoting employment opportunities locally and overseas; and higher productivity in the digital economy and human-centered future of work towards a resilient and innovative global community.
7. The Network provides a platform for coordination, research and development on that support the advancement of skills development between its members of the Network.
8. The Network promotes evidence-based skills development and employment service policy recommendations that will improve employability, including quality assurance, standards development, research and development on innovations; Conduct researches pertaining to skills development; Improve the image of skills training and promote skills competition;
9. The Network also functions to strengthen coordination and cooperation with businesses and industries to promote quality apprenticeship, reskilling and upskilling, with high quality and responsiveness to labour market demands. In general, the Network supports the advancement of access to skills centres, TVETs for the youth, women and men, people with disabilities;
10. Networking is the power of knowledge exchanges in the domain of skills development. The Network facilitates mutual learning and innovations through sharing of good practices on skills for employment programmes through South-South Cooperation.

III. Proposed Members:

- a. Skills training centres, TVETs, enterprises, institutions for employment services, ILO constituents;
- b. Other relevant stakeholders (by invitation).

IV. Network Meetings

The Network advisory meeting shall meet at least once a year to review and adopt annual workplan, to be submitted to all members by ILO-China Partnership Programme. The annual meeting will be funded by ILO-China Partnership Programme.

The Network will form pairs of skills centres and TVETs and promote technical cooperation between paired skills training institutions, such as exchange programmes of trainers and students, curriculum development, fora and workshops, coaching activities, skills competition etc. In kind contribution is on voluntary basis. The ILO-China Partnership Programme could provide seed fund in supporting technical activities.

V. Participated Members:

- a. ILO tripartite constituents, including public institutions from the economic, education, and labour sectors;
- b. Other relevant stakeholders (by invitation).

VI. Followed Up Meetings

The network shall meet at least once a year. The annual meeting will be funded by ILO-China Partnership Programme. Hosting of an additional meeting shall be on a voluntary basis.

VII. Workplan for 2021-2022

1. **Launch of Skills Development Network through SSC, November, 2021;**
Participants: Officials of MOLVT, MOLSW, MOHRSS, representatives of TVETs of CLM countries and China, and ILO ROAP, CO-Bangkok and DWT;
2. **Bilateral workshops of TVETs on cooperation and exchanges, November-December, 2021;**
Participants: Officials of MOLVT, MOLSW, MOHRSS, representatives of TVETs of CLM countries and China, and ILO DWT, ILO-China Partnership Programme;
3. **Training of Trainers or high-skilled workers from Lao PDR (Online or offline in Yunnan Technician College), April 2022;**
Participants: Trainers or trainees from Laos TVET colleges in the Network, other high-skilled workers;
4. **ASEAN+3 Workshop on TVET management, May 2022;**
Participants: representatives from ILO, ASEAN+3 countries and ASEAN TVET Council;
5. **Activities related with Skills International Olympics, Shanghai, October 2022 (to be decided);**
Participants: representatives of MOLVT, MOLSW and member TVETs of CLM countries;
6. **Training of Trainers or high-skilled workers for Cambodia (Online or offline in Wuxi Institute of Technician), October 2022;**
Participants: Trainers or trainees from Cambodia TVET colleges of the Network, other high-skilled workers;
7. **Knowledge Sharing Workshop of TVETs on cooperation and exchanges, November-December 2022;**
Participants: Officials of MOLVT, MOLSW, MOHRSS, representatives of TVETs of CLM countries and China, and ILO DWT, ILO-China Partnership Programme;

8. Other activities, studies on the curriculum development, cooperation on vocational qualification system

Participants: Representatives from MOLVT, MOLSW, MOHRSS, member TVETs of CLM countries;