

Addis Ababa Symposium on Skills Development
“High Quality Technical and Vocational Education and Training for Sustainable Growth and
Job Creation in Ethiopia”

Hosted by	Ministry of Education of Ethiopia and Nagoya University
Date and	28 th August
Time	8:30-14:00
Venue	TVET Institute Meeting Hall, Addis Ababa
Language	English
Participants	75

Conference Background and Objectives:

The government of Ethiopia has increasingly developed and implemented strategies to support skills development for growth, job creation, and poverty reduction. From the mid-2000s, Ethiopian government initiated a fundamental reform of the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) system and increased the number of intakes to TVET institutions. Two interrelated aspects are worth mentioning. First, the reform sets the pace for an outcome-based TVET system where trainees are trained for attaining occupational competences rather than following the traditional curriculum. The Competency-Based Training is executed following the occupation standards developed by both trainers of vocational training institutions and representatives of the industry. The reform also pledges for a cooperative training between vocational training institutions and firms as a mean to increase relevance and facilitate the transition from school to work.

The most recent data ranks Ethiopia the second largest Foreign Direct Investment destination among Least Developing Countries. In this context, the provision of skilled workforce is an imperative to make growth more sustainable and inclusive. There is, therefore, an urgent need to enhance the quality and the relevance of TVET, as well as to improve its image. One of the greatest challenge is the issue of benchmarking and assessing skills. To substantiate the government effort in achieving economic growth and poverty reduction, adequate data should be collected to benchmark and measure the progress of the government plans and to inform decisions on the challenges to implementation and effectiveness. Doing so will necessitate strong commitment and efforts by policy makers and other stakeholders to generate new and comparable data that can be used to improve the quality of existing measurements. Generating new skills data will have to be structured in a way that helps measure what learners can actually do, instead of simply measuring their educational attainment. This is a key challenge given the vastly different occupations and competencies and the quality of teaching.

This symposium aims to bring together educational leaders, TVET trainers, industry,

researchers, and policy makers, as well as the wider community to exchange and share their experiences and research results about the issues and prospects of skills development in Ethiopia and in Africa. Specifically, the objectives of the symposium are:

- To bring together TVET educators, industry, policy makers, and researchers to promote collaboration and enhance evidence-based policymaking in TVET.
- To review current knowledge on the situation of TVET in Ethiopia
- To discuss the training provision in TVET and learners' aspiration
- To introduce the new assessment module for skills development in the garment sector
- To share regional and international lessons learned on TVET and employment
- To increase the awareness of the importance of TVET and to promote practical strategies for skills acquisition and employability of the youth.

Agenda (the Agenda is subjected to changes):

8:30 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:30	Opening remarks (5 min per speaker) H.E. Dr. Tilaye Gete, Minister of Education H.E. Ato Teshome Lema, State Minister of TVET Dr. Shoko Yamada, Nagoya University, Japan
9:30 – 9:50	Recent Development on the Ethiopian TVET: overview (15 min/person) Mr. Hailemichael Asrat , Director, Occupation Standard, Federal TVET Agency
9:50 – 10:10	Skills development in the global and African context, in relation to the labor conditions in Ethiopia (15 min/person) [JICA – Japan]
10:10 – 10:30	Coffee Break
10:30 – 11:20	Presentations (15 min/person) 1. Skills assessment: a new module for garment Dr. Yamada Shoko , Nagoya University, Japan 2. Cooperative training: challenges and prospects Dr. Otchia Christian, Kwansai Gakuin University, Japan 3. Training provision of garment production skills and learners' aspiration Dr. Taniguchi Kyoko, Nagoya University, Japan
11:20 – 11:35	Coffee break (15 min)
11:35 – 12:35	Panel Discussion on “High Quality TVET for Sustainable Growth, Job Creation, and Poverty Reduction” (1 hour) Moderator: Panelists: Dr. Yamada Shoko , Nagoya University, Japan H.E. Ato Teshome Lema (State Minister of TVET) H.E. Ato Seleshe Lema (General Director of Textile Industry Development Institute)]
12:35-14:00	Exchange Opinions Session