

Ostad-e-Shagerdi: Coordination Workshop for Nationwide Rollout

Electronics apprentice Qais said, “Before, I was not familiar with the names and uses of most of the equipment at my shop. My Ostad-e-Shagerdi training helped, and I now feel like a professional in my field.”

The Ostad-e-Shagerdi programme is currently available in 24 schools across 13 Afghan provinces, and benefits more than 1,700 apprentices. In this sixth phase of the rollout, by March 2020, the number of schools offering the programme and the number of apprentices benefiting are due to double. Yesterday’s workshop discussions helped to select schools for the new phase based on criteria such as location and suitability to the programme.

The Ostad-e-Shagerdi programme commenced in April 2017. It allows apprentices who are already receiving hands-on training with companies to receive additional formal education from a TVET-school. This complements the apprentices’ practical skills with relevant theoretical knowledge. TVET-schools offer Ostad-e-Shagerdi for grades 10 to 12 for 18 hours per week. Classes focus on vocational subjects, such as technical communication and technology. Meanwhile, practical training at companies remains a key part of the students’ education.

School director Ms Sohila Rahimi explained, “Afghan youths who are already active in the vocational labour market are not always familiar with the theoretical knowledge behind their work. However, through the Ostad-e-Shagerdi schools, they learn to provide better services to their customers.”

These TVET-schools are easily accessible for apprentices, as they are all located in city centres. To prepare for the new academic year, the schools will introduce reformed procedures on enrolment, timetabling, as well as cleaning and maintenance. The teachers will have privileged access to special teaching material. Selected schools will undergo renovations and receive new state-of-the-art furniture and equipment.

The programme Supporting Technical and Vocational Education and Training in Afghanistan (TVET) is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and KfW Development Bank on behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). TVET aims at expanding and improving the formal vocational education and training system in Afghanistan to increase young Afghan’s employability. In addition, the programme is modernising the traditional apprenticeship system Ostad-e-Shagerdi in cooperation with the Afghan Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority. After attending a formal TVET school besides Ostad-e-Shagerdi for three years, apprentices can apply for 12th-grade degrees, allowing many young people to attend advanced schooling.

Teaser text:

Yesterday, officials from Afghanistan’s Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Authority, Deputy Education Directors from 20 provinces, and school directors from 24 TVET-schools came together for a workshop in Kabul. In total, 80 participants, male and female, discussed next year’s phase of the Ostad-e-Shagerdi programme’s nationwide rollout. More than 4,000 apprentices will benefit from this improved vocational training and education in the future. The Afghan-German Cooperation’s TVET programme supported the event.

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