



German Cooperation with Afghanistan +++Press Release+++

Improving Vocational Education: TVET Conference in Herat

Herat, Herat, 12th June 2019 – For two days, 88 representatives of the Technical Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVET-A) met in Herat for a special conference. Participants from 13 provincial TVET offices and 23 technical schools discussed solutions for current challenges of Ostad-e-Shagerdi schools. Attendees agreed on the renovation of 18 technical schools and institutes in 13 provinces, including Kabul, Balkh, Herat and Nangarhar. The Afghan-German Cooperation supports this measure financially with a total amount of about AFN 280 million.

At the conference, TVET-A's academic deputy, Mr Hamid Akbar stated, 'TVET-A aims to increase the access to technical vocational education throughout the country. Currently, only over 64,000 students are enrolled in TVET institutes.'

During the conference's first day, attendees discussed constructions and renovations of Ostad-e-Shagerdi schools and institutes. These schools offer vocational training to company apprentices from grades 10 to 12. Participants talked about extending the programme from currently 23 schools in 13 provinces to 50 schools in 25 provinces by 2020.

Further, Mr Hamid Akbar noted, 'Currently, almost 2,000 students participate in the Ostad-e-Shagerdi programme. We are planning to double this number to make it available for up to 4,000 students.'

The Ostad-e-Shagerdi programme commenced in April 2017. In addition to their on-the-job training, apprentices receive theoretical education at TVET schools. It focuses on subjects according to their job's requirements, such as applied mathematics and technical-based topics. Today, it is available for apprentices of six professions in 13 provinces.

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 Ostadd-e-Shagerdi for three years, apprentices can apply for 12th-grade degrees, allowing many young people to attend advanced schooling. More than 2,000 apprentices, 12 % women, are currently benefiting from the programme.