



German Cooperation with Afghanistan

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5-Year TVET Strategy - Provincial Education Directors Discuss Objectives and Challenges

Kabul, 15th December 2020 – Over the last two days, almost 70 officials of the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVET-A) took part in a conference in Kabul, including women. Participants included the Head of TVET-A Ms Nadima Sahar, Provincial Education Directors (PEDs) from thirty-four provinces, and school headmasters. TVET-A presented TVET's five-year strategy to their PEDs to enable them to plan for 2021. This is the eighth biannual PED coordination conference.

The conference is an opportunity for PEDs from all over the country to meet with other officials of TVET-A to discuss and address challenges, and exchange ideas. This year's conference mainly focused on TVET's five-year strategy and its implementation. Mr Dawood Sanjar, the Provincial Education Director of Kapisa, appreciated the coordination conference and commented, "Through this platform, PEDs can present their challenges and problems to TVET-A."

On the first day of the conference, the attendees reviewed and discussed TVET-A's strategic plan that it had developed last year with the support of the Afghan-German Cooperation. The plan will guide the implementation of the TVET strategy over the next five years and will help PED's develop their operational plans in their respective provinces for the year 2021. The Academic Deputy of TVET-A Mr Hameed Akbar emphasised, "The implantation of the strategic plan will benefit students. This year we have more than 64,000 TVET students. Within the next five years, we will increase this number to 120,000 students in 70 new TVET education centres in 155 districts."

The strategic plan focuses on the four pillars of the TVET strategy. The first pillar aims at increasing equitable and inclusive participation in TVET, giving about 60,000 Afghan students access to the programme. The second pillar aims at equipping students with relevant knowledge, skills, and attitudes for employment and entrepreneurship. The third pillar aims at building learning paths and training services through partnerships with the professional world. The fourth pillar ensures a transparent, cost-effective and efficient delivery of training based on sector requirements and learners' needs.

On the second day, attendees reviewed the TVET laws and the operational plan for implementing the TVET strategy. TVET-A then presented plans to establish 77 new TVET schools as well as district councils and amendments to enrollment procedures in TVET schools. The total number of TVET schools will then be 378.

TVET-A also discussed plans for establishing a university of applied sciences in Kabul. This will be the first TVET education programme at a higher institution. TVET-A also reviewed PED's challenges raised in the last conference. Finally, attendees considered ways to make coordination between TVET-A's central leadership and provincial educational directorates more sustainable in future.

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and the KfW Development Bank implement the programme Promotion of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). TVET's aim is to support the TVET-Authority (TVET-A) to establish an efficient vocational training system. TVET does this by improving access to quality teaching, school administration and school facilities for TVET target groups, particularly for apprentices, women and the illiterate. Around 15,200 vocational schoolteachers, among them around 3,400 women, participated in further training since 2012. Around 43,500 young people completed a four-week internship in Afghan businesses through their vocational schooling. In total, TVET established four new schools, renovated 12 schools, and 50 vocational schools have received classroom and workshop equipment.