

### **UK Skills Partnership**

# Technical and Vocational Education and Training



The truth is, no one really knows what exactly the future of work and what the future of the Labour Market may be. We will need to be able to flex and adapt and adjust <sup>99</sup>

The Rt. Hon. Damian Hinds MP Secretary of State for Education

# Bridging the skills gap

Skills development is a rapidly growing area of interest globally. Up-skilling is now seen by governments, donors and employers as increasingly crucial and there is a greater demand for employable skills. In the words of the World Bank, "It is the knowledge that children and youth acquire today....that will drive their employability, productivity, health and well-being in the decades to come, and that will help their communities and nations develop and thrive".

Every country operates in a dynamic global economy. For countries to compete successfully, their workforce must have the right skills for the jobs they are doing, and these skills must be continually updated to attract inward investment, and support indigenous businesses. The UK Skills Partnership (UKSP) members support governments, employers, trade and industry bodies, and training organisations to research, plan and implement the world-class training solutions to drive up individual and business performance.

### A shared Vision

UKSP member organisations collaborate on international business development and project delivery by presenting a comprehensive technical and vocational skills offer that is tailored and contextualised to meet the needs of international partners.

It is envisaged that the strength of its collaborative proposition will lead to greater long-term opportunities for the UK skills sector and for the wider UK education sector, supporting the aim shared by the UK Government to position the UK as the partner of choice around the world.

### Our mission

- Extending the reach of the UK's overseas TVET market presence
- Creating economic value for UK through export growth
- Positioning the UK as a global leader in world class TVET provision
- Enabling sustainable growth in TVET capability and capacity both at home and overseas
- Building opportunities for internationalisation in global education
- Building on success and enabling the sharing of best practice

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Apprenticeships provide the high-level technical skills that employers need and offer young people the opportunity to earn while they learn on courses that offer a high-quality alternative career path.

The Rt Hon Anne Milton MP Minister of State for Apprenticeships & Skills

### The UK skills offer

The UK offers a flexible combination of scalable services to meet a country's TVET needs. UK skills expertise covers all elements of the TVET framework:

- Research skills needs to prioritise and evidence employer demand for skills;
- > Develop competence standards which integrate best practice and drive up skills levels;
- > Develop qualifications to benchmark performance and confirm competence;
- > Establish skills training provision that is credible, high-quality, relevant and fit-for-purpose;
- Recognise achievement to enable transferability across industries and social mobility.

UKSP member organisations will work with all key economic and business stakeholders including government / state organisations, private sector representatives, education and employment bodies, and employers and employees. As a collaborative entity, the UKSP offer a flexible combination of scalable services to meet the needs of the country or agency in question. A key feature is that the UKSP member organisations will work in partnership to provide "knowledge and skills transfer", so that countries are able to develop the best skills system and solutions for them based on a transferable model. The UKSP principle aim is to facilitate the development of a skills infrastructure that, while building on best international practice and meeting the unique needs of the country.

The UK's reputation at the forefront of strategic vocational policy and skills acquisition means it has a diverse range of additional experience for clients to utilise. Whether clients seek advice on commercialising vocational training, working with schools or brokering partnerships at all points of the training valuechain, the UK Skills Partnership understand the pitfalls and the leverage points that will save clients time and money. The UK Skills Partnership is highly collaborative and always ready to talk over potential solutions to client challenges.

The UK skills offer is	
> Sector focused	World-class skills solutions that are tailored to industry
> Strategic	Policy aligned strategic approach that delivers systemic change
> Demand-driven	Delivering the right skills in a coherent way creating impact
> Flexible and responsive	Responsive methodology to flex in a changing global market
<ul> <li>Bespoke and</li> <li>Contextualised</li> </ul>	Creating sustainable and workable Technical and Vocational Education models meeting regional and country requirements

#### **Skills Services**

From initial industry insight through standards, and curriculum development, capacity building and training delivery, certification and of course, the integrated quality assurance, the solutions offered will be appropriate to the situation, contextualise to best fit and offer the most cost effective and flexible model. As the approach is a cyclical one, the model will be replicable across all industries. It will also provide the potential to be scaled up for wider reach.

The UK Skills Partnership offer covers three major areas of segments, which will between them, include the six key TVET themes:











## Specialisms:

<ul> <li>Policy / Strategy</li> <li>Development</li> </ul>	Establish aims and priorities of skills initiatives for industry sectors. Support the development of technical and vocational skills policies and strategies which set out aims, strands of work, outputs, evaluation, research results/needs and forms part of an integrated and contextualised skills plan.
> Workforce Intelligence/ Research	Develop and deliver workforce / labour market information, intelligence and insight used to identify skills priorities and inform the development of appropriate policies.
<ul> <li>National Occupational</li> <li>Standards</li> </ul>	Develop nation-specific occupational standards using expertise from specific industry sectors and identifying potential structures for NOS, including international benchmarking.
<ul> <li>Curriculum and Qualifications</li> <li>Development</li> </ul>	Using extensive experience in writing and developing world-class technical and vocational curriculum and qualifications directly linked to workplace standards. Enhancing staff capacity and capability in writing high quality curriculum and qualifications.
<ul> <li>Accreditation/ Quality Assurance</li> </ul>	Develop quality assurance systems and procedures. Supporting the accreditation of training providers against nationally and/or internationally agreed standards to build and maintain quality provision, and add value to the training for employers and learners. Accreditation can be licensed to internationally recognised bodies or offered through national systems.
> Training Provision	Support the establishment of networks of training providers to deliver quality training in line with employer need and the skills strategy. The provider network could be shaped to become part of a skills system enabling employers to access training provision simply and effectively.
> Training of Trainers	On-site or UK-based courses, developing and delivering masterclasses for existing and new technical and vocational trainers. Also programmes to build capacity within the competence assessment system.
> Assessment and Certification	Offering an all-encompassing Awarding Organisation certification/ recognition capability. A single point of access as either an Awarding Body or through strategic relationships with a range of high profile and internationally recognised Awarding Organisations.
> Apprenticeships	Enabling promotion of career options, including developing and implementing apprenticeship programmes and providing links between employers and students, tackling youth unemployment as a priority.

## An easy single access point

The Department for International Trade has formed the UK Skills Partnership so clients have an easy single access point to UK skills expertise.

The Founder Steering Group of the UK Skills Partnership consists of:





**Education is GREAT** forms part of the UK Government's broader GREAT Britain campaign, which aims to promote the UK internationally as a place to visit, study and do business. **Be a part of something new and far reaching:** 

For more information about the UK Skills Partnership please contact dit-education@trade.gov.uk

