UNESCO Strategy for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) 2016-2021

The strategy aims to:

- support the efforts of Member States to enhance the relevance of their TVET systems and to equip all youth and adults with the skills required for employment, decent work, entrepreneurship and lifelong learning, and
- contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a whole.

Did you know that...

Rising youth unemployment is one of the most significant problems facing economies and societies in today’s world, for developed and developing countries alike.

Over the next decade, at least 475 million new jobs need to be created to absorb the 73 million youth currently unemployed and the 40 million new annual entrants to the labour market.

On average, for countries in which data is available, the wealthiest 10% earn 30-40% of the country’s total income.

By contrast, the poorest 10% earn around 2% of the total income.

"Attaining decent work is a significant challenge for youths."

The global unemployment rate (%) The global labour force participation rate (%)

6.4 5.7

"Despite progress and economic growth, inequalities and poverty persist in many parts of the world."

"All Member States have priorities for transition to green economies and climate resilient societies."

1.44 billion workers worldwide are in vulnerable employment."

15-60 million new jobs could be generated globally over the next two decades through the transition to a greener economy.

3 Pillars of Priority Areas

Fostering youth employment and entrepreneurship

UNESCO will support Member States to conduct Policy reviews and TVET reforms

UNESCO will mobilize cooperation of different stakeholders

UNESCO will support Member States to design efficient and effective TVET funding strategies

UNESCO will conduct policy advice and capacity-building programmes

UNESCO will promote targeted policy measures for disadvantaged groups

Facilitating the transition to green economies and sustainable societies

UNESCO will promote green skills for a smooth transition to greening economies

UNESCO will foster cross-sectoral approaches of TVET

UNESCO will support Member States to leverage digital technologies and close the digital divide

UNESCO will encourage exchange and dissemination of knowledge

UNESCO will support measures enhancing women’s and girls’ access to relevant TVET programmes and providing equal opportunities in the world of work

To maximise the outcomes of the Strategy’s priority areas, UNESCO will help Member States:

- to identify and anticipate skills requirements to inform TVET policies, strategies and programmes and to create multi-level and multi-sectoral stakeholder platforms
- by facilitating the debate on recognition of skills and qualifications, including across borders, as well as building learning pathways in a lifelong learning perspective
- in monitoring progress towards SDG4 and related TVET targets with a framework of key indicators

1 - ILO: World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2015
2 - ILO: World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2015
3 - ILO: World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2015
4 - ILO: Global Employment Trends 2014
5 - ILO: Working Towards Sustainable Development 2012

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