

Online conference on

Bridging Asia-Pacific and Europe:
New Qualifications and Competencies in TVET

27-28 April 2021

Conference Objectives

The online conference on Bridging Asia-Pacific and Europe: New Qualifications and Competencies in TVET is organized by the BILT project and co-hosted by Temasek Polytechnic. The event has the overall goal of exploring trends related to new qualifications and competencies in the Asia-Pacific region as well as in Europe, through peer learning and the exchange of innovative ideas and experiences among TVET stakeholders from these regions.

During the two-day event, participants will take centre stage in all the planned sessions. The conference will be hosted on a novel platform, which offers an enhanced user experience, increased interactivity (private and public chat, video chat, polls, etc.) and information segmentation (breakout sessions).

On the first day of the event, participants will explore four Asian examples of how TVET-related institutions have responded to the increasingly rapid changes occurring in society, in general, and in the labour market, in particular. We will also discuss the trade-offs and catalysts inherent to the application of these examples in different contexts.

On the following day, we will take a closer look at the subject of new qualifications and competencies. From different perspectives, we will explore challenges and solutions related to their identification, integration and implementation in a responsive and adequate manner. The preliminary results of a three-volume publication under development will be presented and discussed with the participants.

Expected outcomes

The event aims to contribute to the achievement of the following outcomes:

- **Improved knowledge:**

- » Potential “Innovation and Learning Practices” on new qualifications and competencies, either as an independent BILT theme, or in relation to the themes of digitalization, greening, entrepreneurship, and migration, are identified and disseminated at the global level.
- » Challenges and solutions with regards to the identification, integration and implementation of new qualifications and competencies in TVET are identified in the Asia-Pacific region.

- **Stronger UNEVOC Network:**

- » Exchanges among TVET stakeholders from the Asia-Pacific region and Europe are fostered.

- **BILT upcoming activities:**

- » Main engagement opportunities with the BILT project in 2021 are explored.

Background

Innovation and Learning Practices: innovative initiatives that address current challenges to TVET systems

As part of the BILT project, UNESCO-UNEVOC and BIBB are calling for submissions of innovative practices that address current challenges related to global trends in TVET systems in Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Europe. Selected initiatives will be made available to the global TVET community through their publication on the [BILT knowledge platform](#), the [UNESCO-UNEVOC database of Promising and Innovative practices in TVET](#), and their promotion via UNESCO-UNEVOC social media channels. Innovation and Learning Practices have the opportunity to be presented in upcoming BILT events, and some may be supported to convert their Innovation and Learning Practice into a video format.

To learn more about the concept and to submit your initiative for evaluation, please visit [BILT - Submit ILP \(unesco.org\)](#). Already published Innovation and Learning Practices are accessible in the [BILT Online Library \(unesco.org\)](#).

Major outcomes of the study “Trends in New Qualifications and Competencies for TVET. Perspectives of the European UNEVOC Network”

The aim of this BILT study is to identify trends in new qualifications and competencies as society, economies and labour markets evolve in ever-faster cycles. With relevant new qualifications and competencies *identified*, the Trends Mapping Study examines innovative strategies for their *integration* into curricula and training regulations. It further explores options for the *implementation* of new qualifications and competencies in teaching and training through the use of new methods and technologies, as well as adequate teacher and trainer training. Selected working examples of applied projects and initiatives offer a wide range of illustrations.

Read the full [Trends Mapping Study](#) on our website.

About the BILT Project

The [BILT project](#) is a reference point for innovation and learning in TVET through UNEVOC Network collaboration within Europe, and in a bridging process with African and Asian partners, while developing a set of practically-oriented publications related to New Qualifications and Competencies. The project complements national developments to explore and support innovative, market-oriented and attractive modes of learning and cooperation in TVET.

Fundamentally, one overarching theme and four focus themes are defined within the BILT project:

Having national qualifications and competencies in view, the BILT Project supports collaboration activities that are targeted to better understand the state-of-play and enhance national as well as multi-national TVET capacities, to generate new knowledge and to share information on national TVET practices, e.g. through innovation and learning examples and implementation examples. In 2021, a structured exchange on the respective topic takes place between the European, African, and Asian and the Pacific UNEVOC Centres as well as other interested TVET stakeholders.



New Qualifications and Competencies

How can they be put into practice, ensuring future-oriented, attractive TVET career path?

- **Identification** through suitable approaches and instruments;
- **Integration** into curricula and training regulations; and
- **Implementing** in teaching and training approaches.



Entrepreneurship

Unlocking the potential of innovative entrepreneurial activities and fostering entrepreneurial culture



Greening

Responding to new development paradigms for sustainability and reduced environmental impact



Digitalization

Providing a response to new skills demands, as technology has permeated the world of work and is changing the profile of jobs



Migration

Accelerating the integration of migrants into their host communities, and allowing them to become productive members of the workforce

Language

The conference will be delivered in English, with simultaneous translation in French and Chinese (Mandarin).

Online conference on

Bridging Asia-Pacific and Europe:

New Qualifications and Competencies in TVET

27-28 April 2021

08:00 - 11:30 GMT+2 | 14:00 - 17:30 GMT+8

BILT

Bridging Innovation and
Learning in TVET

The BILT project is implemented by



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and sponsored by



This conference is co-hosted by



Agenda

Online Conference on Bridging Asia-Pacific and Europe: New Qualifications and Competencies in TVET

Agenda Day 1

New qualifications and competencies for entrepreneurship, greening, migration, and digitalization

08:00 – 11:30 GMT+2 (Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome)

14:00 – 17:30 GMT+8 (Beijing, Manila, Singapore)

07:30 – 08:00 (GMT+2) 13:30 – 14:00 (GMT+8) Entrance hall	Arrival Participants are invited to consult the information desk to explore the virtual venue and visit the networking lounge to connect with peers.
08:00 – 08:25 (GMT+2) 14:00 – 14:25 (GMT+8) Plenary	Opening <i>Mr Wilson Lima Junior, BILT Project Manager, UNESCO-UNEVOC</i> <i>Ms Vera Hark, BILT Project Manager, Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), Germany</i> <i>Mr Teng Leng Lim, Deputy Director (International Relations), Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore</i> Welcome remarks <i>Ms Soo-Hyang Choi, Director, UNESCO-UNEVOC</i> <i>Mr Aw Tuan Kee, Senior Director, Temasek Polytechnic</i> <i>Ms Catrin Hannken, Deputy Director-General for Vocational Training, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany</i>
08:25 – 08:45 (GMT+2) 14:25 – 14:45 (GMT+8) Plenary	Keynote <i>Mr Brajesh Panth, Chief, Education Sector Group, Asian Development Bank</i> While rapid changes in technology are disrupting almost all sectors, the impact has been much less in education and training, compared to other sectors. However, the COVID-19 has accelerated the pace of digitalization in education and workforce development. The fast-changing nature of work due to technological changes has also created new skills, including workers in the gig economy, that are important to incorporate across education and training. Against this backdrop, education has become central to the achieving all SDGs since it provides foundational as well as advanced skills to all learners across all sectors. In order to prepare self-directed lifelong learners, it is critical to ensure foundational skills for all to give them much better life choices. An ecosystem approach to education training is crucial to blend lifecycle and whole of government approaches. Another important dimension comes from increasing labor mobility within and across countries and regions. In order to evolve a dynamic and quality assured skills development system, it will be more important to support research and development, capacity building and partnerships in workforce development complemented by digital learning.

08:45 – 10:15 (GMT+2) 14:45 – 16:15 (GMT+8) Plenary	Towards future-oriented TVET systems: New qualifications and competencies for entrepreneurship, digitalization, greening and migration <i>Moderated by Ms Jolien van Uden, Human Capital Development Specialist – Innovative Teaching and Learning, European Training Foundation (ETF)</i> TVET systems across the world are being challenged by rapid changes in the world of the work and education. Global trends and disruptions are drastically changing occupational profiles and demanding TVET institutions identify, integrate and implement new qualifications in a more responsive and accurate manner. Against this backdrop, the BILT project brings together four examples of innovative practices from the Asia-Pacific region. The examples give insight into new approaches that make TVET more relevant to the needs of the economy, society and the environment. Overall, these examples tackle challenges in the process of identification, integration and implementation of new qualifications and competencies, either as an independent theme, or in relation to the BILT themes of greening, digitalization, entrepreneurship, or migration. They also constitute a learning opportunity for other TVET stakeholders, with the potential to have key elements adapted and replicated in different settings. Presented by: 1. Entrepreneurship: Mr Wallace Lim, Director of Innovation and Entrepreneurship Department, Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore 2. Greening: Mr Rajesh P. Khambayat, Joint Director, PSS Central Institute of Vocational Education, India 3. Migration: Mr Janaka Jayalath, Deputy Director General, Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission (TVEC), Sri Lanka 4. Digitalization: Ms Jacqueline J. Ali, Supervising Technical Education and Skills Development Specialist, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Philippines Each of the presentations will be followed by a questions and answers session open to the audience.
10:15 – 10:50 (GMT+2) 16:15 – 16:50 (GMT+8) Plenary	What we can learn from each other – Bridging regional perspectives on new qualifications and competencies <i>Moderated by Ms Jolien van Uden, Human Capital Development Specialist – Innovative Teaching and Learning, European Training Foundation (ETF)</i> The podium session synthesizes the main learnings from the presentation of the four initiatives and their discussion regarding the identification, integration and implementation of new qualifications and competencies in TVET. Representatives from regional TVET institutions will examine the main takeaways of the previous session and explore the examples presented with a particular focus on their transferability: are they applicable to other contexts? How can European TVET systems learn and benefit from the approaches that are taken in the Asia and the Pacific region; and vice versa? Podium speakers: • Ms Anastasia Pouliou, Expert in qualifications and learning outcomes, Department for VET Systems and Institutions, European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) • Mr Dato Palani, Head, ASEAN Future Workforce Council (AFWC) The audience will have the opportunity to join the discussion and to debate relevant aspects with the panellists.
10:50 – 10:55 (GMT+2) 16:50 – 16:55 (GMT+8) Plenary	Closing day 1 <i>Mr Teng Leng Lim, Deputy Director (International Relations), Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore</i>

11:00 – 11:30 (GMT+2) 17:00 – 17:30 (GMT+8) Entrance hall, networking lounge & breakout rooms	Networking & parallel information sessions Objective: revive old relationships and build new ones in our virtual networking lounge; explore new possibilities of engagement with the BILT project, with UNESCO-UNEVOC and with Temasek Polytechnic in one of our three information sessions. Blue Room: How to submit an Innovation and Learning Practice? Learn about the concept and how to submit an innovation and learning practice from your institution. <i>Ms Alexandra Filippova, Programme Assistant, UNESCO-UNEVOC</i> Orange Room: How to engage with the UNEVOC Network? Explore the benefits of joining the UNEVOC Network and learn about this unique global platform for TVET institutions <i>Mr Wouter De Regt, Team Leader for the Network Secretariat, UNESCO-UNEVOC</i> Green Room: Micro-Learning and the Pandemic How Temasek Polytechnic supports the national effort in continuing education and training during a global pandemic. <i>Mr Hsien Wei Tan, Assistant Director, Business Development & Marketing, Temasek SkillsFuture Academy, Temasek Polytechnic</i>
Our virtual venue remains open for you to continue live networking, and to access video recordings, and documents.	

Agenda Day 2

The process of identification, integration, and implementation of new qualifications and competencies

08:00 – 11:30 GMT+2 (Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome)
14:00 – 17:30 GMT+8 (Beijing, Manila, Singapore)

07:30 – 08:00 (GMT+2) 13:30 – 14:00 (GMT+8) Entrance hall, networking lounge & breakout rooms	Arrival Consult information booth and explore virtual venue Networking lounge & parallel information sessions In case you were not able to take part on day 1, you have the opportunity to join one of the information sessions and to visit the networking lounge. Blue Room: How to submit an Innovation and Learning Practice Orange Room: How to engage with the UNEVOC Network Green Room: Micro-Learning and the Pandemic
08:00 – 08:30 (GMT+2) 14:00 – 14:30 (GMT+8) Plenary	Opening day 2 <i>Mr Teng Leng Lim, Deputy Director (International Relations), Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore</i> Introduction: New qualifications and competencies – a continuous challenge and opportunity for TVET systems <i>Mr Dieter Euler, University of St. Gallen, Switzerland</i> This session examines the process of new qualifications and competencies (NQC) and illustrates its relevance for society, in general, and for TVET systems, in particular. The overall goal is to underline the importance of improving this crucial intersection between the world of work and education. We will explore and understand the conditions for the “three Is” process: identification, integration and implementation of new qualifications and competencies. The session will underscore why it is essential to enable TVET systems to respond accurately and promptly to the emerging occupational profiles needed in our society.

08:40 – 09:50 (GMT+2) 14:40 – 15:50 (GMT+8) Breakout rooms	Parallel breakout sessions These three parallel breakout sessions zoom into the processes of identifying, integrating and implementing new qualifications and competencies in more detail and examine them one by one in separate sessions. Each session takes on essential elements of the process and presents examples that serve as inspiration for TVET systems across the world.
	Blue Room: Identifying NQC - suitable approaches and instruments <i>Moderated by Philip Loveder, National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER), Australia</i> The identification of future-oriented qualifications and competencies is an ongoing challenge for TVET systems worldwide. It is a multi-stakeholder endeavour of great importance as it ensures the continued relevance of TVET for the world of work and contributes to the attractiveness of TVET for students and learners. Such new qualifications and competencies must serve market needs, respond to socio-political economic demands and lead to promising career paths for the youth. Identification of new qualifications and competencies will be discussed alongside the following points: approaches, institutional arrangements and involvement of stakeholders. What are the characteristics of a flexible TVET system that is able to take up the relevant and future-oriented qualifications and competencies in a fast-evolving technological scenario? Podium speakers: • Ms Sandra Couinaud, Director, AR2i PACA Corse, Inter-industry Competence Operator, France • Mr Hiroyuki Aoki, Headquarters of National Institute of Technology, Japan
	Orange Room: Integrating NQC into curricula and training regulations <i>Moderated by Matteo Sgarzi, Head of Mission, International Relations, Centre for Studies and Research on Qualifications (Céreq), France</i> Besides the identification of new qualifications and competencies, an additional major challenge faced by TVET systems is their efficient integration into occupational profiles, curricula, and training regulations. To ensure TVET's responsiveness to emerging trends and industry demands, TVET systems seek to develop flexible curricula, which offer individual learning pathways, intermediary exits to the labour market and some degree of convergence to general education. The complexity of integrating new qualifications and competencies is mirrored by the variety of stakeholders involved (social partners, private sector, state). Moreover, the organization of curricula development can be carried out at different administrative levels (national, regional or local). The session supports understanding of the existing interfaces with the processes of integration and addresses standard development. Podium speakers: • Mr Antun Perusina, Headmaster, Dubrovnik Tourist and Catering School, Croatia • Ms Jullada Meejul, Deputy Director General, Thailand Professional Qualification Institute (TPQI), Thailand • Mr Loh Gin Hin, Deputy Director, Quality Development & Planning and Domain Chair, Education Research & Development, Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore

	Green Room: Implementing NQC through new teaching and training approaches <i>Moderated by James Keevy, Chief Executive, JET Educational Services, South Africa</i> The implementation of new qualifications and competencies is another major challenge for TVET systems. Teachers and trainers need access to support for their professional development and to acquaint themselves with new teaching and learning methods, including distance learning, use of technology, and new pedagogical approaches. Moreover, classrooms and workshops need to be adequately furnished in order to accommodate the rapid changes taking place in the teaching and learning experience. The session also draws on different institutional settings in Asia and Europe and explores how they condition the evolution of the teaching and learning practice in classrooms and workshops. Podium speakers: • <i>Ms Tiina Kroll, Educational Specialist, Tallinn Industrial Education Centre, Estonia</i> • <i>Mr Wenming Yang, UNEVOC Centre Coordinator, Shenzhen Polytechnic, China</i> • <i>Mr Yongxue Wang, Deputy Dean of ICT School, Shenzhen Polytechnic, China</i>
10:00 – 10:50 (GMT+2) 16:00 – 16:50 (GMT+8) Plenary	Connecting the three I's: main learnings from the breakout sessions <i>Moderated by Mr Mergim Jahiu, International Advisor in VET, International Relations, Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (SFIVET), Switzerland</i> In this plenary, the main takeaways from each breakout session will be presented. It will be an opportunity to understand the interplay between the identification, integration and implementation of new qualifications and competencies, while highlighting the importance of adopting a comprehensive approach to the process. In the session, the audience will have the opportunity to discuss the most burning challenges as well as the enabling elements related to the identification, integration and implementation of new qualifications and competencies. Podium speakers: • <i>Mr Philip Loveder, National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER), Australia</i> • <i>Mr Matteo Sgarzi, Centre for Studies and Research on Qualifications (Céreq), France</i> • <i>Mr James Keevy, JET Educational Services, South Africa</i>
10:50 – 11:10 (GMT+2) 16:50 – 17:10 (GMT+8) Plenary	Closing of the conference <i>Mr Jens Liebe, Team Leader for Innovation and the Future of TVET, UNESCO-UNEVOC</i> <i>Mr Michael Schwarz, Senior Technical Advisor, Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), Germany</i> To wrap up the event, we will look at the way forward and the next steps for the BILT project until December 2021 and highlight the existing opportunities for TVET institutions from across the globe to engage in the project's activities.
The virtual venue remains open one month after the event for accessing recordings and documents.	

Speakers and moderators biographies



Mr Wilson Lima Júnior
UNESCO-UNEVOC BILT Project Manager

Mr. Wilson Lima Júnior serves as a Project Manager at UNESCO-UNEVOC, where he is part of the Innovation and Future of TVET team, managing the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) Project.

He has authored articles on a variety of topics, including TVET, technical cooperation and offsets. He is a TVET graduate from the Brazilian National Service for Industrial Training (SENAI) and has received his Masters of Business Administration from the FEAD – Centro de Gestao Empreendedora, Belo Horizonte. His Diploma in Countertrade and Offsets has been awarded by the École Supérieure des Sciences Économiques et Commerciales - ESSEC, Paris.

Prior to his current assignment, he served as an Industrial Development Specialist in SENAI, where he participated in the implementation of the Innovation Institutes Network and was in charge of managing the provision of TVET services for Brazilian companies operating abroad. He has also held positions in international organizations such as the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund.



Ms Vera Hark

Vera is the Project Manager/Technical advisor for BILT at the German Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB). Prior to joining BIBB, Vera worked on EU-funded projects in international education cooperation with a focus on VET in European border regions. She further contributed to European cooperation as a researcher for the University of Maastricht and as coordinator of a Franco-German exchange platform that facilitates international relations between professionals. Vera holds joint degrees in Franco-German and European Studies from France and Germany.



Mr Teng Leng Lim
Deputy Director, Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore

Mr Lim graduated from the National University of Singapore majoring in Statistics and Japanese Studies. Under the Scholarship Programme of the Civil Service College (CSC), he completed and obtained a Master of Public Administration from Tsinghua University in 2012.

Mr Lim is currently the Deputy Director (International Relations) with Temasek Polytechnic. The department supports the enhancement of staff capability development, student learning experience and graduate employability through inculcating a Global Mindset, providing an enriching Global Experience, forming Global Partnership with industry and establishing a strong Global Branding for TP.

Mr Lim has served with several public agencies of the Singapore Public Service since 1999. He has worked with the National Youth Council, CSC and the Ministry of National Development (MND). Mr Lim has also served with the Confucius Institute (CI) of Nanyang Technological University. With CSC, Mr Lim led the team to develop thought leadership in, as well as to enhance the understanding and to advance the practice of public policy in the area of international relations and Singapore's public sector management and governance. He also led the efforts in developing learning strategies and efforts to drive capability building in the liveability and sustainability of cities space for the international audience. Under his leadership, he developed the ASEAN Smart Cities Network - a key deliverable during Singapore's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2018.



Ms Soo-Hyang Choi
Director, UNESCO-UNEVOC

Ms. Soo-Hyang Choi was appointed as Director of the UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training in January 2020. With a BA in Psychology (Chung-Ang University, Seoul, Korea) and an M.Ed and a Ph.D in Educational Psychology (Univ. of Alberta, Canada), Ms. Choi worked in the Korean Educational Development Institute (Seoul, Korea) and joined UNESCO Headquarters as Chief of the Early Childhood and Family Education Section in 1998.

Subsequently, she held various chief positions at UNESCO Headquarters in the areas of inclusive education, field support and coordination, and technical, vocational and secondary education. In the field, she worked in Pakistan and Zimbabwe, and served as the UNESCO representative to Botswana, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe as well as to the Southern African Development Community. From 2012 to 2019, she was the Director of the Division for Peace and Sustainable Development within the Education Sector of UNESCO. The Division covered, among others, education for sustainable development, global citizenship education, human rights and peace education, prevention of violent extremism, genocide, sexuality and HIV education, school violence and bullying, school health, and the UNESCO Associated Schools Network with 11000 schools around the world.



Mr AW Tuan Kee
Senior Director at Temasek Polytechnic
Singapore

Mr Kee serves as Senior Director at Temasek Polytechnic, an Institute of Higher Learning under the Ministry of Education, Government of Singapore. He currently oversees a cluster comprising of the Industry Partnerships, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Research and Technology and International Relations departments. Previously, he served as Director at the Ministry of National Development Centre for Liveable Cities, a nexus and knowledge centre for liveable and sustainable cities, where he oversaw capability development programmes, initiatives, collaborations and advisory work. Prior to joining the MND-CLC, Mr Kee was the Director of Higher Education Finance at the Ministry of Education, where he oversaw the budget, funding and financing policies for the higher education sector. He has served in a range of portfolios and committees, some of which includes as Deputy Registrar of Marriages; Resource Panel Member for the Government Parliamentary Committees for National Development, Environment and Education; Council and Audit Committee Member for the Institute of Banking and Finance. He was awarded the Youth Service Medal, and Long Service Award from the People's Association and the Ministry of Social and Family Development. Mr Kee graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a Master of Science degree from the School of Architecture and Planning. At Massachusetts, he was a SPURS fellow at the Department of Urban Studies and Planning (MIT). He has also completed the Internet Law Programme at Berkman Centre for Internet and Society at Harvard University.



Ms Catrin Hannken
Deputy Director-General for Vocational Training, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany

Ms Hannken works as Deputy Director-General for Vocational Training in the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

In the past years, she has been responsible for national and international projects and programmes in various education areas. Since last year, she has been the Co-Chair of the Advisory Committee for the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) Project



Mr Brajesh Panth

Chief, Education Sector Group, Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Philippines

Email: bpanth@adb.org

Mr Panth is the Chief of Education Sector Group at the Asian Development Bank (ADB). He provides technical leadership to the education sector group (EdSG) in ADB, leads the preparation of the EdSG work plan, and facilitates collaboration across sector and thematic groups in ADB and with external partners. He has over

25 years of progressive experience as project team leader, head of project administration unit, lead education specialist, and chief of education sector group, in the education sector including sector assessment, project processing, implementation, evaluation, and policy dialogue, covering all levels—primary, secondary, technical and vocational education and training (TVET), and higher education. Besides coordinating and contributing to several publications, Mr Panth has made several presentations in different fora and contributed to policy analysis, policy dialogue, and analytical work pertaining to different aspects of education reform. He holds a doctorate in education administration, planning and social policy from Harvard University, USA.



Ms Jolien van Uden

Human Capital Development Specialist

**Innovative Teaching and Learning at the European Training foundation
Italy**

Ms Uden graduated in Educational Science and Technology and started her career at a VET institute in the Netherlands where she also conducted her PhD research on student engagement. Ms Uden continued her career in Nepal, where she worked on quality improvement of technical schools. Attracted by all dimensions of VET she never left the sector. She currently works as a Human Capital Development Specialist- Innovative Teaching and Learning at the European Training foundation. She focuses on innovation in teaching and learning within the ETF's Creating New Learning initiative and on the modernization of qualifications and qualification systems.



Mr Wallace Lim

Director, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Department

Temasek Polytechnic School of Applied Science, Singapore

Mr Lim is the Director for the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Department, overseeing the Temasek Launchpad and incubation programmes and other I&E related training for all TP students and beyond. He is a Chemical Engineer by training, with his research work specializing in pharmaceuticals and nanomaterials. He has set up Temasek Polytechnic Nanotechnology Research Facilities and obtained more than \$1.7million through at least 4 research funding boards for projects. He has also set up the Temasek Polytechnic Institution Review Board for all Clinical trials and Human Biomedical Research. He has developed a combinatory drug product which includes pre-clinical and clinical trials, advised and supervised over 60 projects and consultancies with pharmaceutical companies on various materials research and Quality Assurance such as pilot plant studies and process validation. Mr Lim is also a LEAN Six Sigma Black Belt holder. During his stint in the Ministry of Education, he developed the nation-wide strategic 2030 Continuing Education and Training (CET) planning and manpower sizing for the institutes of higher learning IHLs. He has also developed the work study programme adopted by IHLs with close involvement with the various industries.



Ms Natalie Ax
Project Officer, UNESCO-UNEVOC

Natalie Ax joined the Innovation and Future of TVET team at UNESCO-UNEVOC in November 2020. She serves as Project Officer in the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) Project, where she leads the 'Bridging line' of BILT. In that context, she is responsible for the organization of BILT Bridging events and the renewal of the BILT online platform with the aim of strengthening the community and peer learning component of the project.

Natalie has more than ten years of experience working in digital transformation projects, both in the private sector and at the UN. Before joining UNESCO-UNEVOC, she worked for six years in IT consulting with a focus on change management and communication in large digital workplace projects. Prior to that, she served as Associate Expert at the Convention on Migratory Species under the UN Environment Programme and at the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs. Some of her responsibilities were to establish collaboration, knowledge and learning platforms, facilitate communities of practice, and conceptualize and carry out training sessions and workshops. Natalie holds a Master's degree in Political Science and English and Spanish.



Mr Rajesh Khambayat
Joint Director, PSS Central Institute of Vocational Education (PSSCIVE)
India

Mr Khambayat currently works as Joint Director of PSS Central Institute of Vocational Education (PSSCIVE). He holds a master's degree in Engineering (Civil Engineering), an MBA in Marketing and a doctoral degree in Technical Education.

Formerly, he worked as a Professor and Head at the Department of Education & Research at the National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training and Research (NITTTR) in Bhopal, India, where he oversaw curriculum and programs design and development. He was involved as International Specialist, Skills Standards and Curriculum [ICT/Business Sector] for the Asian Development Bank (ADB) funded TVET Project in Cambodia and engaged as a Faculty Consultant of Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education (CPSC) appointed by the Governing Board of CPSC, Manila, Philippines. He has actively been involved as an individual consultant with UNESCO, Bangkok and UNESCO-UNEVOC, Bonn, Germany.

Mr Khambayat has vast experience through his various engagements in different facets of Technical Education and training such as human resources development in the public and international sectors, academic consultancies, implementing innovations in Technical Institutes, establishing strong linkages with various client systems including industries and in planning, conducting, administration, monitoring and evaluation of programs and projects. He has also successfully completed many projects, written and contributed to various books and published papers in journals of repute.



Mr Janaka Jayalath
Director General, Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission (TVEC), Sri Lanka
Email: jayalath@tvec.gov.lk

Mr Jayalath started his career as an apprentice at Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation in 1989 and then worked as a Technical Assistant at National Television Corporation. Later, he worked at Sri Lanka Telecom Corporation as the Manager (Systems) and then as a Project Manager for two Asian Development Bank (ADB) projects in TVET sector development in Sri Lanka. After that, he worked as the Director (Information Systems) at Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission (TVEC), the apex body for the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sector in Sri Lanka. He is currently the Director General of the TVEC. He has published several research papers and authored a book chapter called "Using ICTs and Blended Learning in Transforming TVET," which is a joint publication of UNESCO-COL focusing best practices in TVET. Further, he has been instrumental in declaring "World Youth Skills Day" and continuously involving in promoting TVET at various levels. Further, he is working as the UNEVOC cluster coordinator for Southern Asia Sub Cluster coordinating 9 countries in the region.



Ms Jacqueline Jamillah J. Ali
Specialist, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority Philippines
Email: jjali@tesda.gov.ph

Ms Ali is the Supervising Technical Education and Skills Development Specialist of the eTESDA Division under the National Institute for Technical Education and Skills Development (NITESD). She supervises the in-house development of online TVET courseware and the management of the TESDA Online Program (TOP), the national platform for massive open online courses (MOOCs).

With focus on research and development and partnerships and linkages, Ms Ali develops program and policy recommendations for technical vocational education and training (TVET) implementation and fosters collaborations and networking for the sector. She is part of the team that prepared the National Technical Education and Skills Development Plan for 2018 to 2022 and has developed an ICT-based program that bridges TVET workers with employers. She is currently engaged in promoting the protection of intellectual properties produced by the sector and at the same time, she is developing a mechanism to support the creation and use of open educational resources (OERs). Working in the development sector, her primary interest is developing interventions for social equity, diversity, and sustainability through the creation of a community of practice for TVET.



Ms Anastasia Pouliou
Expert in VET, Qualifications, EU tools and learning outcomes
Cedefop, Greece

Ms Pouliou is a Cedefop Expert working in the Department for VET systems and institutions. She is responsible for qualifications, and synergies between EU tools and learning outcomes for education and training. Currently she is responsible for the research conducted under Cedefop's project on Micro-credentials for labour market education and training. She is involved in several other Cedefop activities (including the project on learning outcomes, the Changing nature and role of vocational education and training (VET) in Europe, the Future of VET, the coordination of developments on national qualifications frameworks as well as the regular policy reporting exercise). Her main research interests include curriculum design, trends in qualifications and the development of European principles promoting lifelong and life-wide learning. Before joining Cedefop, she worked as an educational consultant in the Ministry of Education and Religious affairs and as a head of the European Affairs Unit in the Organisation for Vocational Education and Training (Greece). She has performed senior management and national coordination on Europass and Leonardo da Vinci projects and has published articles in academic journals. She is a certified PM² project manager and has a master's degree in education (M.ed) in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL).



Dato' J. Palaniappan
Chairman, ASEAN Future Workforce Council
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mr Palaniappan currently holds the position as the Chairman of the ASEAN Future Workforce Council (AFWC), a body led by business and industry that advances ASEAN wide action on future skills and TVET development. He was also part of the team which produced the "Future ASEAN Agenda for TVET" a compilation of specific recommendations and solutions in strengthening the industry and business cooperation in TVET under the guidance of ASEAN Secretariat and Regional Cooperation Programme for TVET in ASEAN (RECOTVET) and being implemented by GIZ. Concurrently, he is also serving as the Board Member of Human Resources Development Corporation (HRDCorp), an agency under the Ministry of Human Resources Malaysia, which being entrusted to manage employers fund and catalyse the development of current and future workforce in Malaysia. Other significant responsibilities shall be as the Council Member of National Wages Labour Consultative Council (NWCC) the highest tripartite body on Labour Wages & Productivity Policy matters under the Ministry of Human Resources, Malaysia. He also serves as the Council Member in the two largest industry and employers-based federations in Malaysia i.e., as the Vice President of the Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) and the Council Member of Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM). Mr Palaniappan holds a Master's degree in Quality & Productivity Improvement and double degree in Economics & Jurisprudence. He was the recipient of the Global Human Resources Leadership Award from World HRD Congress.



Ms Alexandra Filippova
Programme Assistant, UNESCO-UNEVO

Alexandra joined UNESCO-UNEVO in June 2019 as a Programme Assistant within the Innovation and the Future of TVET team. She supports the development, coordination and implementation of the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) project, which seeks to assist TVET institutions in addressing the transformational challenges in the fields of Greening, Migration, Digitalization, Entrepreneurship, and New Qualifications and Competencies in TVET.

Prior to joining UNESCO-UNEVO, Alexandra worked as a teacher for Education Nationale (France), both in general and vocational pathways. Alexandra holds a Master's degree in International Relations from INALCO Institute, Paris, and a Master's degree in French Literature from Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 3.



Mr Wouter de Regt
Programme Officer, Team Leader for the Network Secretariat, UNESCO-UNEVO

Wouter joined UNESCO-UNEVO in May 2015. As a Programme Officer, he supports the development and implementation of the UNEVO Network strategy, including the technical assistance offered to UNEVO Centres, as well as UNESCO-UNEVO's TVET Leadership Programme. Wouter also acts as Regional Focal Point for Africa.

Wouter holds a Master of Science by Research in Cultural Anthropology from Utrecht University, the Netherlands, and a Bachelor of Arts in European Studies from Maastricht University, the Netherlands.



Mr Tan Hsien Wei
Assistant Director, Temasek Skills Future Academy (TSA)
Singapore

Mr Wei is the Assistant Director for Business Development and Marketing at the Temasek SkillsFuture Academy (TSA), which is the Continuing Education and Training (CET) division of Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore. His education and early career were in the hospitality, food and beverage industry. He then lectured and taught in these fields at Temasek Polytechnic's School of Business. He was among the pioneering team that developed the Temasek Culinary Academy and was concurrently the Course Manager of the diploma programme and the Assistant Director of the training facility. He then moved to the area of Partnership Development at the School of Business, helping to forge even closer collaborations between the polytechnic and industry. In his current role, he hopes to leverage the Polytechnic's wealth of expertise and education know-how to provide adult learners with up-to-date, relevant and meaningful lifelong learning opportunities.



Mr Dieter Euler
Professor, Educational Management and Business Education
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Mr Euler is a Professor for Educational Management and Business Education at the University of St. Gallen / Switzerland since 2000. Before that, he was a Professor for Business Education at the University of Potsdam (1994-1995) and Nuremberg (1995-2000). He studied Management, Business Education and Social Philosophy at Cologne University and the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

Mr Euler holds several mandates in international scientific bodies and is involved in various innovation projects in Quality Development, Higher Education Development and Vocational Education and Training. He was president of the Scientific Board of the Federal Institute of Vocational Education, Germany and member of an advisory body to the German Minister for Education and Research. He has conducted various studies in the context of International Development Cooperation in the area of TVET with regard to countries such as China, Vietnam, Laos, Indonesia, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia, Turkey, and Palestine.



Mr Phil Loveder
Executive Manager, Inform and Engage at the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER)
Australia

Mr Loveder is the Executive Manager, Inform and Engage at the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) in Australia. The NCVER is Australia's premier vocational education and training research and statistics agency.

He has over thirty-five years' experience in educational research, business development and in the commercialisation of knowledge-based services in VET and higher education. He has a particular interest in researching industry models of education and in the funding and financing of training. Mr Loveder is currently the lead expert for UNESCO – UNEVOC's BILT New Qualifications and Competencies (NQC) Macro-level stakeholder project and was recently research leader of a major international study on measuring the enterprise returns to investment in training. He was formerly an adviser to the APEC integrated referencing project for skills recognition and mobility and consultant to the Indonesian Department of State Development (BAPPENAS) Labour Market Forecasting for Education Policy project. In addition, he maintains an interest in technology education and recently authored papers on vocational education and the innovation system and Apprenticeships and Industry 4.0.



Mr Hiroyuki Aoki
Senior Director for International Affairs, National Institute of Technology (KOSEN)
Japan

Mr Aoki studied electronic engineering at Tokyo KOSEN College, and electrical engineering at the University of Yamanashi. He started his career at TOSHIBA Corporation, the major electronics manufacturer in Japan, primarily engaged in developing software for word processor appliances for eleven years. After leaving the company, he obtained a Ph.D. in engineering at Tokyo Institute of Technology and started a career in education. He was appointed as the Associate Professor in 1993, and the Professor in 2001 for the Electronic Course at Tokyo KOSEN College, where he contributed to fostering excellent engineers until March 2020. He was also involved in the social implementation programme that Tokyo KOSEN College has developed as KOSEN 4.0 Initiative Project since 2014. Other positions include as an invited researcher at Colorado State University, and a part-time lecturer at Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Technology, and Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences.

As of April 2021, Mr Aoki was appointed as the Senior Director of International Affairs at the Headquarters of KOSEN, National Institute of Technology, to enhance international exchanges and development of KOSEN education in Asian countries, including Mongolia, Thailand, and Vietnam.



Mr Matteo Sgarzi
Head of Mission, International Relations at Céreq
France

Mr Sgarzi is Head of Mission of International Relations at Céreq in Marseille (France). He studied at the University of Bologna (Italy) and holds a Master's degree in Political Science and International Relations. Since 2001, he has worked in the education and training field managing international projects on several topics like education-to-work transitions, initial VET and Higher Education, lifelong learning policies and quality issues. He is an expert in Higher Education and VET policies and systems, management of multilateral projects, and international relations. He is currently committed to the promotion of scientific activity at the European and international level.



Mr Antun Perušina
Headmaster, Tourism and Catering School Dubrovnik
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Mr Perušina was born in Dubrovnik where he finished his primary and secondary (mathematics-informatics) school. He later enrolled at the Faculty of Chemistry and Technology in Split and successfully graduated on March 21, 1990. From April 2, 1990, he worked at TEP Nikola Mašanović Company in Dubrovnik as a development engineer. He was then employed at the Center for Education and Oriented Education Dubrovnik but had short breaks due to his participation in the Homeland War. After separating with the Center, he was employed at the Tourism and catering school Dubrovnik as a nutrition teacher. Currently, Mr Perušina is the headmaster at the same school.

He has participated in and led the organization of numerous student competitions at the national and international level. Participated as an organizer of the AEHT Congress (European Hotel School Association) and was the Head of the County Expert Council of Directors for two mandates. He has also participated in the CARDS 2001 project - Human Resources, actively engaged in EU projects since 2006, participated in the ERASMUS + K2 projects and the Dubrovnik Regional Competence Center Project.

Apart from that, he is a diving instructor and co-owner of the ABYSS DUBROVNIK diving and water sports center.



Ms Jullada Meejul
Deputy Director General, Thailand Professional Qualification Institute, Thailand
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Ms Meejul has worked at the Thailand Professional Qualification Institute (TPQI) since 2013 and she is now the Deputy Director General. She directs and supervises Competency Assessment, Quality Assurance, and Information Technology. In addition, she has played a significant role in strengthening collaboration with the education sector and promoting competency-based training programs to produce workforce with skills required by industry. She has served in a National Qualifications Framework Committee using her comprehensive expertise and extensive experiences to align professional qualifications and educational qualifications and reference Thai qualifications to the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework. Apart from collaboration with domestic partners, Ms. Meejul has worked with international partners and adapted best practices from abroad to best fit Thai context to continuously improve the professional qualification system. A few examples of her recent work include establishing Industry Competency Boards (Sector Skills Councils) to make the system more responsive to changes and truly industry-led, Recognition of Existing Skills and Knowledge to ease transition of workers from informal to formal economy, as well as adoption of foreign and international standards to enable timely response to disruptive technology and facilitate workforce mobility.



Mr Loh Gin Hin
Deputy Director (International Relations)
Temasek Polytechnic School of Applied Science
Singapore

Mr Hin has about 20 years of tertiary teaching and educational research experience in Temasek Polytechnic. He has a Doctorate in Education from the University of Sheffield (2021). His current educational interests include educational quality, applied learning and hybrid learning. He won several awards for educational innovation in the polytechnic, namely "Academic Apprenticeship in Hospitals" with the Diploma in Biomedical Science (2008); "Teaching, Learning and Assessing at the TP Animal Clinic" with the Diploma in Veterinary Technology (2013); and "Enhancing Lab Demos using 3DVR Technology" with the Diploma in Biotechnology (2019).



Mr James Keevy
Chief Executive, JET Education Services
South Africa

Mr Keevy is an experienced policy researcher that has worked in South Africa, Africa and internationally for the last 25 years. Following 13 years at the South African Qualifications Authority in research policy and international liaison capacities, he joined JET Education Services in 2014 as the chief executive. His specific areas of expertise include qualifications, the recognition of learning, digitalisation, and the professionalisation and migration of teachers. He has worked closely with several international agencies, including the OECD, ILO, World Bank, Commonwealth Secretariat, Commonwealth of Learning, SADC Secretariat, African Union Commission, and others. At present his main expertise lies in the ability to oversee large multinational research and evaluation teams to execute programmes in a robust and efficient manner. He brings a strong international network and perspective that has translated into a wide range of published research, most recently, this includes a mapping study on qualifications for the African Union Commission, as well as a review of the research response in South Africa to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Ms Tiina Kroll
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Ms Kroll is an educational specialist (e-learning, distance learning and adult education management) at the Tallinn Industrial Education Center. She has a degree in Business Management. She is currently doing a master's degree at Tallinn University and writing her master thesis on distance learning and cyber bullying. Since 2007, she has worked in vocational education and made cooperation with different vocational educational institutions. She was the manager of development department and project manager (2007- 2016) at Järva County Training Center, specialist of state institutions digital documentation at the Ministry of Research and Education (2016-2018) and freelancer and specialist of digital documentation, data protection (2018- 2020) at Webware OÜ and Compe OÜ



Mr Yang Wenming
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Mr Wenming holds a Ph.D. in Education. He is a Professor, Coordinator of UNEVOC Centre Shenzhen Polytechnic, Director of Research and Training Centre for UNESCO's Asia-Africa TVET Project in China, an advanced researcher at the University of Michigan, a visiting scholar at the University of Wolverhampton and University of Northumbria, a consultant at the Regional Association of Vocational and Technical Education in Asia (RAVTE), an international education consultant of CDRI - Cambodian national think-tank, an international consultant of the Belt and Road TVET International Communication Institute, Deputy Director of Sino- ASEAN TVET Research Centre, Deputy Director of Comparative Education in the Professional Committee of The Guangdong Society of Education, a Master's student supervisor at South China Normal University, and an expert in the Think Tank of Southern Metropolis Daily. He took charge of 15 international and domestic research projects, published 26 monographs/ textbooks and 30 research papers, winning two second national education awards and one first provincial education award. Now he is engaging in international and comparative TVET research, as well as international TVET academic exchange.



Mr Yongxue Wang
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Mr Wang is a Ph.D. holder and a professor of the Communication Engineering major of Shenzhen Polytechnic. He is a high-level professional who has won the national special award for teaching achievement in Shenzhen. Mr Wang is the Executive Director of the National Communication Technology Teaching Resource database and has hosted projects of key majors in 2016 and first-class brand majors in 2019 in Guangdong Province. He has also undertaken different kinds of scientific and teaching research for more than 20 projects, edited and participated in the compilation of 5 textbooks, published more than 20 papers, guided students to obtain 1 national first prize and 5 provincial or above awards. He has taught core professional courses such as cloud service technology, LTE networking and maintenance, communication marketing, next generation network technology, and soft definition network.



Mr Mergim Jahiu
International Advisor and VET Expert,
Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training, Switzerland

Mr Jahiu is an expert in VET with professional experience focusing on international cooperation in the field of vocational and professional education and training.

His past experiences include positions in the Skills and Employability Branch of the ILO at federal level at the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation and at SFIVET, as well as in Switzerland at cantonal level in Geneva. In his various positions, he has gathered experience in policy and implementation of VET and skills development in Switzerland as well as in partner countries. He has been active as consultant and project manager with specific expertise in key aspects related to the development of the dual model of vocational education and training (incl. policy reforms and implementation, public-private partnerships, curriculum development, teacher and instructor training).

In addition to various continuous training in skills development topics, Mr Jahiu holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from the University of Geneva, Switzerland, as well as a Master's degree in Public International Law from the University of Maastricht, the Netherlands.



Mr Jens Liebe
Programme Officer, UNESCO-UNEVOC

Jens Liebe leads the team on 'Innovation and the Future of TVET', which includes the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) project and i-hubs initiative. He leads the UNEVOC TVET Leadership Programme, a UNESCO flagship programme for mid- to senior-level TVET experts, serves as Regional Focal Point for 'Europe, CIS and North America', and advises the Director on the global UNEVOC Network development strategy. Previous responsibilities at UNESCO-UNEVOC include leading the UNEVOC Network Secretariat and providing the Head of Office with strategic and management support.

Prior to joining UNESCO-UNEVOC, Jens held positions as Assistant Director and Programme Officer of the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC), as a Senior Scientist at the Centre for Development Research (ZEF) of the University of Bonn, where he served as Scientific Coordinator of the interdisciplinary "GLOWA Volta Project", and with the German Technical Cooperation in Zambia.

Jens holds a Ph.D. in Biological and Environmental Engineering from Cornell University, and a Master of Science in Geography from the University of Bonn. He received the Hans Hartwig Ruthenberg award of the fiat panis foundation, which honors excellent theses in the field of food security.



Mr Michael Schwarz
Senior Technical Advisor, Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), Germany

Mr Schwarz' responsibilities at BIBB include the management of VET- projects and advisory services in Asia-Pacific, the Middle East and Europe in co-operation with Ministries, government agencies, partner institutions and social partners to improve work-based learning systems. Furthermore, he is in charge of the cooperation with multilateral agencies like UNESCO-UNEVOC and is the UNEVOC Centre Coordinator for BIBB.

Currently he is responsible for the BILT (Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET) project, which is carried out in cooperation with UNESCO-UNEVOC and funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education. Furthermore, he is heading an advisory project for the Vietnamese government in establishing a monitoring system for TVET (VET Report Vietnam) and in the development of a TVET strategy 2021-2030 and he is in charge of advising the Mongolian government on the new TVET law. In recent years he has been conducting many short-term missions advising on steering mechanisms and TVET laws, on cost-benefit relations in TVET, on monitoring of TVET systems and on the development of occupational standards.

Michael holds a Master's degree in Political Science, International Law and Geography from the University of Bonn, Germany.



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