

Framing a global TVET agenda

BILT Bridging Event at the Africa Skills Week

14-17 October 2024, Accra, Ghana





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UNESCO-UNEVOC
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Framing a global TVET agenda

BILT Bridging Event at the Africa Skills Week

Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) is a flagship project under the UNESCO Strategy for TVET 2022-2029, contributing to the achievement of the SDGs and UNESCO's global priorities Africa, youth and gender equality. BILT fosters interregional exchange on new qualifications and competencies in TVET and supports the sustainable transformation to the benefit of individuals, societies, and economies.

BILT Bridging Events are organized consecutively in each of the three focus regions of the BILT project – Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Europe – and hosted by a UNEVOC Centre that is an active networking node for TVET stakeholders in the region and beyond. BILT Bridging Events provide a platform for international policy learning, knowledge exchange, and innovation transfer.

Context

The 2024 Bridging Event for Africa takes place within the framework of the African Union Year of Education 2024 'Educate and Skill Africa for the 21st Century'. It is integrated in the African Union's Africa Skills Week, hosted by the Republic of Ghana, with a thematic focus on skills development to enhance employability, entrepreneurship, and economic resilience.

The 2024 Bridging Event for Africa leverages the opportunity of the Africa Skills Week to continue developing a global TVET agenda – a process which was initiated by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) in 2023. The event serves as a platform for discussing common denominators for global TVET policy cooperation, and for peer-learning and sharing of innovative approaches. The 2024 Bridging Event for Africa is an opportunity to collect perspectives from African UNEVOC Centres and TVET stakeholders on the proposed global TVET agenda.

Goals

The 2024 BILT Bridging Event at the Africa Skills Week aims to

- **Promote policy learning and multilateral dialogue** towards a global TVET agenda, involving high-level TVET stakeholders from Africa, Asia-Pacific and Europe. The objective is to
 - Inform the development of a global TVET agenda in the light of common priorities of policy partners, and the UNESCO Strategy for TVET 2022-2029;
 - Generate commitment to address global TVET challenges jointly, and to promote TVET as an excellent choice for learners.
- **Support interregional innovation transfer** to
 - Foster interregional innovation transfer on excellence and inclusion in TVET;
 - Enhance innovation capability in TVET systems.
- **Invite the TVET community in Africa and beyond to collaborate with BILT**
 - In the context of the BILT Expert Group on TVET in the building and construction sector;
 - As contributors of transferable Innovation and Learning Practices (ILPs), or partners for future BILT events.

Target group

The BILT Bridging Event targets TVET stakeholders from Africa, Asia-Pacific and Europe (by invitation), representing:

- Multilateral and international organizations;
- Ministries and TVET regulators;
- TVET providers;
- Associations, unions, private sector organizations;
- Selected members of the BILT Expert Group, and subject matter experts on the focus sector 'building and construction'.

The BILT Bridging Event at the Africa Skills Week in Accra, Ghana, brings together around 45 representatives of primarily African, as well as Asian and European UNEVOC Centres and TVET stakeholders.

Selected plenary sessions will be **streamed online**. Online participation is open to a global audience.

Format of the event

Duration: BILT sessions take place from **14-17 October 2024** in the following formats:

- **Keynote and multilateral policy dialogue** focused on enhancing TVET policy frameworks and addressing common challenges in TVET.
- **Sessions** aimed at sharing strategies for boosting innovation and international collaboration in TVET, and for promoting high-quality TVET as a key driver of economic and social development.
- **Networking opportunities** to strengthen international innovation transfer and thematic exchange.
- **UNEVOC Network** meeting for UNEVOC Centres (by invitation).
- **Open working session of the 2024/25 BILT Expert Group** and African partners on green, digital and inclusive TVET in the building and construction sector.
- **On-site study visit** to interact with TVET practitioners in the building and construction sector in Ghana.

For more information about the event, please refer to the [event webpage](#), which is continuously updated.

Agenda

DAY 1 - Monday, 14 October 2024 Youth, Skills, and Jobs for the 21st Century 9:00 – 17:00 All times are indicated in GMT	
8:00 – 9:00	Registration and accreditation of conference participants at The Palms Convention Centre
11:00 – 17:00	Study visits to TVET providers <i>As part of the Africa Skills Week, a study tour has been organized to provide participants with hands-on insights into Ghana's Pre-Tertiary Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) system. The tour will take place on Monday, 14 October 2024 and includes visits to key technical institutions in the Greater Accra and Eastern Regions. The selected institutions represent the forefront of TVET in Ghana, demonstrating innovative approaches to skills training, industry linkages, and technology integration.</i> Organized by the Commission for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (CTVET), Ghana, and sponsored by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany - Group 1, 11:00 – 17:00: Opportunities Industrialisation Technical Institute (Shiashie), Applied Technology Institute (Shiashie), Design Technology Institute (Ogbojo) - Group 2, 11:00 – 17:00: Accra Technical Training Centre (Kokomlemle), New Century Technical Institute (Dansoman) - Group 3, 11:00 – 17:00: Tema Technical Institute (Comm. 7 Tema), Don Bosco Technical Institute (Comm. 22 Tema) - Group 4, 10:00 – 17:00: Koforidua Technical Institute (Koforidua), St. Paul's Technical Institute (Kukurantumi) All participants must register for the study tour. Please ensure you secure your place by registering via the Study Tour Registration Form.
DAY 2 - Tuesday, 15 October 2024 Official Opening of the Africa Skills Week Skills and Jobs for the 21st Century: Quality Skills Development for Sustainable Employability in Africa 9:00 – 17:00 All times are indicated in GMT	
See full programme at https://skillsweek-au.org/program	

DAY 3 - Wednesday, 16 October 2024 Framing a global TVET agenda: BILT Bridging Event at the Africa Skills Week 9:00 – 17:00 All times are indicated in GMT	
8:30 – 9:00	Arrival
9:00 – 9:30 Plenary Hall <i>Streamed online (tbc)</i>	Welcome and opening remarks Moderator: Priscilla Wanjiku Gatonye , Programme Officer, Inclusion and Youth, UNESCO-UNEVOC • Kingsley Nyarko, Deputy Minister of Education, in charge of Technical and Vocational Education and Training, Ghana • Friedrich Huebler, Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC • Birgit Thomann, Head of Department VET International, Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), Germany
9:30 – 10:15 Plenary Hall <i>Streamed online (tbc)</i>	Keynotes TVET for the 21st century: African perspectives and a global TVET agenda <i>The two keynotes will explore how international dialogue and cooperation can shape the process of developing a global TVET agenda, with a particular focus on African perspectives. The objective is to generate commitment to jointly address common TVET challenges.</i> Moderator: Priscilla Wanjiku Gatonye , Programme Officer, Inclusion and Youth, UNESCO-UNEVOC Speakers: • Sophia Ashipala, Head of Education Division, African Union Commission • Peter Thiele, Deputy Director VET, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany
10:15 – 11:00	Group photo, tea and networking break
11:00 – 12:30 Plenary Hall <i>Streamed online (tbc)</i>	Panel discussion Boosting excellence and innovation in TVET: Interregional policy dialogue and global agenda setting <i>Panellists from Africa, Asia-Pacific and Europe representing multilateral and international organizations, and policy makers.</i> Moderator: Rita Bissoonauth , Director of the UNESCO Liaison Office to the AUC and ECA Panellists: • Sophia Ashipala, Head of Education Division, African Union Commission • Peter Thiele, Deputy Director VET, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany • Fred Kyei Asamoah, Commission for Technical Vocational Education and Training (CTVET), Ghana

	• Sofia Sakali, Head of Project Management, Tools and Dissemination Unit, European Training Foundation (ETF) • Ashwani Aggarwal, Global Work Group Leader, International Labour Organization (ILO) • El-Iza Mohamedou, Head of OECD Centre for Skills, OECD • Friedrich Huebler, Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 15:15 Plenary Hall	Scaling up the impact of TVET: Lessons from BILT Bridging activities and other approaches <i>The following sessions aim to deepen the exchange on the themes introduced during the keynotes and the panel discussion. Their objective is to collect additional perspectives from impulse speakers and participants and to allow for thematic discussion with global policy dialogue partners.</i> 1) Innovative and excellent TVET as a driver of the dual transition <i>This session identifies key policy actions, innovative approaches, and partnership opportunities that help enhance TVET's role in leading the just transition towards sustainability and digitalization.</i> Moderators: Kenny Muscat, BILT Project Manager and Natalie Ax, BILT Project Officer, UNESCO-UNEVOC Impulse: Mr Langat Kipkirui, Director General, TVET Authority, Kenya Discussion with invited experts 2) Promoting TVET as an excellent choice for learners <i>This session highlights the importance of TVET for individuals and communities, showcases success stories, and explores strategies for enhancing visibility and attractiveness of TVET.</i> Moderators: Katharina Engel, BILT Project Manager and Cara Schmitt, BILT Project Officer, BIBB, Germany Impulse: Zaahedah Vally, Research Officer, JET Education Services, South Africa Discussion with invited experts
15:15 – 15:45	Tea and networking break
15:45 – 16:00 Plenary Hall	Shaping the future of TVET together Moderator: Priscilla Gatonye, Programme Officer, Inclusion and Youth, UNESCO-UNEVOC Impulse: El Iza Mohamedou, Head of OECD Centre for Skills, OECD

16:00 – 16:45	Scaling up the impact of TVET: Lessons from BILT Bridging activities and other approaches
Plenary Hall	3) TVET as a driver of economic and social development <i>This session identifies successful initiatives and pilot projects that reinforce social and economic progress. It discusses approaches for scalability and transferability.</i> Moderators: Friedrich Huebler, Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC and Priscilla Gatonye, Programme Officer, Inclusion and Youth, UNESCO-UNEVOC Impulse: Gabriel Konayuma, Acting Principal Technical Education and Vocational Entrepreneurship Training Officer Vocational Education and Training, Ministry of Technology and Science (MOTS), Zambia Discussion with invited experts
16:45 – 17:15	Way forward: Framing a global TVET agenda together Moderator: Oliver Diehl, Deputy Head of Division ‘Continuing Vocational Training; European Vocational Education and Training Area’, BMBF, Germany Impulse speakers: • Esther Muoria, Principal Secretary, State Department for Technical, Vocational Education and Training, Kenya • Zaahedah Vally, Research Officer, JET Education Services, South Africa • Gabriel Konayuma, Acting Principal Technical Education and Vocational Entrepreneurship Training Officer Vocational Education and Training, Ministry of Technology and Science (MOTS), Zambia Moderator: Priscilla Gatonye, Programme Officer, Inclusion and Youth, UNESCO-UNEVOC Closing remarks by: • Peter Thiele, Deputy Director VET, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany • Friedrich Huebler, Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC • Fred Asamoah, Director General, Commission for Technical Vocational Education and Training (CTVET), Ghana
18:30	Joint dinner (upon invitation)

DAY 4 - Thursday, 17 October 2024 TVET and Skills Development for a Transformative Africa 9:00 – 17:00 All times are indicated in GMT	
9:00 – 10:30	Fostering interregional innovation transfer: TVET policy and practice in the building and construction sector – Council of Registered Builders Nigeria (CORBON) – ConCOVE Tūhura, New Zealand – Centre d’Etudes et de Recherches sur les Qualifications (Céreq), France

	– UNESCO-UNEVOC and BIBB <i>Working session of selected members of the BILT Expert Group on TVET in building and construction & African partners on green, digital and inclusive TVET in the sector with a focus on transferable innovation, followed by a study visit in the afternoon.</i>
11:00 – 12:30	UNEVOC Network meeting (upon invitation) • Friedrich Huebler, Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC • Priscilla Gatonye, Regional Focal Point for Africa, UNESCO-UNEVOC

Speakers' biography

Wednesday, 16 October 2024 – speakers and moderators



Priscilla Wanjiku Gatonye

Programme Officer, Inclusion and Youth, UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for TVET

Priscilla Gatonye supports the development and implementation of the UNEVOC Network strategy, with a particular focus on the thematic area of inclusion and youth, including the International Centre's ongoing work on entrepreneurial skills development, and gender equality in TVET. She also acts as Regional Focal Point for Africa and in this capacity develops regional strategies to involve members of the UNEVOC Network in Africa in UNESCO-UNEVOC's activities.

Previously, Priscilla Gatonye worked for 10+ years in various capacities within the TVET sector as well as in youth empowerment and employability advisory. Priscilla holds a B.A. in Economics from the University of Nairobi, an M.Sc. in International Supply Chain Management from the University of Exeter and AEVO's international master trainer qualifications in vocational and work pedagogical knowledge, skills and abilities.



Kingsley Nyarko

Deputy Minister of Education in charge of Technical and Vocational Education and Training, Ghana

Kingsley Nyarko is a Deputy Minister for Education responsible for technical and vocational education and training. He is a trained psychologist with specialties in educational, industrial/organizational and social psychology. He obtained his first degree in Bachelor of Education in Psychology at the University of Cape Coast in 2000, and his Master of Arts in Psychology of Excellence and Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Psychology at the University of Munich in 2005 and 2008 respectively.

Kingsley Nyarko was the founding Head of Teacher Education Department between 2015 and 2018. In 2018, he was appointed by the President of Ghana as the Executive Secretary of the National Accreditation Board until he was elected to represent the good people of Kwadaso in the Parliament of Ghana in December 2020. Kingsley Nyarko has served on several committees of parliament. Currently, he serves on the economy and development and the justice committees. He is a member of several parliamentary associations and caucuses such as the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Africa Center for Parliamentary Affairs, Climate Parliament, and Open Government Partnership.



Birgit Thomann

Director, Head of department “VET International”, Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (Bundesinstitut für Berufsbildung/BIBB), Germany

Birgit Thomann, political and social scientist with an additional Master in adult education, heads BIBB’s international department, which carries out tasks in the field of research and development as well as consultancy services. The department strengthens the international commitment of BIBB by developing worldwide partnerships and networks and addresses issues relating to international and European developments in vocational education and training.

After gaining international experience in France and the Middle East, Birgit Thomann worked as a senior advisor for VET, project manager and team leader of a bilateral VET project in the Western Balkans. She is an appointed member in an expert committee on education at the German Commission for UNESCO and lecturer at the University (TU) of Darmstadt.



Sophia Ndemutilla Ashipala

Head of the Education Division, African Union Commission

Sophia Ashipala recently joined the African Union Commission as Head of Education Division. She is a holder of Masters Degree in Public Policy Management and has worked in the Education Sector for 23 years at different positions serving the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture in Namibia. She has previously served as Deputy Director for Program Quality Assurance for five years, Chief Education Planner for five years. She has also worked as School Principal for three years, Head of Department for Mathematics and Science for three years and a teacher for six years.



Friedrich Huebler

Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC

Friedrich Huebler is the Head of the UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for TVET. He has been employed by the United Nations for more than two decades and worked previously at UNICEF Headquarters in New York and at the UNESCO Institute for Statistics in Montreal. He has a PhD in Economics from the New School for Social Research.



Peter Thiele

Deputy Director VET, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany

Peter Thiele represents Germany in several international, European and national VET strategy and programme committees, and heads the BMBF Division for Vocational Continuing Training Policy, covering basic policy issues, skills strategy, innovation and digitalization in VET and several innovation programmes. He was responsible for VET policy in apprenticeship and initial VET in the dual system for many years. He also headed the Division for European Cooperation in Education and Training in the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. Peter Thiele has extensive experience in national and international cooperation in VET. His responsibilities cover policy strategies like the National Skills Strategy and the Alliance for VET in Germany and their respective decision making and advisory bodies. He was and is responsible for the strategy and creation, funding and implementation of nationwide and systematically relevant VET innovation, excellence and digitalization initiatives and programmes and the respective negotiation and cooperation with German stakeholders in VET. Finally, Peter Thiele is responsible for international cooperation in VET. This includes international VET competitions and memberships in respective committees, international partnerships and cooperations with UNESCO and the EU. He has worked in the Directorate for International Affairs of the Federal Ministry of Education and Science and with the International Labour Organization in Geneva and Turin. Peter Thiele is a qualified lawyer specializing in public law.



Rita Bissoonauth

Director of the UNESCO Liaison Office to the AU and UNECA

Rita Bissoonauth is currently the UNESCO Director to the Liaison Office to the African Union & UNECA as well as the Representative to Ethiopia. She previously headed the African Union International Centre for Girls and Women's Education in Africa (AU/CIEFFA) based in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 2014-2022. In 2020, Rita was honoured as one of the 100 Most Influential African women. Before moving to Ouagadougou, she was a Senior Policy Officer in Education for five years at African Union Commission in Addis Ababa. She has also worked as a Senior Lecturer at the Mauritius Institute of Education in Mauritius and the University of Quebec in Montreal, Canada teaching biochemistry, molecular biology and science education. Rita holds a Master's degree in Biochemistry from the University of Lyon, France and a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Quebec in Montreal, Canada.



Fred Kyei Asamoah

Director General, Commission for Technical Vocational Education and Training (CTVET), Ghana

Fred Kyei Asamoah is a pharmaceutical expert with a proven track record in achieving results in drug design, public health, regulatory compliance and enforcement, policy planning and implementation, monitoring and evaluation, corporate governance and strategic management. He has provided training strategies and performance coaching techniques that have featured in many development organizations across continents.

Since becoming the Director General of the Commission for TVET, Fred Kyei Asamoah has exhibited a high level of dedication to TVET development in the country. He was part of the team that developed a five-year strategic plan to restructure TVET delivery in Ghana and to align it with the government's vision of using TVET as a tool for job creation, industrial development, and economic growth.



Sofia Sakali

Head of Project Management, Tools and Dissemination Unit, European Training Foundation (ETF)

Sofia Sakali is at the helm of the Strategy function at the European Training Foundation (ETF), ensuring that the ETF plays a leading role in advancing the quality of vocational education and training systems across Europe, Africa, and neighbouring regions. With an extensive background in EU external relations, development technical assistance, and grant-making, Sofia has a deep understanding of the global education and skills landscape, particularly in the African context where she also leads the ETF's contribution to the African Qualifications Framework, a flagship EU project that supports regional integration through skills recognition and qualifications alignment.

At the heart of Sofia's work in Africa is her commitment to addressing critical issues such as development cooperation, poverty eradication, and civil society empowerment. Her efforts have driven education reform and sustainable development initiatives across African countries, with a particular focus on fostering inclusive education systems.

Sofia's MBA from Henley Business School, together with her strategic leadership at ETF, allows her to blend policy development with practical, on-the-ground solutions. Her experience includes working closely with NGOs, governments, and international organizations to bridge the gap between policy and implementation, ensuring that vocational training systems are inclusive, innovative, and aligned with labour market needs. Her current focus is on building resilient education ecosystems that contribute to sustainable economic development, both within Africa and globally while ensuring that ETF remains a key partner in global efforts to transform lives through education and skills training, positioning education as a fundamental pillar of democratic, inclusive societies.



Ashwani Aggarwal

Global Work Group Leader, International Labour Organization (ILO)

Ashwani Aggarwal is the Global Workgroup Leader for Skills and Lifelong Learning Policy, Systems, and Digitalization at the International Labour Organization (ILO). He holds a PhD in the governance of skill systems and institutions and has provided guidance to over 60 nations worldwide to enhance their skills and youth employment policies and programmes. With a 35-year career spanning various sectors including the private sector, government, and international organizations, he has played a pivotal role in the development of international labour standards for quality apprenticeships, spearheaded high-profile research initiatives, and authored several publications. His contributions have been instrumental in the establishment of pioneering skills policies, systems, and programmes in numerous countries, including apprenticeships, informal and rural economy, micro-credentials, recognition of prior learning, digitalization of TVET, social inclusion, gender equality and centre of excellence. Additionally, he specializes in fostering partnerships between the public and private sectors.



El Iza Mohamedou

Head of OECD Centre for Skills

El Iza Mohamedou is the Head of the OECD Centre for Skills which supports countries to achieve better economic and social outcomes by taking a whole-of-government approach and engaging with stakeholders to develop and implement better skills policies.

She has more than 30 years of international experience working in the field and at headquarters with various international organizations and in the private sector.

El Iza holds a PhD in Economics, MBA in International Business and a BA in Economics.



Kenny Muscat

BILT Project Manager, UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for TVET

Kenny Muscat joined the Innovation and Future of TVET team at UNESCO-UNEVOC in April 2023. He serves as Project Manager in the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) Project, where he oversees the three main lines of the project. He is also the Regional Focal Point for Europe, North America and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

After graduating from university, Kenny started working as a Process Engineer and eventually moved to the Malta College of Arts, Science (MCAST) as a Lecturer. He stayed at MCAST for fourteen years where he held various leadership positions and managed several Erasmus+ projects. He has also contributed significantly to teacher training in TVET.

Kenny holds a Bachelor's degree in Engineering, Master's degrees in Integrated Product Development and in Business Administration, and Postgraduate Certificates in Vocational Education and Training and in Research Methods.



Natalie Ax

BILT Project Officer, UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for TVET

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.



Ms Zaahedah Vally

Research Officer, JET Education Services, South Africa

Zaahedah Vally is an experienced researcher with JET Education Services. Her areas of expertise include skills recognition in the labour market, micro-credentials and digitalization, and professionalization in the TVET sector. Zaahedah has experience in research and project management as well as implementation, and has worked on projects in a number of countries including Ethiopia, Seychelles, Burundi, Uganda, Ghana, and Kenya. Her recent publications include *Towards the professionalization of TVET lecturers* (2022), *Strengthening digital and information technology training in the PSET system* (IYF & JET, 2022), *Skills recognition mechanisms for selected occupational profiles of migrant workers in Ethiopia, Kenya and South Africa* (ILO, 2022), *Towards a performance management framework for TVET lecturers in South Africa* (2024), *Barriers to effective labour mobility in the African leather industry* (ILO, 2024), and her current work includes a project on the Potential of micro-credentials in Southern Africa.



Katharina Engel

Project Manager, BILT Project

Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), Germany

Katharina is the Project Manager for BILT at the German Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB). She joined the BILT team in 2023. Prior to joining BIBB, Katharina worked at the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) on several EU-funded projects with a focus on digital education and global exchange. Most recently, she contributed to the development of a community of practice of digital education stakeholders in Europe and beyond as coordinator of the consortium implementing the European Commission's Digital Education Hub. Katharina holds a Master's degree in English Literatures and Cultures.



Cara Schmitt

BILT Project Officer, Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), Germany

Cara joined the BILT Team in January 2022 as Project Officer at the German Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB). She is responsible for the Bridging Line of the Project and, in this context, for organizing the BILT Bridging events as well as consolidating the network community to enable peer-learning.

Prior to joining the project team, Cara worked at the National Agency 'Education for Europe' at BIBB which implements the Erasmus+ programme in Germany in the field of VET and adult education. She has several years of experience in monitoring and evaluating Erasmus+ projects. In this regard, she contributed to providing transnational mobility and learning opportunities for VET students as well as supporting internationalization and institutional development of VET providers. Cara holds joint degrees in Franco-German Studies: Crossborder Communication and Cooperation from France, Luxembourg and Germany.



Gabriel Konayuma

Acting Principal Technical Education and Vocational Entrepreneurship Training Officer Vocational Education and Training, Ministry of Technology and Science (MOTS), Zambia

Gabriel Konayuma is Principal TEVET Officer, Ministry of Technology & Science in Zambia. He is also e/Merge Africa Network Country Representative and has served as a Board member of the Network for OER and Multi-Modal Self-Directed Learning in Southern Africa. He has a demonstrated history of working in the technical education and vocational training sector. He is skilled in Strategic Planning, Public Speaking, Training, Research, and Teaching. He has facilitated online courses for TVET staff in Zambia to build their capacities in technology-enabled learning. He has strong community and social services professional with a Master of Education – MEd focused in ICTs in Education from University of Cape Town. His research focused on Challenges and Enablers of eLearning Policy Implementation in Vocational Colleges in Zambia.



Oliver Diehl

Deputy Head of Division 'Innovation in Vocational Training', Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany

Oliver Diehl is Deputy Head of Division at the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) in Bonn, Germany. Before taking up his current position, Oliver Diehl was the Assistant Head of Basic Policy Issues in Vocational Education and Training at the BMBF. He joined the Ministry in 2002 and previously held positions in the areas of cooperation with Latin America, Mediterranean countries and Africa, and was involved in projects related to sustainability, culture, environment, and basic energy research. He was Head of the BMBF's FONA (Research for Sustainable development) Brussels Liaison Office from 2011 to 2013. Oliver Diehl holds a PhD in Social Psychology from Mainz University, Germany.

Thursday, 17 October 2024 – speakers and moderators



Eve Price

Experienced adult education professional

Eve Price is an experienced adult education professional with a career spanning international and New Zealand contexts. Her expertise covers ESOL, settlement services, and vocational education and training. At ConCOVE, Eve focuses on developing people, growing participation, and reducing barriers in education. With experience in delivery and qualification development, she brings a comprehensive understanding of industry and individual needs. Eve favours a systems change approach to complex issues and maintains an interest in emerging trends.



Adetunji Adeniran

Registrar and Secretary to Council of Registered Builders of Nigeria (CORBON)

In addition to his administrative responsibilities as Registrar, Adetunji Adeniran is the Secretary of the Sector Skills Council for Building in Nigeria (SSCBiN) and a Quality Assurance Assessor (QAA). SSCBiN is a private sector-led organization responsible for enhancing skills and workforce as well as development of National Occupational Standards for skills in the building sector.

Adetunji Adeniran is an alumnus of the Advanced Management Programme of Lagos Business School, and the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies; Nigeria's foremost policy think-tank. With a Master's Degree in Construction Management and another in Business Administration (specializing in Operations and Production Management) he has over 30 years of professional experience. His expertise spans construction management, investment property management, and property development businesses in various leading companies.



Matteo Sgarzi

Head of Mission, International Relations, Centre for Studies and Research on Qualifications (Céreq), France

Matteo Sgarzi holds a Master's degree in Political Science and International Relations from the University of Bologna (Italy). Since 2001 he has been working in the field of education and training, managing international projects on various topics such as transition from education to work, initial and continuing vocational training, lifelong learning policies, quality issues. He is an expert in higher education and vocational training policies and systems, multilateral project management and international relations. As a Céreq associate, he is currently involved in promoting the centre's scientific activities at European and international level.

In recent years, he has been involved in producing studies and research for Cedefop (promoting lifelong learning for low-skilled adults through up-skilling pathways), Agence France Development (development and recognition of informal work-based learning), UNESCO (digital and ecological impact on VET qualification standards and skills). He also participated in several EU-funded projects on similar and related topics.



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