

Policies for the digital transformation and integration of AI in TVET

BILT Bridging Event at the Global Digital TVET Transformation Summit 2025

Organized by UNESCO-UNEVOC and Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia

With the support of the German Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training
and sponsored by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research

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Impiana KLCC Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

RATIONALE

In the context of transformations that challenge TVET systems globally, **‘Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET’ (BILT)** is a UNESCO-UNEVOC flagship project that fosters policy and peer learning among TVET stakeholders. It facilitates targeted exchange and knowledge transfer centered around innovation and inclusive excellence in TVET. The project targets UNEVOC Centres and TVET institutions in UNESCO Member States and collaborates with multilateral and regional organizations such as the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the European Training Foundation (ETF).

This Bridging Event, integrated into the **Global Digital TVET Transformation Summit 2025 (DOTS25)** and leading to **Malaysia’s National TVET Day celebrations**, explores the development and implementation of effective policy reforms and strategies for the digital transformation and the integration of AI in TVET. It contributes to the development of a **global TVET agenda**, initiated by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), by offering a platform for sharing knowledge on TVET policy and practice and by promoting innovation and mutual learning.

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It also contributes to implementing **UNESCO's Strategy for TVET 2022 – 2029**, in particular its cross-cutting themes 'national, regional and global policy learning', and 'networks and partnerships', and UNESCO-UNEVOC's Medium Term Strategy IV.

As part of the **ASEAN Year of Skills 2025**, and in alignment with the ASEAN Declaration on Digital Transformation of Education Systems in Southeast Asia and Thailand's ASEAN TVET Council (ATC) Chairmanship priority on 'Transforming Education in the Digital Era', this event presents a unique opportunity to highlight enabling policies and innovative strategies that foster digital transformation and AI-readiness across regions.

BACKGROUND

The rapid advancement of digital technologies and the increasing use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education and at the workplace is transforming economies and societies worldwide, bringing both unprecedented opportunities and significant challenges for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). To remain relevant and attractive, TVET systems must undergo a fundamental transformation, embedding digital technologies and skills at their core and enabling teachers and learners to make responsible, efficient use of AI. This shift is essential to enhance access to quality education, promote educational equity, and drive workforce readiness in a rapidly evolving digital economy.

The UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), provides a global framework for addressing pressing challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change, and environmental degradation. TVET plays a pivotal role in achieving SDG 4 on quality education and SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth.

The dual digital and green transition of TVET is crucial for equipping learners with the knowledge, skills and competencies necessary to thrive in the 21st-century workforce and to contribute to sustainable development. By integrating digital technologies into TVET programmes, learners gain access to innovative learning methods, develop in-demand digital skills, and prepare for a future of work characterized by automation and technological advancements. This fosters economic growth, reduces inequalities, and promotes sustainable development.

At the same time there are numerous challenges to the digital transformation and the integration of AI in TVET. They include weak infrastructure, lack of sustainable funding and data privacy and security concerns. Significant inequalities in teacher training, technical equipment and curriculum relevance deepen the digital divide.

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OBJECTIVES

Taking perspectives from Asia and the Pacific as a starting point for interregional dialogue, the event **maps regional and national policy approaches** and **showcases successful implementation**. It aims to:

- Review the current state of policies for the digital transformation and integration of AI
 - o What are 'common denominators and enablers'?
 - o How do they promote inclusive excellence and innovation?
- Compare skills strategies and strategies to secure skilled labour across regions
- Connect leading TVET institutions globally to foster thematic collaboration
- Illustrate successful implementation

TARGET GROUPS

- Experts from the UNEVOC Network and other TVET stakeholders from
 - o Ministries, national authorities
 - o Training providers
 - o Universities / research institutes
 - o Private sector / industry, social partners
- TVET experts from global and regional multilateral organizations

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Enhanced recognition of the role of TVET in preparing the workforce for the digital transformation and adoption of AI.
- Increased global dialogue and exchange on policy reform and development, for more cohesive and effective policies in TVET.
- Strengthened collaboration and partnerships among TVET stakeholders, including the private sector, to improve access to quality education and work-based learning opportunities and to secure a skilled workforce.

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FORMAT

- **Joint opening ceremony with DOTS25; keynotes and multilateral policy dialogue** focused on regional policies and strategies for advancing the digital transformation and integration of AI in TVET.
- **Breakout Sessions** showcasing effective strategies for advancing digital transformation and AI readiness in TVET. Sessions will explore the integration of digital technologies and skills to enhance access to quality education and workforce preparedness in the digital economy. Participants will exchange best practices, national approaches to policy development, implementation strategies, and collaboration tools that promote a future-ready TVET system.
- **Networking opportunities** for international knowledge exchange and collaboration, fostering the transfer of expertise and innovative solutions.
- UNEVOC Network meeting for UNEVOC Centres (by invitation).
- **Dissemination session** of the 2024/25 BILT Expert Group on the building and construction sector.
- **Poster exhibition and demonstrations** highlighting novel methodologies, case studies, and innovative practices in digital transformation and AI integration within TVET systems.
- **On-site study visits** to interact with local TVET practitioners.

A discussion paper (UNESCO-UNEVOC publication), outlining recommendations for TVET reform for the digital transformation and the integration of AI will be published after the Bridging Event.

For further information please check the event webpage [BILT Bridging Event DOTS 2025](#) which is continuously updated.

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