

Global TVET Forum 2025

28-30 October 2025

Berlin, Germany

Organized by UNESCO-UNEVOC, in collaboration with the German Federal Ministry for Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, and with the support of ETF, ILO, OECD and BIBB

Background

The world is undergoing profound transformations that affect societies, economies and the lives of individuals. Technological innovation, particularly the rise of artificial intelligence (AI), is reshaping job profiles and skills requirements. Climate change, migration and demographic shifts are placing new demands on labour markets. Challenges to multilateralism are threatening international cooperation and global citizenship. **These transformations call for agile, inclusive and high-quality TVET systems.**

As the lead UN agency in education, science, culture, and communication and information, **UNESCO shapes and advances the global TVET agenda** to inspire a renewed ambition for TVET and build a common vision for transforming education systems, labour markets, economies and societies. 2025 marks the halfway point for the UNESCO Strategy for TVET 2022-2029. It is the right moment to join forces and strengthen multilateral efforts to place TVET at the top of the global development agenda.

In this context, the German Government, through the German Federal Ministry for Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMBFSFJ) and the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), took the initiative to fund UNESCO-UNEVOC, as well as the European Training Foundation (ETF), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), to support the global TVET agenda and to implement activities that drive innovation transfer, data and reporting, the promotion of excellence in TVET and multilateral alignment.

The initiative 'Towards a global TVET agenda' is an expression of commitment to collaboration among multilateral organizations, promoting global agenda setting and coordinated efforts to strengthen TVET. Regional engagements during the African, ASEAN and European Years of Skills confirmed the need to increase innovation transfer and knowledge exchange, to enhance TVET data for evidence-based development of TVET systems and to strengthen TVET networks and strategic collaboration in policy and practice. The initiative reinforces the work of the Inter-Agency Group on

TVET and fosters cooperation with regional organizations responsible for TVET, national governments, social partners and the constituencies of the international organizations involved.

Rationale

Considering the persistent challenges affecting the education sector in areas such as relevance, governance, financing, equity, quality and attractiveness, TVET needs to be repositioned for what it should be: a catalyst towards sustainable economies and their competitiveness, a vector of social justice and a pathway of choice for young people to thrive.

At the Transforming Education Summit, convened by the UN Secretary-General in September 2022, governments committed to building more inclusive, resilient and relevant lifelong learning systems that address evolving demands and the transition towards green and digital economies.

The Global TVET Forum 2025 builds on this commitment and proposes collaboration towards a global TVET agenda. The Forum also contributes to UNESCO's strategy for TVET 2022-2029, in particular its cross-cutting themes of 'national, regional and global policy learning', and 'networks and partnerships'. Guided by the UNESCO strategy and aligned with its own medium-term strategy 2024-2026, UNESCO-UNEVOC implements activities addressing these challenges through a multitude of themes and various stakeholder groups.

Objectives

The Global TVET Forum provides a platform for collaboration and coordinated action between multilateral, regional and national TVET organizations. UNESCO-UNEVOC and other partners aim to:

- promote **joint agenda setting** for innovation and excellence in TVET,
- foster **global exchange and mutual learning** to drive policy reform processes
- **connect leading TVET institutions**, and
- address common challenges and advance innovation.

A key objective of the Global TVET Forum is to launch the initiative '**Towards a global TVET agenda**', sponsored by the BMBFSFJ, with strategic input and expertise from UNESCO-UNEVOC, ETF, ILO, OECD, and BIBB. The event serves to generate commitment from partners and participating organizations to support future activities of the initiative.

UNESCO-UNEVOC will present the 'Innovation and Excellence in TVET (IET)' project at the Forum, highlighting new editions of the UNEVOC Network Coaction Initiative and the UNESCO-UNEVOC TVET Leadership Programme, as well as the Global Awards for Innovation in TVET, UNEVOC Connect services and the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) project.

Target groups

Experts from the UNEVOC Network and TVET stakeholders from global and regional multilateral organizations:

- Ministries and national authorities
- Training institutions
- Universities and research institutes
- Private sector and industry
- Social partners

Expected outcomes

- Support for the initiative 'Towards a global TVET agenda'.
- An extended network of institutions interested in participating in activities of the initiative.
- Wider knowledge of innovative projects and approaches, with the perspective of transfer to participants' own contexts.
- Increased awareness and consideration of youth perspectives on TVET quality and attractiveness.
- Knowledge of successful (policy) reform processes.
- Strengthened and new connections between participating institutions.

Format

Participants will have the opportunity to learn, exchange and network, in person and online, inspired by diverse presentations and inputs:

- Keynote addresses and impulse speeches
- Panel discussions
- Information sessions about projects and activities under the 'Towards a global TVET agenda' initiative
- Policy and peer learning sessions in small groups
- Exhibition of partner projects and of UNESCO-UNEVOC Skills in Action photo competition winners
- Study visits to German TVET institutions

Please refer to the event webpage [Global TVET Forum 2025](#) and [draft agenda](#) for further details.