Technical and Vocational Education and Training in the Philippines

NATIONAL EDUCATION SYSTEM

- The education system in the Philippines is managed by three government agencies:
  - Department of Education (DepEd) - K to 12 Program which covers Kindergarten and 12 years of basic education (six years of elementary education, four years of Junior High School, and two years of Senior High School);
  - Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda) - post-secondary technical and vocational education and training; and
  - Commission on Higher Education (CHED) - higher education.

- Students in senior high school level can choose among three tracks as specialization: Academic; Technical-Vocational-Livelihood; and Sports and Arts.

- The Academic track includes three strands: Business, Accountancy, Management (BAM); Humanities, Education, Social Sciences (HESS); and Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM).

ISSUES IN TVET

Quality issues
- Internationalisation of skills
- Skills supply dominance retention
- Job and skill mismatch
- Philippine Development Plan’s 10 competitive industries medium-term skill requirements
- Skilled workers migration

Equity and access issues
- Skills training access for workers with special concerns
- Skills training in reintegration
- Upskilling in the agricultural sectors
- Skills demand overseas vs. local demand

Innovation issues
- Greening skills
- Technology-biased skills
- HOT (High Order Thinking) skills

NTESDP Strategy Map: Developing the 21st Century Skilled Filipino Workforce

- Faced with global and domestic challenges and a changing economic environment, and in response to the human resource development requirements of the Philippine Development Plan and Labor and Employment Plan, the National Technical Education and Skills Development Plan (NTESDP) for 2011-2016 envisions a 21st Century Skilled Filipino Workforce.

- The 21st century Filipino skilled workforce as defined in the plan is characterized by the following:
  - technically competent
  - innovative and creative
  - knowledge-based, with higher order thinking skills
  - with foundational life skills
  - in pursuit of lifelong learning opportunities
  - possessing desirable work attitudes and behavior

NTESDP Strategy Map 2011-2016

- Embedded in the education system is the Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF) which has 8 levels. Levels 1-5 (National Certificate I-IV and Diploma) are TVET qualifications and Levels 6-8 (Baccalaureate, Post Baccalaureate, and Doctoral and Post Doctoral Degrees) are higher education qualifications.

- TESDA awards National Certificate I-IV and Diploma to those who pass the competency assessment for all the competencies required in a qualification level or Certificate of Competency if only a competency or a cluster of competencies in a qualification is achieved.

- National Certificate I and II are offered in the Technical-Vocational-Livelihood track of Basic Education Programme of DepEd.

- TVET qualifications are also offered as an integral or articulated component of the Ladderized Bachelor’s Degree programmes in CHED’s eight priority disciplines: engineering, agriculture, education, health, maritime, criminology, hotel and restaurant management/tourism and ICT.

Sources: