

The 6th Expert Meeting of the Employment and Skills Strategies in Southeast Asia (ESSA Initiative)

“Building Effective Skills Strategies to Foster Quality Job Creation and Growth”

17th - 18th September, 2014
At Century Park Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

AGENDA

Wednesday, 17th September 2014

08:30-09:00	Registration at Garden III-IV, 5 th Floor	
09:00-09:30	Opening Session	Remarks by Sylvain Giguere, Head of OECD LEED Programme Remarks by Nakorn Silpa-Archa, Director General of Department of Skill Development
09:30-09:40	Group Photo & Press Conference	
09:40-10:00	Coffee/Tea break	
10:00-12:00	Panel Discussion	<p><i>Session I: Local Approaches to Skills Mismatches</i></p> <p><i>Objective: Asian economies are faced with a widening gap between skills supply and demand, creating potential mismatches in urban and rural areas. This session will explore policy approaches and strategies to identify mismatches and increase the link between training and business needs.</i></p> <p>Short presentations by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruth R. Rodriguez, Chief Labor and Employment Officer, Labor Market Information, Research, and Career Advocacy Division, Philippines • Mohd Yusoff Abu Bakar, Director, Department of Skills Development, Ministry of Human Resources, Malaysia • Myung-Sook Jun, Professor at Chonnam National University, Korea • Piengpahp Withyachumnarnkul, Senior Expert on Foreign Workers System Management, Department of Employment, Ministry of Labour, Thailand <p><i>Questions for discussion:</i></p> <p>1) <i>How can employment and training agencies work with employers to ensure that the supply of skills aligns well to local demand? What principles should guide collaboration in this area?</i></p> <p>2) <i>What are the local level implementation factors that need to be considered?</i></p>
12:00-13:00	Lunch break Int'l Buffet at Jess Restaurant, Ground Floor	

13:00-15:00	Panel Discussion	<p><i>Session II: Tackling youth unemployment at the local level</i></p> <p><i>Objective: The global economic crisis had a disproportionate impact on youth. Long periods of unemployment for youth have been shown to have potential “scarring” effects. This session will explore what labour market and education policies are successful to provide good employment opportunities for youth and develop their labour force attachment.</i></p> <p>Introduction by Mathieu Cognac, Coordinator for youth employment, International Labour Organisation (ILO)</p> <p>Short presentations by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sourisack Souphanthong, Official, Department of Skills Development and Employment, Ministry of Social Welfare, Laos • Somean Kuoch, Deputy Head of National Employment Agency, Cambodia • Qairawani Haji Yacob, Acting Head of Local Employment and Workforce Development Agency (LEWDA), Ministry of Home Affairs, Brunei Darussalam • Penny Ireland, Department of Employment, Australia • Mr. Risman Sutrisno Manik, Head of Program and Evaluation, Directorate General of Training and Productivity, Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration of the Republic of Indonesia <p><i>Questions for group discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What can be done at the local level to ensure a greater connection between school and the working world? What role should apprenticeship systems play in Southeast Asia countries?</i> <p>1) <i>What examples can you provide of effective collaboration between employment and training systems in tackling youth unemployment?</i></p>
15:00-15:30	Coffee/Tea break	
15:30-17:30	Panel Discussion	<p><i>Session III: Skills development for SMEs and Informality</i></p> <p><i>Objective: SMEs play a vital role in job creation and stimulating gainful employment, contributing to the equitable distribution of income and poverty alleviation. However, they face particular barriers accessing and providing workplace training and skills upgrading opportunities. Furthermore, a large number of SMEs are operating within the informal economy. This session will explore effective skills upgrading strategies that can help SMEs to improve their productivity and create more jobs.</i></p> <p>Introduction by Anil Verma, Director, Centre of Industrial Relations & Human Resource, University of Toronto, Canada</p> <p>Short presentations by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanh Mai Nguyen, Official, Directorate of Vocational Training, Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs, Vietnam • Albert Basa, Supervising TVET Specialist, Technical Education and Skill Development Authority, Philippines • Wannee Gomongawin, Director of Skill Standard Setting Division, Department of Skill Development, Thailand

		<p><i>Questions for group discussion:</i></p> <p>1) <i>What role does public policy have in supporting the development of skills upgrading opportunities within SMEs and tackling informality?</i></p> <p>2) <i>What impact does coordination between employment, training and economic development organisations have on programmes and policies targeting SMEs?</i></p>
18:30- 21:00	Welcome Reception hosted by Department of Skill Development at Crystal, 3 rd Floor	
Thursday, 18th September 2014		
09:00-10:00	Roundtable	<p>Session IV: Identification of key labour market and skills policy challenges</p> <p><i>Objective: This session will be a roundtable where each country participant will be asked to highlight their emerging country-specific labour market and skills challenges.</i></p>
10:00-11:00	Panel Discussion	<p>Session V: Effective local strategies to boost quality job creation, employment and participation</p> <p><i>Objective: This session will examine the role of local employment and training agencies in contributing to quality job and productivity. International best practice models will be identified and discussed.</i></p> <p>Introduction by Jonathan Barr, Policy Analyst, OECD</p> <p>Presentations by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sally Sinclair, CEO, National Employment Services Association, Australia • Anil Verma, Director, Centre of Industrial Relations & Human Resource, University of Toronto, Canada
11:00-11:15	Coffee/Tea break	
11:15-12:15	Roundtable	<p>Session VI: Key Lessons and Future Directions for the Employment and Skills Strategies in Southeast Asia (ESSSA) initiative</p> <p>Session Moderator: Sandod Themsawanglert, Expert on Skill Development, Department of Skill Development Ministry of Labour, Thailand</p> <p><i>Objective: This session will enable participants to discuss :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>emerging lessons from the 6th expert meeting of the Employment and Skills Strategies in Southeast Asia initiative</i> • <i>future directions for engagement with the OECD</i>
12:15-12:30	Closing Session	Closing Remarks by Nakorn Silpa-Archa, Director-General of Department of Skill Development, Ministry of Labour, Thailand
12:30-13:30	Lunch break Int'l Buffet at Jess Restaurant, Ground Floor	
13:30-17:30	Study trip (Optional) Samutprakarn Regional Institute for Skill Development	
17:30	End of Expert Meeting	