

September 2014



Implemented by:



Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

VOCATIONAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

FACTS

Project name:

Vocational Skills Development

Duration:

2013-2016

Budget:

CHF 4,500,000

Target group:

Rural and urban women and men, especially citizens between 25 and 40 years or older

Target area:

- Bayankhongor
- Gobi-Altai
- Zavkhan
- Khovd
- Uvs
- Bayan-Ulgii
- Darkhan-Uul
- Choir
- Ulaanbaatar

Photos:

Vocational training students during the "MongolianSkills" competition in the fields of construction, electrics and welding

Photo copyright: GIZ

The Vocational Skills Development (VSD) project will pilot short-term skills development training and vocational career guidance aimed at women and men who are not eligible to enrol in the formal Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector. Interventions in six western aimags, Ulaanbaatar, Darkhan and Choir will enhance the employability of about 5000 rural and urban men and women who lack the marketable skills required to productively engage in the economy.



BACKGROUND

The Mongolian economy has experienced double-digit growth in recent years on the back of a rapidly growing mining sector, which has paved the way for other sectors to flourish. However, the economic growth has thus far failed to generate productive employment on a sufficient scale to improve living standards and reduce poverty. Unofficial unemployment remains high at about 20 percent. In addition, many people sustain their livelihoods in the informal sector. To date, Mongolian education and training institutions are largely failing to train a qualified workforce required by the labour market. However, the importance that the Government of Mongolia (GoM) and other donors have placed on a better and more practical VET sector to improve the employability of young Mongolians

is helping the recovery of the formal VET sector. Challenges still remain in improving the employability of men and women who are not able or not eligible to participate in formal TVET and in the lack of an informed vocational counselling and career guidance system to provide young students and others with relevant information and advice based on their individual capabilities and the needs of the labour market. The VSD Project complements SDC's Vocational Education and Training (VET) Project, and will contribute to reducing the skills mismatch in the labour market and improve the employability of men and women through short-term skills development training (STST) and vocational counselling and career guidance (VCCG) for vocational job-seekers.

SDC's Strategic Goal:

To contribute to equitable and sustainable social and economic development in Mongolia.

PROJECT GOAL

Increased employability of rural women and men.

OBJECTIVES

- Rural men and women make use of short-term skills training courses which enhance their marketable skills;
- Rural men and women make use of improved career guidance services based on labour market needs and individual capabilities.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES:

The SDC funded VSD Project supports Mongolia's recently introduced career guidance system. The intervention is integrated into the Cooperative Vocational Training (CVT) Project, funded by the German Government and implemented by GIZ, one of the leading supporters of Mongolia's VET sector.

The Project will offer STST in the following two trades/skills clusters:

• Construction:

- (1) Bricklayers and related workers
- (2) Concrete placers, concrete finishers and related workers
- (3) Plumbers and pipe fitters

• Mechanics:

- (4) Mechanical engineering technicians
- (5) Motor vehicle mechanics and repairers
- (6) Welders and flame cutters
- (7) Mechanical machinery assemblers



RESULTS TO DATE OF THE CVT PROJECT:

Introduction of the "Competency Based Training and Assessment":

With the nationwide introduction of the "Competency Based Training and Assessment" (CBT) approach, the project's first measures focused on the development of new curricula in the field of initial vocational education and training at the technician level with a high percentage of practical content. Five curricula for

long and short-term courses in industrial electronics, industrial mechanics, heating/air-conditioning/sanitation, construction carpentry and structural engineering were developed in cooperation with companies, associations and vocational schools. Corresponding licensed modular teaching materials by the German publishing house "Christiani" were translated into Mongolian.

Capacity building for Mongolian vocational instructors

To date, more 100 Mongolian teachers and in-company instructors have received further education and practical training in Europe and Mongolia through qualification measures in the fields of electricians, electric welding, electro pneumatics, CNC simulation, mechanics, concrete construction, construction carpentry, and heating/air-conditioning/sanitation. The training also paid attention to methodical and didactic learning objectives and cooperated with training and education institutions, such as the Education and Technology Centre (BTZ) of the Chamber of Crafts at Leipzig and the Mongolian Builders' Association.

Supporting Mongolian students to compete in the WorldSkills Competition:

The CVT Project, in cooperation with the Korean development agency (KOICA), is supporting the Mongolian Ministry of Labour in its objective of successful participation in the international "WorldSkills" competition in 2015 in Brazil. Already five students from CVT-supported pilot schools have earned first places in the preliminary rounds for participation in the upcoming world championship. By supporting skills contests, the image of vocational education and training in Mongolia is improved.

Promoting partnership in VET sector

Industry, state and civil society actors at the national level, with assistance from the CVT Project, founded the non-governmental organisation "Vocational Education and Training Partnership" (VETP). It promotes the harmonisation of partners' activities and knowledge management in the VET sector. The CVT Project provides a development advisor for organisational development to secure long-term success.

Key partners:

- German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
- Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)
- Ministry of Labour, Mongolia (MoL)
- Ministry of Education and Science, Mongolia
- Labour Exchange Central Office (LECO)
- Center for Employment Services
- Selected Vocational Training Centers
- VET institutions
- Employment Departments
- Vocational education and training provider in Australia (TAFE)
- VET Partnership NGO and other cooperating local associations such as Mongolian Builders Association

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