



Laying the foundations for green skills partnerships in Nepal



A British Council funded partnership between UK and Nepal, building capacity & inspiring practical and effective employer engagement in TVET

It is increasingly challenging for skills systems and their policymakers to create vocational education that is responsive enough to adapt to changes in labour market demand, whilst maintaining quality and oversight. Profound and sudden changes, such as the Covid-19 pandemic, climate change challenges and technological advances, require bold approaches to skills development that can meet current and future employment needs. Whilst skills development is a national priority in Nepal, the TVET sector is complex and faces operational and political challenges of devolution to provincial and local government alongside the roll-out of new educational policy .



Sometimes, bold training solutions evolve from the ground up to meet a specific need. Dynamic local partnerships of private and public sector organisations come together to solve a problem with agile, targeted skills development. Once successfully demonstrated, these then act as blueprints and can be replicated across regions, countries and internationally - with the potential to influence entire skills sectors.

Such an enterprising focus is the basis for this International Skills Partnership project. Outsourcery Services have brought together expert partners from the UK to help transform Nepalese vocational training and green skills opportunities, delivering a one year project focusing on private sector capacity building activities for TVET engagement through online workshops and an in-person Summit event.



How would AP's be implemented in Nepal? Collectively decide the next steps

- Can we work together? Yes
- Can we agree who will co-ordinate and facilitate this? British Council?
- Can we agree to build on progress made, enhancing and progressing existing policies and platforms like ELMS? Yes

In three months, we will:

- Focus on Green Skills Advisory Panel (GSAP) in TVET as a pilot
- Operate for minimum of 12 months
- Identify key advisory panel members - positive, enthusiastic individuals
- Disburse set up meeting - 1 per quarter
- Meet to draft Terms of Reference with UK support
- Establish Pilot Advisory Panel

The project has generated enthusiastic participation from five leading private sector federations, TVET provider networks, as well as government Ministry of Education, Science & Technology and CTEVT, the apex body for TVET in Nepal, building a willingness and appetite for change and effective partnership working.

Rather than simply showcasing the best practices happening in Exeter College's Green Construction Advisory Panel (GCAP), the UK team instead offered a dynamic and interactive series of workshops, culminating in a Summit event in Kathmandu, "Supporting Private/Public sector engagement in TVET", that sought to inspire and inform champions from both the private and public sectors.

GCAP's Mike Blakeley explained how the accredited training model is led by the private sector, improving and developing sustainable training opportunities and offering an agile approach to industry needs and new sector opportunities. It has quickly expanded beyond its local origins to demonstrate how to deliver net zero in construction throughout England.

Through this ISP project, the proactive model will now be replicated in Nepal, going beyond its original construction focus to create green skills solutions in multiple sectors.

At the Summit, the practical GCAP model was contextualised within the UK's work based learning framework through the expert input of Devon & Cornwall Training Provider Network's CEO, Sharron Robbie MBE,

providing vital insight into the critical process of building value and parity of esteem within vocational provision.

The essential voice of the private sector in influencing training direction and content was highlighted by Devon and Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, sharing their journey and progress to develop a local skills improvement plan that delivers partnership solutions to local issues.

The partnership is managed by Outsourcery Services, skills specialists with substantial international experience in establishing partnerships and driving innovation in TVET.

By bringing this particular UK team together, Outsourcery are sharing positive skills solutions with enthusiasm and passion, facilitating tangible commitments to change and improvement.





The project is building on the willingness of the Nepalese private sector to collaborate within the TVET sector of Nepal. Foundations have been laid to deliver real and meaningful change: the first Nepalese Green Skills Advisory Panel has been instigated, with the enthusiastic commitment of the five private sector organisations in Nepal representing a large swathe of employers throughout the country.

The UK team's combined experience and knowledge also served to reassure both public and private sector organisations of the credibility of the Advisory Panel approach.

The proposed Green Skills Advisory Panel has been fully endorsed by the Ministry of Education Science and Technology, which is keen to see this model embedded within the rollout of the forthcoming Nepalese TVET Act.

Three memorandum of understanding (MoUs) have also been signed between UK and Nepalese partners as a direct result of this project, with partners aspiring to collaborate, learn and instigate best practices that will help future transitions to renewable and sustainable practices.

For those unfamiliar, British Council funded International Skills Partnerships bring together experienced organisations in the UK skills sector with counterparts in other countries to develop and deliver an agreed project plan that supports national level policy priorities related to skills development and employability. International Skills Partnerships are increasingly recognised by governments and industry as a powerful and highly cost-effective way of building skills.

Outsourcing Services are experts in developing and facilitating creative international skills projects and partnerships. Please get in touch if you wish to discuss opportunities to demonstrate and share your world-class vocational skills provision.

