

CPST

Quarterly



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RP Malaysia



ICP Myanmar



SP Thailand



ICP Nepal



ICP India



CPSC Programs

Malaysia, India, Nepal, Myanmar & Thailand

What's inside

- Regional Program Malaysia • ICP Nepal, India and Myanmar • Special Program for Thailand • APACC Onsite Visits to POLISAS, PSP, PSAS and PKB Malaysia • 25th Internal Quality Audit Highlights Continual Improvement • International Conference on TVET SDPA

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The CPSC Quarterly- the official news magazine of the
COLOMBO PLAN STAFF COLLEGE
FOR TECHNICIAN EDUCATION (CPSC)
Manila, Philippines

CPSC... Producing World-Class Knowledge Workers

40 Years and Beyond

The CPSC Quarterly is being produced to serve as a medium for convergence and exchange of Technical and Vocational, Education and Training (TVET) ideas, information, events and updates on national and regional efforts as well as innovating strategies for Human Resources Development (HRD) across Asia and the Pacific. It serves to strengthen collaborative relationships among professionals and developers, institutional partners, affiliates and networks, alumni and future clients in the transnational community of CPSC.

The CPSC Quarterly – herald of the center of excellence for Human Resources Development in Asia and the Pacific Region...

The CPSC Quarterly- harbinger of TVET news, keeping member countries vitally connected to HRD development and unifying them to pursue excellence towards global progress.

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Dear Readers,

Welcoming and opening the new year 2015, this quarter offering shares with all of you readers, CPSC's accomplishments through our core programs and services. Our team successfully covered a good number of beneficiaries from our Regional Program held in Malaysia and In-Country programs held in Nepal, India and Myanmar including a Special Program conducted in Thailand. More are in the pipeline in the coming months.

We are inviting all stakeholders in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) particularly those in the area of skills development for poverty alleviation (SDPA) to join us and be part of the culminating activity of our 5-year project with the Government of India on champion leaders' capacity building on TVET for SDPA. We are conducting an International Conference from June 22-23, 2015 on TVET for SDPA which is set to review and showcase achievements, share best practices, issues, challenges and lessons learned in the course of the implementation of the project.

Pursuing efforts of exploring stronger cooperation with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, CPSC keeps a determined stance to follow through its invitation for KSA's membership to CPSC. Talks on the matter is ongoing and being positively looked forward to.

In its second series of accreditation activities in Malaysia, the Asia Pacific Accreditation and Certification Commission (APACC) continuous quality drive led to on-site visits to four polytechnics in Malaysia. This period, individual on-site visits were made to Politeknik Sultan Ahmad Shah (POLISAS), Pahang, Politeknik Seberang Perai (PSP), Penang, Politeknik Sultan Azlan Shah (PSAS), Perak, Politeknik Kota Bharu (PKB), Kelantan the whole month of March. APACC has indeed spurred the interest in accreditation of many institutions in the region. We remain steadfast in spreading the beneficial impacts of APACC to technical education institutions, with this, we call on more polytechnics, TVET institutions to find out and explore on the benefits of APACC and begin your quality journey with us.

As we walk our talk, we never miss our semestral self-check and review of our very own quality management systems, for the period, we completed the 25th internal quality audit with a zero-non conformity result. My sincerest appreciation goes to the whole CPSC team for observing and sustaining quality in all aspects of the College's processes, procedures and services.

Boosting synergic working atmosphere in CPSC, this quarter the CPSC family engaged in a team building endeavor through a two-pronged activity—(1) a lecture with some indoor activities and (2) an outdoor team-building games with rest and recreation activity. The event proved to encourage better camaraderie, strengthened team spirit and energized working attitude among the management, faculty and staff.

While my team promises more activities in the months to come, jam packed with, indeed very significant and momentous events and undertakings, please enjoy this latest issue.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub
Director General



CPSC Convenes 98TH GOVERNING BOARD (GB) MEETING



98th GBM Members and Representatives: (Seated) Mr. Scott Loh, DCM-Designate, Embassy of the Republic of Singapore; Atty. Teodoro Pascua, Deputy Director General, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and GB Chairman; Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub, CPSC Director General and GB Member Secretary. (Standing) Mrs. H.M.G.R.R.K. Wijeratne Mendis, Minister, Embassy of Sri Lanka; H.E. Ye Myint Aung, Ambassador of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; H.E. Maj. Gen. John Gomes, psc (Retd.), Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; H.E. Safdar Hayat, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; H.E. L.D. Ralte, Ambassador of the Republic of India; Ms. Siti Aliah Mansor, Second Secretary, Embassy of Malaysia



The Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) Governing Board (GB) convened its 98th session on January 29, 2015 at CPSC. The Board took up the following seven agenda items: Adoption of the Agenda, Adoption of the Minutes of the 97th Governing Board Meeting held June 26, 2014, Summary of Actions Taken based on Board Decisions and Business Arising, Report of CPSC Activities and Financial Status (Midyear Report for FY 2014-2015), Report of External Audit of CPSC's Financial Statements for FY 2013 – 2014, Results of screening/selection of GB Engaged Faculty Consultant, and Announcement of Recruitment of 11th CPSC Director General.

The meeting was presided by Atty. Teodoro C. Pascua, Chairman of the CPSC GB and Deputy Director General of TESDA Philippines. It was attended by the Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Ambassador of the Republic of India, Ambassador of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Director-General of CPSC, representatives from Embassies of Malaysia, Singapore, and Sri Lanka, and representative from the Office of the United Nations and other International Organizations, Department of Foreign Affairs, Philippines.

Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub, CPSC Director General reported the progress made by CPSC for the period July 1 – December 31, 2014 where he emphasized the conduct of CPSC programs through various types as regional, in-country, customized and/or study visits, international conferences national seminars and special program; Asia Pacific Accreditation and Certification Commission (APACC) accreditation activities, and Professional Internship Program for International Experience (PIPIE). The period generated the highest number of beneficiaries in a given midyear (6 months) which is 1,987 participants. The Director General mentioned that it would not have been possible without the guidance of the Board and support of all faculty and staff.

Dr. Naim likewise provided an overview of the operational achievements of CPSC and highlighted the various academic and administrative impacts of CPSC's programs at the country, regional and global levels. Areas covered by the report were governance and management, membership management, external relations and partnership, training programs, projects and consultancy, APACC, research and information dissemination, ICT and multimedia development, building and facilities maintenance and improvement, and financial report.

The Board decided positively on highly significant agenda items. The issues of honorary membership of the Institution of Diploma Engineers (Bangladesh) and enhancement of APACC operations and services were given thumbs up by the Board subject to non-objection of other members who have not intimated their respective governments' responses, in a span of two weeks after the GB meeting. Selection of new GB-Engaged Faculty Consultant from India and the mounting of application announcement for the 11th CPSC Director General were also discussed and approved by the GB.

The 99th GB Meeting will be held on June 25, 2015.

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CPSC

The Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC), is an inter-governmental organization mandated to assist in the improvement of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) system in its participating member countries in Asia-Pacific region, through training, research, consultancy and information service. The active member countries of CPSC are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Fiji, India, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. CPSC seeks to facilitate the process of recruiting the next Director General. The Director General shall act as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for an initial period of three years which may be extended for up to two more years (for a maximum term of five years) based on satisfactory performance and upon mutual consent. Tentative initial date of appointment is July 2016.

The post of the Director General involves the management of CPSC including planning, implementing and monitoring of its programs and projects within the context of the approved Corporate Plan and set priorities. The Director General is also responsible for establishing networks with strategic partners, both regionally and internationally, and maintaining close liaison with participating countries through their respective governments, with donor agencies, international and multilateral organizations and partner institutions. The Director General works under the guidance of the Governing Board of CPSC.

Applications are invited for the post of Director General. The following details serve as guide to the eligibility requirements/criteria, application procedures and schedule for the post.



Announcement for Recruitment

A. Qualification

1. Basic Qualifications

- 1.1. Must be below 60 years of age;
- 1.2. Citizen from any of the active participating countries of CPSC;
- 1.3. Proficient in written and spoken English language;
- 1.4. Must have earned a Doctorate degree in either Educational Management, Science and Technology or Engineering;

2. Experience

- 2.1. Administrative/managerial experiences for at least 10 years, preferably at the institutional, national and/or federal levels related to technician/technical/technological/vocational education and skills development;
- 2.2. International experiences for at least 5 years, as an expert/consultant related to technician/technical/technological/vocational education and training project management, curriculum development, project planning and evaluation, preferably served in a number of member countries or in the Asia Pacific region;
- 2.3. Industrial experiences for at least 2 years related to management, human resource development, supervision, production, operations and maintenance;

- 2.4. Teaching experience for at least 10 years in a prestigious institution, i.e. polytechnic, technical college, university or technical teacher training institute;

- 2.5. Experience in research and development for at least 5 years related to technical education, policy research, curriculum development, teaching/learning materials development, industrial linkage and instructional delivery.

3. Leadership

- 3.1. International participations in conferences, expert meetings and fora as paper presenter, resource speaker, chairperson of sessions, and similar leadership roles;
- 3.2. Researches and/or publications in various aspects of technician/technical/technological/vocational education and skills development;
- 3.3. Proven experiences in international networking, outsourcing of funds, income generation and negotiation for foreign ids/grants or educational/skills development projects;
- 3.4. Distinctions, awards and academic honors received, particularly in recognition of works done in technician/technical/technological/vocational education and skills development;
- 3.5. Officerships/memberships in renowned/accredited professional organizations and honor societies.

continued on p. 6

B. Remuneration and Benefits

See details from <http://www.cpsctech.org/current-job-vacancies>

C. Applicant and Submission Guidelines

1. Interested applicants must complete the APPLICATION FORM which may be downloaded from <http://www.cpsctech.org/current-job-vacancies>
2. Submission of application must follow a prescribed process and applicants must be guided by the information below:
 - 2.1. Applicant should complete the prescribed application form ensuring that all information are provided as sought in the form.
 - 2.2. Applicants are requested to route application through proper official channel and seek his/her respective Government's endorsement or any document indicating no objection on his candidature particularly from the designated CPSC Liaison Officer or authorized counterpart official in the Government. See details from <http://www.cpsctech.org/organization/liaison-officer>
3. Applications may be sent in advance by e-mail (in PDF format only) while all printed certified copies of documents and attachments must be sent by courier or post directly to:

THE SELECTION COMMITTEE

(Ref: CPSC Director General | Post)

Colombo Plan Staff College

Building Block C Department of Education Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, 1600, Philippines

Tel: +63-2-6310991 | Fax: +63-2-6338425 | e-mail: cpsctech@cpsctech.org

Note: All applications received by e-mail must ensure that CPSC receives all the attachments sent by courier or post before the application deadline.

4. The Selection Committee with the assistance of the respective Embassies in Manila will conduct pertinent verification or re-confirmation of endorsement by the Government as may be necessary.
5. Only Short-Listed Candidates will be notified of the outcome of the pre-selection and evaluation process.

CPSC BIDS FOND FAREWELL TO CPSC GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

CPSC extends its appreciation for all the invaluable contributions and support provided to CPSC by the CPSC Governing Board Members who ended their tours of duty in the Philippines this period.

The CPSC Director General on behalf of the CPSC family bids its fond farewell to His Excellency Ambassador Hirubalan V.P., Ambassador of Singapore, who ended his term in the Philippines on January 30, 2015. Dr. Naim expresses his good wishes to the good diplomat former Ambassador HE Hirubalan for his very sincere guidance to and cooperation with CPSC in all its endeavors through his active presence in most of the College's activities such as Governing Board Meetings and other special functions. His Excellency joined the Embassy in Manila on February 23, 2012 and visited the College on August 2, 2012.

CPSC would also like to say fond farewell to His Excellency Ambassador Prasas Prasasvinitchai, Ambassador of Thailand,



HE Hirubalan V.P., (L) former Ambassador of Singapore

who departed Manila on February 23, 2015. Mr. Munin Paniswasdi, Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission, will be in charge as Charge d' Affaires, ad interim of the Embassy from March 5 onwards.

CPSC Director General Meets Malaysia Minister of Education II

On March 17, 2015, the Colombo Plan Staff College's (CPSC) Director General Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub paid a courtesy visit to the Malaysian Minister of Education II, Honorable Dato Seri Idris bin Jusoh at the latter's office in Putrajaya, Malaysia. Apart from the CPSC DG, the high level delegation also consisted of the CPSC Governing Board Chairman and Deputy Director General for Technical Education and Skills Development Operations, Atty. Teodoro C. Pascua and Executive Director of the Technical Vocational Schools and Association of the Philippines, Inc. (TEVSAPHIL). Also in attendance was Hj. Ghaus Abdul Kadir, Deputy Director General (Operations), Department of Polytechnic Education (DPE), Ministry of Education, Malaysia on behalf of their Director General.

The meeting focused on introducing CPSC and its accreditation arm, the Asia Pacific Accreditation and Certification Commission (APACC). The system of APACC accreditation of TVET institutions in the region was discussed, which will help towards achieving the goals of ASEAN Community 2015, in which Malaysia is the current ASEAN Chairman. Dr. Naim, being the APACC President concurrent to his position as CPSC Director General, stressed the benefits of APACC accreditation to accredited institutions including greater workforce mobility



(From L-R); Mr. Rosli, Officer, DCCE; Hj. Ghaus Abdul Kadir, Deputy Director General (Operations), DPE; Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub, Director General, CPSC; Honorable Dato Seri Idris bin Jusoh, Minister of Education II, Malaysia; Atty. Teodoro C. Pascua, Deputy Director General for TESD Operations, TESDA; and Rev. Alexander Mercado, Executive Director, TEVSAPHIL

and mutual recognition of qualifications and the opportunity to be a part of a regional network of quality institutions that provides learning prospects to students.

Dr. Naim informed the Minister of the ongoing accreditation of polytechnics under the purview of the DPE. He then remarked that it is high time for the Community Colleges to apply and subject themselves to APACC accreditation since these institutes provide technical and vocational education and training (TVET) courses as well.

The Director General also shared CPSC's current initiative called the Asia Pacific Technical and Vocational Education Centers or CAPTVEC, which will act as satellite centers of CPSC in the member countries.

The Minister commended CPSC for the benefits and innovations it brings to member countries particularly Malaysia and positively considered the proposals of CPSC.

Director General Showcases CPSC's Initiatives to CIAST

The Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) Director General Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub, accompanied by several staff members of CPSC, visited the Center for Instructor and Advanced Skill Training Department (CIAST) at Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia on March 20, 2015. The visit was organized to showcase the initiatives of CPSC to CIAST in the hopes of encouraging increased attention and open opportunities for collaboration.

The CPSC delegation composed of Dr. Naim, Ms. Adrienne Abril (Executive Secretary), Mr. Rae Emmanuel Echaveria (APACC Staff) and Ms. Nabil bt. Yaacob (APACC Local Facilitator) was warmly welcomed by CIAST officials led by their Deputy Director, Tn. Jamil bin Yahya.

Modalities and updates on the Asia Pacific Accreditation and Certification Commission (APACC), were shared during the presentation.

Another initiative presented to CIAST was the CPSC Asia Pacific Technical and Vocational Education Centers (CAPTVEC)

which was designed to create venues that will move CPSC closer to its constituents. It visualizes the creation of CPSC satellite centers in the member countries, thereby bringing them together in terms of their aspirations for the development of TVET in the region.

Tn. Jamil bin Yahya expressed his full support towards the initiatives presented by CPSC and lauded the Staff College for its efforts in forwarding the development of TVET quality standards through APACC and CAPTVEC. He also stated his intention to explore a deeper collaboration with CPSC particularly through the upcoming Regional Program on Automotive (Vehicle Electrical, Engine Management System and Introduction to Hybrid Technology) that will be hosted by CIAST from March 31 – April 17, 2015.



The CPSC team with the CIAST team.

CPSC DG's Missions in Malaysia Constitute Talks with Education Ministry, Research Interview with University Putra Malaysia

The Director General of the Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub, assisted by the Executive Secretary Ms. Adrienne Abril, attended two meetings with Malaysia's Ministry of Education officials in Putrajaya, Malaysia on January 30, 2015.

He similarly graced an interview session on February 2, 2015 at the Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) to provide inputs for a research on "Effectiveness of Technical and Vocational Education (TVET) in Enhancing the Competitiveness of Malay Graduates", spearheaded by UPM in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the National Higher Education Research Institute.

Meeting with Policy Development Division, Department of Polytechnic Education (DPE), Ministry of Education, January 30, 2015

CPSC strives to provide assistance to the member countries through various modes such as quality training programs, accreditation and certification, and policy advisory. As DPE is in the process of setting up an International Student Affairs Unit, CPSC hoped to impart its experiences and best practices in handling international students, particularly those from DPE's target region, the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations).

Seven officials from Policy Development Division including the Director Dr. Mohd Rashahidi B. Mohamood, Senior Principal Assistant Director Ms. Sri Valli Suppiah, and Principal Assistant Director Ms. Wan Nor Aishah binti Wan Omar.

The division's primary aim in setting up an International Student Affairs Unit is to link with international educational partners and to recruit foreign students from ASEAN region to study in Malaysian polytechnics, which should comprise not more than 2% of the student population. Pilot testing will be done in the three premier polytechnics from year 2015 to 2020.

To generate extensive inputs from CPSC, the division requested the Staff College to conduct a training program, either in Malaysia or in CPSC Headquarters in Manila, Philippines on handling international programs and participants. The program was proposed to be held during the first half of year 2015.

Meeting with Instructional and Digital Learning Division, DPE, Ministry of Education, January 30, 2015

In an effort to continue pursuits for quality and excellence in TVET, the CPSC DG and Asia Pacific Accreditation and Certification Commission (APACC) President Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub met the APACC National Coordinator for Accreditation (NCA) for Malaysia Pn. Noor Aidi Nadzri, Director of Instructional and Digital Learning Division, DPE and several officials, to discuss the 2nd batch of institutional review visits. Four polytechnics namely Politeknik Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah (POLISAS), Politeknik Sultan Azlan Shah (PSAS), Politeknik Seberang Perai (PSP), and Politeknik Kota Bahru (PKB) were scheduled for the visits by APACC in the months of March and April 2015.



Meeting with Policy Development Division, Department of Polytechnic Education, Ministry of Education, Putrajaya, Malaysia



Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub, APACC President & CPSC DG (left) and Pn. Noor Aidi Nadzri, Director of Instructional and Digital Learning Division, DPE (center) during the discussion



(Clockwise) Ms. Nurulyaqin Mohamad, Dr. Rokimah Mohamad, and Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub.

Research Interview with Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), February 2, 2015

UPM invited the CPSC DG to act as a professional expert for the research titled "Effectiveness of TVET in Enhancing the Competitiveness of Malay Graduates". For this purpose, Dr. Rokimah Mohamad, Chief Researcher, assisted by Ms. Nurulyaqin Mohamad, set up an interview on February 2, 2015 at UPM. The purpose of the interview was to obtain information from Dr. Naim as TVET Expert on the effectiveness of Malay students in the TVET field.

Discussions on how to make TVET more mainstream and popular choice among Malaysian students ensued.

Dr. Naim stressed that Malaysia, being a middle income country, must endeavor to produce highly skilled workforce through skills development and should innovate more to reach high economy status. In order to attain high quality TVET, the government must ensure the readiness of teachers, availability of equipment, appropriate curriculum, and efficient delivery of programs with stakeholders' participation.

CPSC DG Promotes APACC in Dep't. of Community College Education, Education Ministry Malaysia

The Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) Director General Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub presented about its accreditation body, the Asia Pacific Accreditation and Certification Commission (APACC) to officials of the Department of Community College, Ministry of Education in Putrajaya, Malaysia, headed by its Director General YBhg. Dato' Amir Bin Md. Noor on March 19, 2015. Dr. Naim was accompanied by Mr. Alexander C. Mercado, Executive Director of the Technical Vocational Schools and Association of the Philippines, Inc. (TEVSAPHIL) and Ms. Adrienne T. Abril, CPSC Executive Secretary.

Several high ranking officials of the Department and Directors of Community Colleges were in attendance during the meeting – Mohd Nasir bin Abd Ghani, Deputy Director General; Zainab Binti Ahmad, Director, Policy Division; Rosli bin Idris,



The CPSC team with officials of the Department of Community College, Ministry of Education, Malaysia

Director, Examination and Assessment Division; Hj Wan Izni Rashiddi bin Wan Mohd Razalli, Director, Academic and Continuing Education Division; Mohd Faisal bin Ishak, Director, Collaboration and Entrepreneurship Division; Badarudin bin Kusni, Information Management Division and Corporate; and the Directors of Langkawi Tourism Academy, Kolej Komuniti Bukit Beruang, Kolej Komuniti Kuala Langat, and Kolej Komuniti Kuala Terengganu.

The promotion was done on the basis of the community colleges' qualification to be APACC-accredited and because APACC has started the accreditation of Malaysian polytechnics, it is high time for the Department of Community College Education to start the ball rolling as well.

Prior to Dr. Naim's presentation, the DCCE DG presented an overview of his department which included the development of community colleges, its structure and relevance, program offerings, and lifelong learning, upskilling, reskilling, and industrial linkages. There are currently 91 community colleges in Malaysia; the 12 pioneer community colleges started their operations in year 2001.

Dr. Naim stressed the benefits of APACC accreditation to accredited institutions including greater workforce mobility and mutual recognition of qualifications and the opportunity to be a part of a regional network of quality institutions that provides learning prospects to students.

The Community College Directors responded positively on the request of the DCCE Director General for feedback on APACC after the presentation by CPSC.

In an opportunity to explore further cooperation with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub, CPSC Director General and Dr. Hazrat Hussain, CPSC Faculty Consultant paid a visit to the Chargé d'affaires of the Embassy of KSA to the Philippines Ishaq Ibrahim Aloraini.

Dr. Naim informed the Chargé d'affaires about CPSC's role in the Asia Pacific Region, its current programs and activities including some of its accomplishments. He also mentioned CPSC's ongoing talks with the Technical Vocational Training Corporation in Saudi Arabia on an important project on institutional management review slated for the year. The Director General conveyed his hope for similar cooperative ventures to be strengthened and even revive former programs with Saudi Arabia, such as the capacity building courses organized by CPSC for Saudi nationals way back in 2005. In line with this, Dr. Naim once again accorded his invitation to Saudi Arabia as a member country of CPSC.

Further the DG invited the Chargé d'affaires to visit the College to know more about CPSC's objectives and undertakings in which Ishaq Ibrahim Aloraini, responded positively. He also invited Dr. Naim to come back to visit the embassy again.



Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub (center) hands over CPSC plaque to Ishaq Ibrahim Aloraini Chargé d'affaires, Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the Philippines. Looking on is Dr. Hazrat Hussain CPSC Faculty.

CPSC DG Pays Visit to Chargé d'affaires of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

CPSC Promotes TECHNICIAN TRAINING ON AUTOMOTIVE AND HYBRID TECHNOLOGY, Collaborates with CIAST, MTCP, MFA for RP Malaysia



Program participants and organizers of the Regional Program.

The orientation of TVET towards high technology and hybrid skills, particularly in the field of automotive servicing, is crucial in today's workforce. It forges interest in the sector and promotes the development of important skills that is necessary in addressing globalization and integration of economies.

Such was the realization of the Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) which, in collaboration with the Malaysian Technical Education Program (MTCP), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, (MFA), Malaysia and the Center for Instructor and Advanced Skills Training (CIAST), organized a joint training program on Automotive (Vehicle Electrical, Engine Management System and Introduction to Hybrid Technology) Course. The program was held at the CIAST Headquarters in Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia from March 31 to April 17, 2015.

The main objectives of the course are to: (1) improve TVET trainers based on needs for the economic growth in MTCP-CPSC countries; (2) share information and best practices, promote active collaboration and networking among Malaysian TVET trainers; and (3) expose participants to Malaysia's best practices and experiences in strengthening TVET systems implementation.

At the end of the program, the participants were granted with Automotive training certificates in which they were expected to: (1) provide service for Body Electrical System, (2) service for Electronic Fuel Injection system; and (3) handle Hybrid and High Voltage Vehicle Technology System, hazard and safety requirements. Country reports, action plans and summary reports were also required to be submitted by the country representatives.

A total of 15 automotive instructors, lecturers and enthusiasts from the CPSC Member countries including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Fiji, India, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Papua New Guinea,



Dr. Naim (far right) with the guests of honor Mr. Beh Ching Chye from the Department of Multilateral Affairs (far left) and Mr. Suimi bin Abd. Majid, Director of CIAST (center).

Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand participated in the program. Mr. Vergel dela Paz, CPSC Human Resources Officer, was also present in the program to assist program implementation.

An inaugural ceremony was held at the Serunai Hall, Grand Blue Wave Hotel, Section 14, Shah Alam, Selangor on March 31, 2015 which was attended

by several high-profile guests including Dr. Mohammad Naim bin Yaakub, Director General of CPSC; Mr. Suimi bin Abd. Majid, Director of CIAST, Department of Skills Development and Mr. Beh Ching Chye, Principal Assistant Secretary, International Cooperation and Development Division, Department of Multilateral Affairs.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Naim mentioned about CPSC's advocacy of bringing tangible and realizable benefits to its member countries through strengthening partnership among partner governments with visions on incorporating the latest technological advancements in the industry and manufacturing sectors. These are all in view of



addressing pressing global issues such as sustainable development, globalization and poverty alleviation.

CIAT, a forefront institute in the Ministry of Human Resources, is considered as one of the leading organizations in the development and enhancement of skill training in Malaysia. It conducts various courses for participants from other vocational training institutes, domestic industries and international countries.

Mr. Beh in his opening remarks, warmly welcomed, Dr. Naim, and Mr. Suimi, CIAT Director. He also invited the participants to take the opportunity to build stronger networking relationship among themselves and encourage them to bring home with them the knowledge, skills, learning and experiences gained during the three-week training program.

Mr. Suimi on behalf of CIAT, in his welcome remarks expressed appreciation and gratitude to the MFA, through Malaysia Technical Cooperation Program for making CIAT as partner for conducting technical training for international participants. He said that through continuous support and assistance, CIAT was able to share their expertise and experience in Malaysia and to other countries. He also hoped that the collaboration with CPSC will be extended in the future not only in the field of automotive but also to cover other technical vocational education and training fields.



Program participants in one of the tasks during the program.

25th Internal Quality Audit Highlights Continual Improvements



The CPSC staff during the 25th Internal Quality Audit.

The 25th Internal Quality Audit (IQA) regularly done twice every fiscal year by the Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) was successfully carried out this period from February 17-18, 2015. Notable continual improvements and zero-non conformity with few observations highlighted the 25th IQA.

The latest IQA proved to be a venue for CPSC's endless drive for quality where sharing on the current improvements performed in each area, suggestions for further enhancements in processes and services and new innovations intended to achieve better endeavors were actively shared and discussed by both auditees and auditors.

Dr. Hazrat Hussain, as Quality Management Representative (QMR) led the opening of the activity with first briefly orienting especially the new staff on the details of what will transpire for the whole day. He emphasized the significance of the event in seeing to it that all processes conform to standard procedures while performing every team's duties which contribute to the overall goal of achieving the vision of the College. He also said that the activity serves as a venue in "reviewing our scorecards, in checking whether we conform to what have been documented, document what we are doing and update if necessary, and see where we are lacking and discuss what we can do to improve further".

Ten (10) areas of audit were subjected to review against standards provided by the International Standards Organization (ISO) 9001:2008. These areas were under the overall quality management system clusters namely: Management Systems Operations Control (MSOC); Evaluation Review and Improvement (ERI); Program/Project Planning and Implementation (PPPI); and Resource Management (RM).

The CPSC Director General Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub positively remarked on the noted improvements in each area while providing advice and guidance on how to continually improve on some areas. He expressed appreciation to everyone for conducting a very active and jovial exchange of ideas and ensuring that no stones were left unturned before the external audit comes. With his overall reminders and encouragement for continual improvements, the 25th IQA was closed and completed.

ICP Nepal



National Seminar in Nepal



Special Program in Thailand



CPSC in Action



ICP India



RP Malaysia



ICP Myanmar

CPSC In-Country Program on **Developing Monitoring and Evaluation Tools in TVET**

Trains Nepalese Administrators

The Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) in cooperation with the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT), Nepal, held an In-Country Program on Developing Monitoring and Evaluation Tools for TVET System at the Training Institute for Technical Instruction (TITI) in Bhaktapur, Nepal from March 9-13, 2015. The program involved the participation of 22 administrators and trainers from the different colleges across the country.



Program Participants and organizers (L) and participants during National Seminar (R)

The economic system of Nepal has undergone a dramatic transformation in the last decade, with its demographic advantage of a growing number of youth, in comparison with the aging societies in most of the more advanced countries in the region. In spite of a remarkable growth in the recent past, a growing body of evidence also points to serious concerns, which include growing incidences of youth unemployment and quality of TVET related issues that require urgent action to help Nepal to sustain its progress and make significant achievements.

The In-Country Program was conceived in order to develop practical skills of the participants in coming up with a Monitoring and Evaluation (M & E) tools designed for specific TVET programs. The M & E scheme incorporated the principles of quality management, specifically in the utilization of appropriate tools and techniques, the formulation of performance indicators and the actual implementation of activities for monitoring and evaluation.

At the end of the one-week program, the participants were expected to: (1) appreciate the concepts and processes of monitoring and evaluation in TVET systems; (2) explain and evaluate tools and techniques which are applicable in M & E activities; (3) design a suitable monitoring and evaluation tools, incorporating feedback mechanisms, for relevant TVET programs and (4) prepare an action plan for integrating monitoring and evaluation of TVET system.

CTEVT's Technical Division and Consortium of College's Education Foundation Coordinator and former CPSC Faculty Consultant Prof. Dr. Pramod Shrestha was invited to impart a local knowledge on M&E tools and strategies to the participants. Dr. Lokendra Poudyal, Chairperson of Contemporary Development Center tackled the applicability of the Labor Information Management Systems (LIMS) in TVET as Resource Person as well.

Overall program supervision was under the helm of Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub, CPSC Director General together with CTEVT's Vice

Chairperson Dr. Gopal Prasad Khanal and Member Secretary Dr. Ram Hari Lamichhane. Program arrangement and design was handled by Dr. Rajesh Khambayat, former Faculty Consultant of CPSC and the Head of the Department of Education & Research of the National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training & Research in Bhopal, India. Local coordination and management was executed through the efforts of Mr. Pushpa Raman Wagle, Director of the Technical Division, CTEVT and Mr. Mohan Bahadur Karki, Dy. Ms. Aba Bernadine Lim, CPSC Staff, provided support in the conduct of the program.

CTEVT's Member of National Planning Commission Dr. Yagu Bahudur Karki was the guest of honor in the opening ceremony. He cited the challenges that Nepal face in the future and the potential of an educated, multi-skilled workforce in changing the economic landscape of the country.

Another highlight of the program was the National Seminar on Skilling Youth for Employability: Challenges and Perspective which was held in the same venue on March 12, 2015. The event was attended by 63 administrators and staff from TITI and CTEVT.

The seminar provided a timely opportunity for participants to share knowledge and experiences on the educational and training dimension of enhancing employability skills in TVET and discussed policy tools coordinating mechanisms and the scope of national educational and training strategies to deal with them.

The National Seminar was inaugurated by Dr. Bishwo Prakash Pandit, Education Secretary of CTEVT. In his opening remarks, he expressed his wholehearted support on the efforts of both CTEVT and CPSC in conducting a program relevant to the needs of the country. The roster of speakers included Prof. (Dr.) Rajesh P. Khambayat, Prof. Dr. Tanka Nath Sharma, Dr. Ram Hari Lamichhane, Dr. Bhawan Shanker Subedi, and Prof. Dr. Krishna Prasad Paudel. The speakers tackled varied issues on youth employability and provided insights about the successful diffusion of skills for employability mechanism within the TVET system.

With the emerging need of further advocating the improvement of TVET institutions through methods that encourage innovation and market strategy, the Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC), in cooperation with the National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training and Research (NITTTR), organized the In-Country Program on Blue Ocean Strategy in TVET held at the NITTTR Campus in Chandigarh, India from February 9-13, 2015.



Program Organizer and Participants during the Program.

Blue Ocean Strategy (BOS) is a strategy which is about creating uncontested market space, making the rivals irrelevant rather than competing with them and conveying the infinite possibilities for profitable growth. The course was designed to help the participants identify different strategies which could be applied in TVET systems for it to survive and grow.

The program targeted to instill the importance and relevance of BOS in TVET and enable participants to comprehend its concept, principles and components. It also aimed to improve their understanding on the application of Blue Ocean Strategy in TVET. Lastly, the participants were expected to prepare an Action Plan for implementation of BOS in their respective institutions to ensure that the lessons of the program are translated into tangible results.

The program covered an extensive and comprehensive number of lectures and topics such as: (1) Concepts, Principles and Components of the Blue Ocean Strategy; (2) Blue Ocean Strategies for Technical Entrepreneurship Development; (3) Integrating



Knowledge sharing among the resource persons and participants during the seminar on February 12, 2015

The seminar came with a realization that the Indian education system must be attuned to the new global environment by promoting creativity and improving the quality of education and training at all levels. Based on major studies, countries that have had the most rapid increases in educational attainment as well as sustained economic growth have upgraded their educational system significantly.

The seminar tackled broad themes such as issues, challenges and future directions in TVET systems and managing and implementation

In-Country Program-India Tackles Blue Ocean Strategy for TVET; National Seminar Discusses Issues, Challenges and Future Directions in TVET Sector

Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and Inclusive Rural Development as BOS in TVET System; and many others.

The program was supervised by the CPSC Director General, Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub and the Director of NITTTR Chandigarh, Prof. Dr. MP Poonia. Program coordination was done by Prof. Dr. G. Kulanthaivel, CPSC Faculty Consultant. Local arrangements were organized by the former CPSC Faculty Consultant and the current head of Entrepreneurship Development and Industrial Coordination Department of NITTTR Chandigarh Prof. Dr. Suresh K. Dhameja. Prof. JS Saini of the Department of Rural Development of NITTTR Chandigarh was also invited as the local resource person. The program was attended by 32 administrators and academics.

A National Seminar on the "Issues, Challenges and Future Directions in the TVET Sector" was organized on February 12, 2015 at NITTTR Chandigarh, with 84 participants.

of TVET and identified newer concepts and strategies for TVET management.

Speakers of the seminar from NITTTR included the following: (1) Prof. Dr. MP Poonia, Director of NITTTR, Chandigarh who presented the paper titled "Current Status and Development of TVET Systems in India: Achievements, Lessons Learnt and Challenges" and (2) Prof. Dr. JS Saini, Professor and Head of Rural Development Department of NITTTR, Chandigarh who discussed National Skills Qualification Framework in India. In addition, Prof. Dr. Dhameja shared ideas on knowledge management system in TVET while Prof. Dr. Kulanthaivel discussed ICT integrated approaches for strengthening TVET Systems.

Overall, the program was well-appreciated by the participants and beneficiaries, garnering a high rating of 4.5 (with 5 as the highest) on program management and relevance of topics.

ICP Myanmar Tackles Strategic Planning of TVET Institutions in Myanmar

In a show of strong cooperation and solidarity with the aspirations of CPSC, the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, through the Department of Technical and Vocational Education (DTVE), Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, Ministry Science and Technology, actively collaborated with CPSC in organizing the In-Country Program on "Strategic Planning of TVET Institutions in Myanmar" from January 12 to 16, 2015.

Thirty (30) administrators and lecturers coming from several TVET institutions under the DTVE participated in the program. The program aimed to instill to the participants strategic planning and management concepts in improving institutional management. The program also familiarized them with the applications of ICT for teaching and learning in TVET systems. At the conclusion of the program, the participants developed and presented action plans in implementing best strategic management for their institutions.

Overall supervision of the ICP was provided by the CPSC Director General, Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub and the Deputy Director General of the DTVE, U Win Maw Tun. Prof. Dr. G. Kulanthaivel, CPSC Faculty Consultant, handled the overall program coordination, while local coordination was done by Dr. Thein Min Htike, DTVE's Assistant Director.

Local expertise and perspectives were provided by Dr. Theingi, Pro-Rector, West Yangon Technological University, MOST. The expert delivered a presentation on Strategic Planning and Management Process for TVET Institutional Management & Implementation, monitoring and evaluation method and tools for TVET institution management.

Prof. Dr. Zaw Min Naing, Pro-Rector, Technological University (Maubin), MOST, Yangon, Myanmar was the Chief Guest of the inaugural function representing U Win Maw Tun. Prof. Dr. Naing, in his inaugural address highlighted the efforts undertaken by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to strengthen the education sector, recognizing that an educated population and workforce is a prerequisite for sustained economic growth and poverty reduction. He also thanked CPSC for being the only regional institution established specifically to enhance the quality of TVET and it provides leadership in such regard by designing and conducting various programs and courses in different levels.

U Aung Moe, Director, DTVE expressed his happiness in organizing the CPSC program in their office and appreciated the efforts of CPSC.

The following topics were discussed during the program: (1) Management

concepts of improving Institutional Management in TVET systems (2) Strategic Planning and Management Process for TVET Institutional Management (3) ICT for Teaching and Learning in TVET systems (4) Accreditation and Certification of TVET Institutions through APACC process for Quality Assurance (5) Implementation, monitoring and evaluation method and tools for TVET institution management.

In further updating the participants on institutional management trends, a National Seminar on "Emerging Trends for Institutional Management in TVET Systems" was organized on January 15, 2015. It was organized to provide latest information on the status and quality of institutional management in the country's TVET systems. The seminar was also organized to identify and examine issues and challenges in institutional management in the country and to provide insights on the different strategies and approaches towards successful institutional management. The seminar was attended by 33 participants.

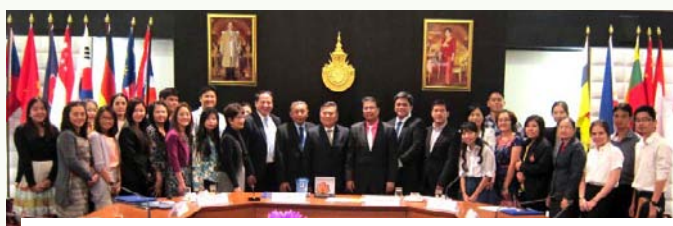
The seminar was divided into two sessions. speakers for the first session include: Prof. Dr. Naing who presented "Institutional

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(Top Photo) Program participants and organizers of the In-Country Program, (L Photo) Some of the participants discuss their outputs with Prof. Kulanthaivel, (R Photo) Prof. Kulanthaivel hands over CPSC memento to the Chief Guest Prof. Dr. Zaw Min Naing.

CPSC HOLDS LANGUAGE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM IN RMUTT, RENEWS TIES THROUGH MOU SIGNING



CPSC, RMUTT officials, and participants during closing ceremonies.

The Rajamangala University of Technology Thanyaburi (RMUTT), Thailand continues to make significant efforts in preparing its human resources cope with the realization of ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) 2015. This regional convergence is intended to eventually widen economic bridges and channels, and pave way for boundless exchange of goods and services within Southeast Asia. Taking this into consideration and upon the request of RMUTT, CPSC conducted a Special Program on English Language Enhancement for a total of 44 RMUTT faculty and staff, from January 12 to 16, 2015 in RMUTT.

The program was designed to develop the competence and confidence of participants on the use of the English language. The program module was developed and delivered by an experienced TESOL teacher, Mr. Aleksandrov Ivan William Burcer. The module had the following components: Lectures, Workshops, Accent Neutralization Drills, Breakout Sessions and Study Visit. Some of the lectures delivered included "Moments of Truth – English as a Global Language; Where does RMUTT stand in an English-speaking World", "The



Mr. Burcer and the participants during lectures and workshops.



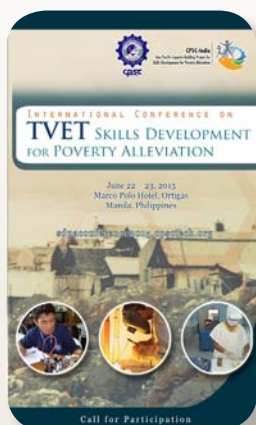
From left to right: Asst. Prof. Dr. Sommai Pivsa Art, Assoc Prof. Dr. Prasert Pinpathomrat, Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub, Mr. Bryan Noel Lazaro.

Four C's of Communication in the Workplace (Confidence Competence, Context and Cultural Differences), "Principles of Adult Learning", "Taxonomy of Language Learning and Teaching Techniques", "Motivation: An Important Key to Learning and Using English Practical Communication Skills in and out of the Classroom", "Presentation Skills and Use of Visual Aids and Electronic Resources".

Apart from the awarding of certificates to the participants, the closing ceremonies also served as a venue to renew ties between CPSC and RMUTT through an MOU Signing. Present during the MoU Signing were the following officials from RMUTT and CPSC: Assoc. Professor Dr. Prasert Pinpathomrat, RMUTT President; Asst. Professor Dr. Sommai Pivsa-Art, RMUTT Vice President of Academic Affairs; Dr. Paiboon Saiyawongs, University Counsel Member; and Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub, CPSC Director General. Possible collaborations in the future were also discussed after the MoU signing.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

ANNOUNCEMENTS on International Conference on TVET SDPA



All set for the upcoming international conference on TVET Skills Development for Poverty Alleviation (TVET-SDPA) the Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) invites all TVET experts, practitioners, academicians and enthusiasts to join the conference and be part of this significant culminating event of CPSC's 5-year project on champion leaders' capacity building on TVET for SDPA.

Launched in 2010, the project is a technical cooperation initiative of the Government of India (GOI) with CPSC and had been designed to utilize CPSC's leadership and technical expertise in mobilizing TVET programs across the region in line with the GOI's thrusts in reducing poverty.

The project is envisaged to create long term solutions to poverty issues combining multi-lateral scheme and TVET sectoral approach as viable strategies to increase the capacity of Colombo Plan countries in meeting the UN MDG goals and cope with the TVET skills gap that aggravate poverty incidence in the region.

Slated to be held on June 22-23, 2015, the conference is being organized to review and showcase achievements, share best practices, issues, challenges and lessons learned in the course of the implementation of the project. This is to sustain efforts spearheaded by CPSC and the GOI, and engage stakeholders into formulating other initiatives that will eventually provide a long-lasting solution to alleviate poverty using TVET as an approach.

The conference consists of two major components. The first component focuses on the efforts made by the development partners in alleviating poverty through skills development. This is further emphasized by the outcomes of the projects/action

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Developing Ties

CPSC DIRECTOR GENERAL LEADS OFFICIAL MISSION TO KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

As a demonstration of its expertise as a TVET organization that is capable of providing related services to other markets in the region, the Director General of CPSC, Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub together with the CPSC Faculty Consultant, Dr. Hazrat Hussain embarked on an official mission to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from February 7-9, 2015.



Dr. Naim presents CPSC plaque to Mr. Muhammad Ali Asiri, Vice President of Saudi Skills Standards.

The official mission was an invitation forwarded by the Saudi Skills Standards (SSS) as a part of the final bidding process for the Institutional Review Project slated to happen from March to May 2015. CPSC has been shortlisted as one of the potential providers of the project. The CPSC delegation, together with their translator, Mr. Shushilil Azam Bin Shuib, made a presentation to SSS regarding possible consulting opportunities that may tackle performance evaluation of TVET institutions in the Kingdom.

During the said meeting, Dr. Naim briefed TVTC about the status, functions, role and services of CPSC for the promotion of TVET in the Asia Pacific region. Mr. Al Rasheed showed keen interest in participating in the affairs of the College as he inquired on membership procedures and expressed willingness to bring up the issue with relevant ministries.

In line with this mission, Dr. Hazrat also conducted a visit at the Makkah College of Excellence in Makkah on February 12, in coordination with Mr. Jamal Sarayeh, one of the senior officials of the college. Mr. Jamal briefed Dr. Hazrat on the history, functions, activities and some issues related to the college and brought him on a guided tour to classes, laboratories and administrative offices of the College. They discussed avenues of mutual collaboration in the field of instructor training such as staff development programs. Dr. Hussain relayed CPSC's willingness to pursue their cooperation through the institution's participation in programs organized by CPSC.



Visit by TEVSAPHIL Executive Director Rev. Alexander Mercado (1stL) –(March 10, 2015)



Visit by Mr. Abbas Sumar (center), Manager, International Recruitment & Admissions, Niagara College Canada (February 5, 2015) with the DG and Mr. Rudy Sabas



Visit and inquiry on APACC by President of St. Dominic College of Asia, Gregorio A. Andaman Jr., MD, MHA (3rdR) with St. Dominic's officials (March 16, 2015)

ICP Myanmar...continued from p.16

Management of TVET", and Dr. Kyi Soe, Pro-Rector, Technological University (Hmawbi), MOST, who discussed the topics "Current Status and Development of TVET Systems in Myanmar" and the "Industry Involvement in TVET systems", respectively.

The second session, pertaining to Institutional Management: Managing and Implementation, had Dr. Htike, as speaker who delivered her paper on "Strategic Planning of TVET systems". Meanwhile, Prof. Kulanthaivel shared his expertise on "Emerging Trends in ICT integrated Teaching and Learning Environment for TVET systems".

Announcements on...continued from p.17

plans developed by the participants under the SDPA Champion Leaders' Development Program.

The second component is oriented towards providing a venue for displaying the summative endeavors of CPSC member countries and to bring together selected participants from the 13 member countries that have successfully implemented the SDPA programs. These participants have received training from CPSC and are seen to be actively involved in the implementation of TVET SDPA. Speakers, apart from the CPSC Director General Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub, who also leads all undertakings of the significant event, include H.E. L.D. Ralte, Ambassador Extraordinary Plenipotentiary, Embassy of India in the Philippines, Sec. Joel Villanueva, Director General, TESDA, and Mr. Kumar Tuhin, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India in the line-up.

The conference will be facilitated through the following four plenary sessions: (1) Initiatives and Strategies for Poverty Reduction in Asia and the Pacific Region; (2) Poverty Alleviation and Rural Development; (3) Building Skills for Youth Employability, and; (4) Initiatives and TVET Best Practices for Poverty Alleviation in Asia Pacific Region.

Brochures, further details on registration, etc., may be accessed from <http://sdpaconference2015.cpsctech.org/>.

Department of Polytechnic Education, Malaysia Briefs APACC Team on Malaysian Polytechnic Education System

The Asia Pacific Accreditation and Certification Commission (APACC) accreditation team were given a glimpse of the Malaysian polytechnic education system on their visit to the Department of Polytechnic Education (or the Jabatan Pengajian Politeknik, JPP) Headquarters in Putrajaya, Malaysia on March 16, 2015. The main objective of the briefing was to familiarize the APACC team with the polytechnic system before embarking into institutional reviews of four polytechnics as part of the second phase of on-site visits in Malaysia.



Dr. Paiboon Saiyawongs, APACC Team Member, signs the DPE guestbook while Dr. Naim, CPSC Director General and APACC President and Dr. Romulita Alto, APACC Team Leader, wait for their turns to sign.



Datuk Mohlis bin Jaafar, Director General of DPE, presiding over the orientation program.

The APACC delegation consisted of two groups. The first group included the team of Dr. Romulita Alto, APACC Team Leader and Dr. Paiboon Saiyawongs, APACC Team Member who were assigned to visit the Politeknik Sultan Ahmad Shah (POLISAS) in Kuantan and Politeknik Kota Bharu (PKB) in Kota Bharu (PKB). The second group included the team of Dr. Hazrat Hussain, CPSC Faculty Consultant and APACC Team Leader and Dr. Theresita Atienza, APACC Team Member who were assigned to visit Politeknik Sultan Azlan Shah (PSAS) in Behrang Stesen and Politeknik Seberang Perai (PSP) in Penang.

Ms. Adrienne Abril, Mr. Rae Emmanuel Echaveria, Ms. Nabil bt. Yaacob and Mr. Harmen Muda, APACC staff members from CPSC, also accompanied and assisted the APACC team members as part of the secretariat. Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub, CPSC Director General and APACC President, was also present to oversee the activities.

The delegation was welcomed by the Director General of DPE, Datuk Mohlis bin Jaafar and the Deputy Director General of Operations, En. Shabuddin bin Man. During the orientation proper, four presentations were discussed and presented by DPE officials. The presentations by Datuk Mohlis, mainly focused on providing a general information of the polytechnic system and the efforts to fulfill its vision to be "Malaysia's main provider of innovative human capital through transformational education and training for the global workforce by 2015."

From a single school in 1969, the polytechnic system in the country has expanded to 33 institutes in which 3 are premiere polytechnics, 25 are conventional polytechnics and 5 are METRO polytechnics. The aim of the polytechnic education system is consistent with the fulfillment of the national aspiration to transform Malaysia into a high income economy with skilled workforce by increasing TVET enrollment and raising the quality of TVET.

Each of the deputy directors briefed the APACC accreditation team on the different aspects of polytechnic education in the country from curriculum development, student admission, industrial liaison, policies, research and development and polytechnic development.

The exercise was also an opportunity for the APACC accreditors to be oriented with the actual practices and guidelines followed by DPE in its operations and liaison with the different polytechnic institutes.

PSAS Undergoes APACC Institutional Review as Part of 2nd Cycle of Onsite Visits in Malaysia

Continuing the accreditation of Malaysian polytechnics, the Asia Pacific Accreditation and Certification Commission (APACC) conducted a 3-day on-site visit to Politeknik Sultan Azlan Shah (PSAS) located in Behrang Stesen, Perak, Malaysia from March 17 – 19, 2015. The team leader and CPSC Faculty Consultant from Pakistan Dr. Hazrat Hussain and team member, Dr. Theresita Atienza, Dean of the College of Science, Polytechnic University of the Philippines served as accreditors for the mentioned activity. Ms. Adrienne Abril, APACC Officer and CPSC Executive Secretary and Mr. Harmen Muda, Lecturer of Politeknik Mukah, Malaysia as Translator were also present as part of the APACC team.

PSAS' vision is to become the premier semi-professional educational and training institution in Malaysia. It is presently headed by the Director Lt. Kol. Bersekutu (PA) Abdul Karim bin Jaafar. The polytechnic is the 15th set-up by the Ministry of Education, Malaysia and can accommodate up to 3,600 students at a time. It has acquired Tier 6, the highest tier of the Polytechnic Rate System (Polyrate) in 2013.

PSAS excellence in the field of automotive has been recognized by the management of the Department of Polytechnic Education (DPE), Ministry of Education, Malaysia and is being developed as MKHTC-Malaysia-Korea High Technology Centre in Automotive Technology and Manufacturing.

The Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) Director General and APACC President, Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub graced the opening program of the visit. In his speech, Dr. Naim stressed the importance of regional accreditation to ensure quality of graduates in educational institutions for higher employer confidence. In the

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(Top-photo) APACC Accreditors Dr. Theresita Atienza and Dr. Hazrat Hussain, APACC President and CPSC Director General Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub, and PSAS Director Lt. Kol. Bersekutu (PA) Abdul Karim bin Jaafar during the Opening Ceremony. (bottom-photo) Inside the Automotive Workshop with Mr. Alexander Mercado (L) and Atty. Teodoro Pascua (R).

Onsite Visit to POLISAS Jumpstarts Second Round of APACC Activities in Malaysia

As part of its efforts to intensify quality assurance advocacy in the Asia Pacific region, the Asia-Pacific Accreditation and Certification Commission (APACC) embarked on an onsite visit to the Politeknik Sultan Ahmad Shah (POLISAS) in Kuantan, Pahang, Malaysia from March 17 to 19, 2015. This is the first of the planned four onsite visits in the country slated to happen for the month.



Dr. Naim and Dr. Alto ask questions to students and faculty of POLISAS Architecture Department.

in 1976 under the Department of Polytechnic Education (DPE), Ministry of Education, Malaysia. The institution covers a total of 974,633.3 sq. meters in which 75% or 730,975 sq. meters is built-up. It offers a total of 11 courses with duration of three years. As of this year, it enrolls 6,400 students and employs 491 full-time faculty and 134 full-time staff. The institution is currently headed by Director Mejar (K) Dato' Haji Abu Bakar Bin Ahmad.

The vision of POLISAS is to be the leading provider of innovative human capital through transformational education and training to fulfill the needs of global workforce. It plans to execute this through its mission of pushing the boundaries in creating transformative and creative education environment to achieve innovation led economy.

The APACC team included APACC team leader, Dr. Romulita Alto from the Philippines and the APACC team member, Dr. Paiboon Saiyawongs from Thailand. Mr. Rae Emmanuel Echaveria, APACC staff and Ms. Nabil bt. Yaacob, APACC Local Staff. Pn. Noor Aidi Nadzri, Director of Instructional and Digital Learning Division of DPE and the APACC National Coordinator for Accreditation in Malaysia, was also present to oversee the visit.

The whole event was also graced by the presence of the Director General of Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) and the President of APACC, Dr. Mohammad Naim bin Yaakub, the Director General of the Department of Polytechnic Education, Datuk Hj Mohlis Bin Jaafar and the Deputy Director (Strategic) of the Department of Polytechnic Education, Tn. Shabuddin Man.

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APACC team with DSF faculty and staff.

Second Cycle of APACC Onsite Visits in Malaysia Continues with PSP

As APACC continues to cover more institutions for accreditation in Malaysia, another polytechnic in Penang, named Politeknik Seberang Perai (PSP) underwent the 3-day onsite visit from March 24 to 26, 2015. The assigned APACC team had CPSC Faculty Consultant Dr. Hazrat Hussain as Team Leader. With the team was Dr. Theresita Atienza, Dean, College of Science, Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP), who acted as Team Member together with APACC Officer Mr. Bryan Noel Lazaro, and Local Translator Ms. Nabil Yaacob.

PSP is one of the three polytechnics located in the state of Penang. On September 1, 1998, It became the 10th polytechnic established under World Bank Fund, occupying 101.36 acres of land on Jalan Permatang Pauh, Pulau Pinang. PSP envisions becoming a lead institution in providing excellent education and training by 2015, and strives to reach this vision through its mission of producing distinctive human capital to steer the nation's economy in line with polytechnic transformation plan.

Director Hj. Zulkifli Bin Ariffin led PSP in welcoming the APACC team. APACC President Dr. Mohammad Naim Bin Yaakub was also present on the first day to grace the opening program and to observe the initial exercises of the onsite visit. The importance of dedication and working hand in hand in order to provide quality service to its primary stakeholders, the students, It was stressed by both APACC and PSP during the opening program.

PSP was assessed against the seven APACC accreditation criteria – Governance and Management; Teaching and Learning; Faculty and Staff; Research and Development; Extension, Consultancy, and Linkages; Resources, and Support to Students. The result of the on-site visit conducted will be transmitted to polytechnics after thorough deliberation by the APACC Board.



Dr. Hazrat with faculty and students of Logistics and Supply Chain Management.



Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub, APACC President (1L) and Dr. Romulita Alto, APACC Team Leader (3L) talk to PKB students during the on-site-visit, looking on is PKB Director Mejar (K) HJ. Noor Azahan (2L) and PKB faculty members.

In a second series of accreditation activities in Malaysia after the first round held last year, the Asia Pacific Accreditation and Certification Commission (APACC) conducted an on-site visit (OSV) to Polytechnic Kota Bharu (PKB), Kota Bharu, Kelantan, Malaysia. The visiting APACC team was led by the APACC President Dr. Mohammad Naim Yaakub. The team was composed of Dr. Romulita Alto, from the Philippines who acted as APACC Team Leader, with Team Member Dr. Paiboon Saiyawongs from Thailand together with Ms. Arlene Cruz, CPSC's APACC Staff for PKB, Malaysia. The PKB-OSV was organized from March 30-April 1, 2015 which was the last stop among the seven polytechnics lined up for the said series of APACC activity for the year.

APACC Carries on with Quality Drive, Visits Politeknik Kota Bharu, Malaysia

The warm welcome accorded to the APACC team was led by the PKB Director Mejar (K) HJ. Noor Azahan Bin Othman. Prior to the on-site-visit proper he provided PKB's history and highlighted its accomplishments, innovations, research and development outputs and special projects vis-à-vis the polytechnic's goals during the opening ceremonies. PKB's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) expressed his appreciation to APACC for giving them the opportunity to prove their worth and be duly recognized in the international arena. He shared that he always tells his faculty, staff and students that "if you do not aspire to be the best you are not doing justice to yourself".

The APACC President, in response, conveyed his warm wishes to the PKB team and acknowledged the institution's regard towards the benefits of APACC. He further expounded on how could APACC significantly contribute to the quality aspirations of the institution and encouraged the team to continue laying down foundations for more quality achievements.

Also present for the whole duration of the visit were officials from the Department of Polytechnic Education including APACC National Coordinator for Accreditation (NCA) for Malaysia Pn. Noor Aidi Nadzri, Director of Instructional and Digital Learning Division, Department of Polytechnic Education, Malaysia.

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CPSC Team Building 2015

held at Puerto del Sol Beach Resort, Pangasinan

The CPSC faculty and staff embarked on a team building activity held from March 5-6, 2015 at CPSC and Puerto del Sol Resort, Bolinao, Pangasinan.

The two-day activity was designed to develop employee's competencies on leadership skills, boost co-operation and team work among team members and across division, enhance synergy at work and stimulate positive attitude committed to better performance towards achieving organizational goals.

During the first day, the team building activity culminated with the involvement of the CPSC faculty who provided lectures and activities on leadership, motivation and discipline. Team building activities and games were also facilitated to encourage cooperation and interaction among team members. All employees were arranged into four groups named after the four core values of CPSC ("CPSC stays ATOP working ASAP with CARE through IRIS) and were given their color assignments. After a series of activities, the teams engaged in a badminton competition, and a videoke singing activity followed afterwards.

At the second day, the CPSC family travelled to Bolinao, Pangasinan for some outdoor rest and recreation activity. The facilitators prepared games to test the team spirit of the groups and to encourage physical activities while enhancing camaraderie and support.

Towards the end of the activity Dr. Mohammad Naim bin Yaakub, CPSC Director General reiterated the importance of discipline and cooperation in building a successful organization. He encouraged everyone to carry the CPSC values and objectives in the workplace and at the same time work hand-in-hand for the achievement of its goals.



Some fun activities during the CPSC team building.

Onsite Visit to POLISAS...continued from p.20

The APACC team was led to witness the latest innovations that the institution has embarked through the years such as the robot developed by the institution which has recently won awards in competitions outside Malaysia.

During the opening ceremony, Dato Haji Abu Bakar provided comprehensive information about POLISAS particularly on its history, facilities and services offered to its stakeholders. He also expressed his appreciation to the efforts of the whole institution in their preparation for the event.

The accreditors reviewed the claims of the institution vis-à-vis the questions in the APACC Self-Study Report (SSR) through a thorough audit of their documents, files and facilities.

The institution was evaluated based on the following criteria: (1) Governance and management; (2) Teaching and learning; (3) Faculty and staff; (4) Research and Development; (5) Extension, consultancy and linkages; (6) Resources and (7) Support to Students.



The POLISAS team with the APACC team.

APACC Carries On...continued from p.21

Interviews, facilities inspections and validation of evidences presented were conducted to examine PKB's compliance against the APACC's seven criteria namely: Criterion I. Governance and Management; Criterion II. Teaching and Learning; Criterion III. Faculty and Staff; Criterion IV. Research and Development; Criterion V. Extension, Consultancy and Linkages; Criterion VI. Resources; and Criterion VII. Support to Students.

PKB pledges to be responsive towards generating innovative human capital that is able to transform the national education system through the continuing efforts carried out by PKB's dedicated faculty, staff and students.

Official results of the visit shall be announced accordingly.

PSAS Undergoes APACC...continued from p.20

same event, the Director of PSAS provided a overview of the polytechnic, including the history, organization, vision and mission, and achievements to support the polytechnic's compliance to APACC criteria.

Atty. Teodoro Pascua, Chairman of the CPSC Governing Board and Deputy Director General of Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Philippines and Mr. Alexander Mercado, Executive Director of the Technical Vocational Schools and Association of the Philippines, Inc. (TEVSAPHIL) were invited by APACC on the second day to allow them to witness first-hand the status of Malaysian polytechnics and the on-site visit processes and procedures for benchmarking purposes.

Under Resources the APACC team toured around the library, Centre of Retail Excellence (CORE), multi-purpose hall where students' innovations were showcased, workshops, and student support services. Upon arrival, the APACC team witnessed the students' entrepreneurship carnival.

Final results of the accreditation status will be declared by APACC in due time, upon review and approval of the APACC Board.



CPSC Green Corner

GREEN CORNER: WHY CHOOSE ESD IN TVET?

ESD and TVET are powerful forces that can help people to become active and ecologically responsible citizen, workers and consumers, able to address local and global challenges.

Why invest in ESD?



- Because ESD can help everyone to acquire the values, skills and knowledge needed to build a sustainable future.
- Because the transition to green economies and societies requires informed citizen and consumers who can move the sustainable development agenda forward.

What is Green TVET?



- Green TVET encompasses pre-employment education and training, learning in the workplace and further training that address environmental, economic and social sustainability, while meeting the needs of industries and individual learners.
- Green TVET prepares people for green jobs that contribute to preserving or restoring the quality of the environment, while improving human well-being and social equity.

Why invest in Green TVET?



- Because Green TVET helps production move to more environmentally conscious practices.
- Because national governments needs to seize the potential for job creation by providing skills needed in new green sectors.
- Because disadvantaged groups in the labour market (youth, women, person with disabilities, rural communities, and other vulnerable groups) require targeted support to develop knowledge and skill for green jobs.

Source: UNESCO (2014). ESD + TVET: Promoting Skills for Sustainable Development. Retrieved April 21, 2015 from www.unesco.org/education.

Please allow me to say 'Thank You' for your kind expression of appreciation. Thank you so much for appreciating my efforts. I hope to work with you through these kinds of programs in the near future. Such appreciation for my performance encourages me to continue my good work. I wish you good health and happiness.



Best regards,

Md. Ali Islam
Attached Officer (EMIS)
Directorate of Technical Education
Bangladesh

On behalf of Mr. Tan Seng Hua, thank you for your kind letter to compliment the efforts of our 2 ITEES colleges. We indeed enjoyed the sessions interacting with the participants in this April program. Just as we have hoped that the participants have benefitted from the Singaporean VTE experience, we are very grateful for the opportunity to learn from participants' sharing of experiences from different parts of Asia. Together, we are happy to grow as a community of Asians, each improving our national VTE programs.



We hope to continue this excellent working relationship with Colombo Plan Staff College with our Ministry of Foreign Affairs colleagues, and also hope to welcome you back in Singapore/ ITE in the near future.

Eden LIEW
Dy CEO
Subsidiary of Institute of Technical Education, Singapore

I thank you for the kind words and close support given by your staff during our joint training program. We intend to keep the longstanding and excellent collaboration between Singapore and CPSC.



I shall look forward to working closely with you to that end.

Aik Yeow HENG (MFA)
Director General
Technical Cooperation Directorate
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore

It is my pleasure to have had a chance to coordinate the in-country training program (ICP Myanmar). It was a successful program and all the participants mostly the principals of technical institutions participated actively.



I look forward to work with you again in the future.

Yours Sincerely,

Thein Min Htike (PhD)
Assistant Director
DTVE, MOST, Myanmar



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