

CPSC Kicks off its **Strategic Planning** with the **National Consultation Workshop**



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The CPSC Quarterly- the official news magazine of the
COLOMBO PLAN STAFF COLLEGE (CPSC)
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The CPSC Quarterly serves 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.

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Dear Readers,



I wholeheartedly send to everyone my good wishes as we in CPSC embark on another fiscal year this July 2022. Facing the challenges brought about by the gradual return to normal as most travel restrictions relax in the world, and with the return of our face-to-face programs, let us all welcome the fiscal year with a positive mind and open hearts.

As we laid out our plans and took actions on endless possibilities this year, we also took note of our achievements in the past three months - July, August, and September, as we continuously strive and ensure that TVET systems in our member countries continue to improve through the capacity building measures that we implement here in CPSC.

I am pleased to announce that we have begun our strategic planning process, through the conduct of the National Consultation Workshop last September. The workshop was attended by esteemed TVET experts in the Philippines. This is the first of the three stages of CPSC's strategic planning, which would allow us to craft our strategic directions in the next five years. The next stages are the Experts' Meeting and the Senior Executives' Conference which are both slated to take place in the last quarter of the year in Kuala Lumpur and Bangkok respectively.

For the first time as well since the pandemic's onset, I am glad to inform everyone that CPSC has returned to conducting face-to-face training programs beginning with the regional program that we implemented in collaboration with Toyota Motor Philippines. Secondly, a customized program involving participants from Nepal was conducted physically in CPSC last August. The program was in collaboration with CTEVT, Nepal and the British Council Nepal.

I have also met with the newly appointed Director General of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Atty. Danilo P. Cruz, to signify CPSC's continued commitment in support of TESDA's programs to constantly improve Philippine TVET through training, education, and upskilling. During the courtesy visit, I have also expressed my utmost appreciation to the Government of the Philippines through TESDA for its continued support to our organization.

As for our regular programs, we have continued organizing online In-Country Programs in cooperation with Labtech International Ltd. We have taught virtual TVET to trainers of automotive and HVAC from Pakistan and Bhutan respectively.

Two onsite visits in the Philippines were also conducted by APACC this quarter. Jacobo Z. Gonzales Memorial School of Arts and Trades (JZGMSAT) became the first institution under TESDA, Philippines, to undergo an onsite accreditation in two years since the COVID-19 pandemic has globally dominated while Don Bosco Technical Institute of Makati became the first TVET institute under the Don Bosco - One TVET Philippines to have applied for accreditation.

Please feel free to examine the rest of the pages of this quarterly for the details of our activities and achievements and we enjoin you and the rest of our stakeholders to continue following CPSC's activities and plans for its member countries

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G.L.D. Wickramasinghe'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'G'.

Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe
Director General

CPSC DG Meets New TESDA DG, Pledges Continued Cooperation

Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe, CPSC's Director General together with the Executive Secretary Mr. Jan Michael Marasigan paid a visit to the newly-appointed Director General of the Technical Education Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Atty. Danilo P. Cruz at the TESDA Central Office in Taguig City on September 1, 2022.

The visit was organized as a courtesy of CPSC to the head of the Philippine TVET authority and a new member of the CPSC Governing Board. It was also an opportunity for Prof. Wickramasinghe to inform Atty. Cruz about the present state of TESDA-CPSC relations.

On behalf of CPSC and other members of the Governing Board, Prof. Wickramasinghe extended the College's appreciation to TESDA for its continued support towards CPSC. He was also able to discuss TESDA's participation in CPSC programs as well as his future plans for the member countries, particularly the Philippines.

Atty. Cruz, meanwhile, expressed his commitment to further support CPSC's activities in the Philippines and to continue exploring avenues for program collaboration, particularly on the organization of joint training programs and institutional accreditation through APACC.

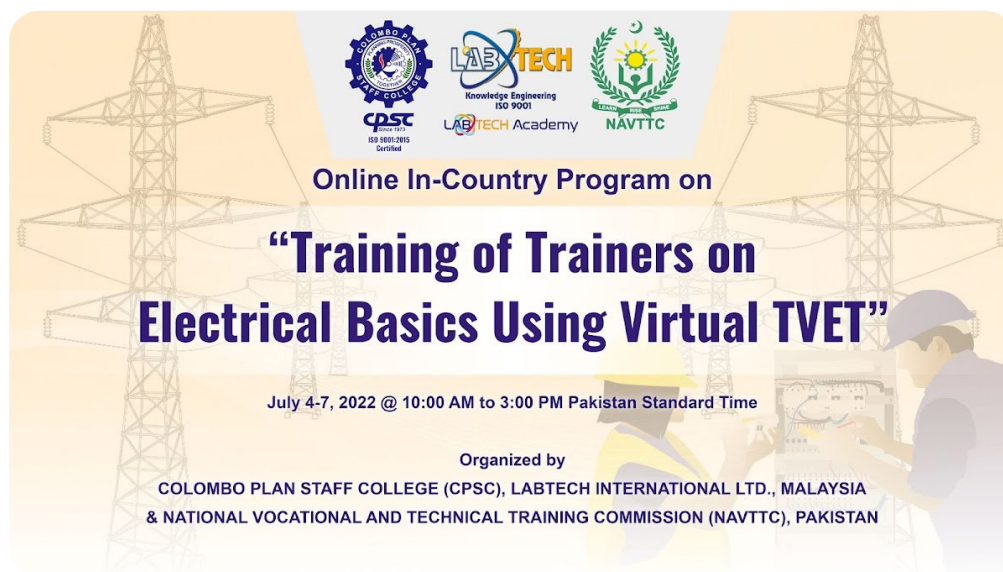


The CPSC DG, Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe (left) with the new TESDA DG Atty. Danilo P. Cruz (center), and Ms. Maria Susan P. Dela Rama, Executive Director of the TESDA Certification Office (right).

TESDA DG and CPSC DG exchanging tokens



Pakistani Electrical Trainers Learn Virtual TVET from CPSC and Labtech



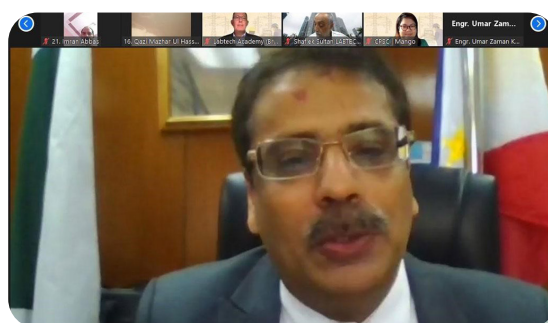
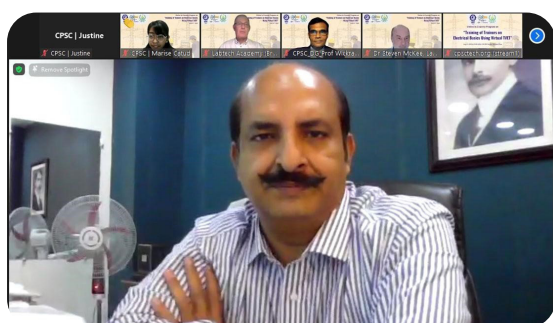
The Colombo Plan Staff College and Labtech International Ltd. tapped Pakistani TVET trainers to hold an online in-country program on Electrical Basics Using Virtual TVET in Pakistan. Held from July 4-7, 2022, the program tapped 28 electrical trainers and instructors for a period of four days. This program of similar nature and modality was previously held in Bangladesh.

Supervising the program are Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe, CPSC Director General; Dr. Steven McKee, President of Labtech International Ltd and Mr. Asif Rasool Larik, Director of International Cooperation, National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTC). Training was facilitated by Mr. Brad Kerr, General Manager of Labtech Academy while Mr. Irfan Ahmed Ujan, Assistant Director for International Cooperation at NAVTTC, provided his support as the local coordinator. Mr. Ian Andrew, Consultant and TVET Specialist at Labtech International, also provided additional resources as a program lecturer.

The opening ceremony was held on July 4, 2022 and was attended by key persons particularly the program supervisors

from CPSC, Labtech and NAVTTC. Guests in attendance include: Dr. Khalid Maahmood, the Director General of NAVTTC, Mr. Asif Rasool Larik, Director of International Cooperation, NAVTTC and H.E. Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad Kazi, Ambassador of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in the Philippines. The invited officials affirmed Pakistan's commitment towards further cooperation with CPSC as they wished the participants the best during the 4-day program.

Held via Zoom, The 4-day course provided an introduction for teachers / instructors to a TVET learning management system (LMS) and the Virtual TVET digital learning content. The learning materials or topics were designed to cover the introduction to electrical fundamentals, instruments and meters, electrical components, power supplies, etc. It also goes into developing the students' knowledge and skills leading to more advanced or practical studies such as residential and commercial wiring systems, electrical machines and their controls, electrical protection systems, etc.



Guests of the opening ceremony: Dr. Khalid Maahmood, the Director General of NAVTTC (left) and H.E. Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad Kazi (right), Ambassador of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in the Philippines

Continued on p. 21 ...

CPSC Collaborates with Toyota Motor Philippines for the Resumption of Face-to-Face Regional Programs

For the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began more than two years ago, the Colombo Plan Staff College successfully implemented its face-to-face Regional Program in collaboration with Toyota Motor Philippines School of Technology (TMPTech). The program was held physically in TMPTech's headquarters in Santa Rosa City, Laguna, from August 8-12, 2022.

A total of 20 automotive instructors from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Fiji, India, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand participated in the program.

First conducted in 2021, this program aims to close the gap between the previous teaching and learning processes on auto mechanics training and the availability of auto-mechanic training opportunities in Asia. TMPTech, as CPSC's reliable partner, stepped in to provide the training modalities, ensuring that the participants adopt modern teaching and learning practices in automotive with the hope of replicating these lessons in their local context. In addition, it is highly expected that this collaborative training program will also strengthen training management systems in TVET institutions in Asia and the Pacific region especially in the automotive area.

The program was supervised by Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe, CPSC Director General and Dr. David T. Go, President of Toyota Motor Philippines. Coordinating the program is Engr. Ronald Gaspar, Assistant Vice President of Operations at Toyota Motor Philippines Foundation. He is also supported by the Training and Development Division of CPSC led by the chairperson and CPSC Faculty Consultant, Dr. Kesavan Ulaganathen and the Training Officer, Mr. Vergel dela Paz.

The opening ceremony of the program was held on August 8, 2022 and was attended by the program participants, CPSC staff members, TMPTech staff members and notable guests including the Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the Philippines, H.E. Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad Kazi.

In his opening speech, Prof. Wickramasinghe thanked TMPTech for making the program a reality despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. He also emphasized the need for trainers to continually upgrade their competencies in light of the changing demands of the industry, and presented this training as an opportunity for the representatives to be exposed to updated industry practices.

His sentiments were echoed by Dr. Go, who mentioned that the program is in-line with the vision of TMPTech to be a global training center for automotive technology. Meanwhile, Amb. Kazi expressed his support to the program and reiterated Pakistan's continued commitment to CPSC's endeavors. He also praised Toyota's reliability as a trusted brand and hopes that the participants will appreciate the benefits of the training.

During the five-day workshop and classroom activities, the participants were able to be exposed in the following topics:

- Diesel Engine Management (e.g. Injection pumps (Injection pump cut-away model, EFI diesel injector tester, Global Techstream(GTS) diagnosis equipment, Diesel EFI simulator, Diesel fuel, Diesel engine equipped vehicles)
- Gasoline Engine Management (Lexus/Vios unit, GTS Diagnosis equipment, Electronic Manuals, Engine Simulators)
- Diagnose and Repair ECT (2NZ-FE simulator equipped with ECT, GTS Diagnosis equipment, Repair Manuals for Vios and Lexus units, Lexus unit (Model: ES350), Electronically Controlled Transmissions, Automatic Transmission Fluid)
- Diagnose and Repair CVT (Simulator, Vios/Altis unit equipped with CVT, Repair Manuals)
- Toyota Hybrid Systems (Prius unit, Training Manual, Hybrid Simulator).





Prof. Wickramasinghe, CPSC Director General



H.E. Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad Kazi, Ambassador of Pakistan to the Philippines



Dr. Kesavan Ulaganathen, CPSC Faculty Consultant



Engr. Ronald Gaspar, TMPF Assistant Vice-President of Operations



Pictures of the participants during the training days



The closing ceremony was held on August 12, 2022 and was attended by all participants. Key guests invited include the Academic Coordinator of TMPTech, Mr. Luis Villa and the Executive Officer of TMPTech Mr. Jose Maria A. Aligada. They summarized the events during the training, as well as the lessons learned. Finally, the program was closed by Dr. Kesavan Ulaganathen, CPSC Faculty Consultant. He expressed his appreciation to all the stakeholders involved in the program. He also thanked everyone involved in the program on behalf of Prof. Wickramasinghe, who was currently abroad for another engagement.

The participants also had the opportunity to visit some of the key tourist attractions in the area including Tagaytay City, Santa Rosa City and Metro Manila. They were also immersed in the host country's culture, cuisine and traditions as CPSC and TMPTech ensured that they would be able to maximize their training experience in the Philippines.

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The participants in Rizal Park, Manila, during the cultural tour of Manila.



The participants with the Toyota and CPSC Faculty and Staff.



The participants at Tagaytay City.

Bhutanese TVET Trainers on Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVAC) Trained by CPSC and Labtech Using Virtual TVET

Bhutanese TVET trainers on Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVAC) were the latest recipients of the joint program co-organized by CPSC and Labtech International on Training of Trainers Using Virtual TVET, held from August 22 to 25, 2022. Previously, HVAC using digital TVET was implemented in the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Myanmar. In addition, CPSC also organized a Labtech virtual training of trainers training program for Bhutanese automotive trainers last February 14-17, 2022.

For this program, a total of 19 participants participated which provided an introduction for Teachers/Instructors to a TVET Learning Management System (LMS) and Virtual TVET Digital Learning Content. The objective is to get them up and running on when and how to use Virtual TVET and digital content and TVET LMS to monitor the progress and grades of learners within and across institutions, and how to integrate these into their classroom learning, plus management of courses. The outcome for the teacher/instructor/trainers is that it will be a refresher course on new technology and applying a hybrid approach in the relevant subject area. This is specifically organized for instructors in the HVAC sector.

The program was jointly supervised by Dasho Tashi Wangmo, Honorable Secretary of the Ministry of Labor and Human Resources (MoLHR), Bhutan and Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe, Director General of CPSC. In addition, the program's resources and logistics were facilitated by Dr. Steven McKee, President and Founder of Labtech International, together with Labtech Academy General Manager Mr. Brad Ker. Local coordination was facilitated by Mr. Sangay Dorji, Chief Program Officer of the Department of Technical Education (DTE) of MoLHR, Bhutan.

The program was formally opened on August 22, 2022 and was attended by key CPSC and Labtech officials, notably Dr. Kesavan Ulaganathan, CPSC Governing-Board Engaged Faculty Consultant who was representing the Director General; and Dr. Steven McKee, founder of Labtech International. Both officials affirmed the commitment of the two organizations in delivering a virtual TVET simulation in instruction and hopes that the participants will be able to apply these lessons particularly in the HVAC sector.



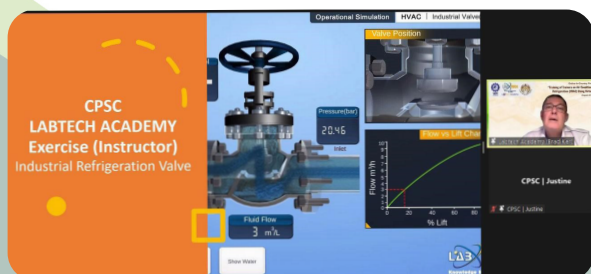
The program covered various topics such as “Digital TVET Framework” and “What is Virtual TVET”; in addition, topics such as “Understanding how to Adapt and Adopt Blended Learning”, “How to use a TVET LMS to Deliver Competency-Based Training”, “TVET LMS Reporting and Analytics” and “Understanding the Technical Operation and Troubleshooting of the New Modern Training System”. The HVAC fundamentals such as electrical controls and components, instruments and meters, electric motors, and HVAC components were also introduced and discussed with the participants.

The participants were also taught how to incorporate their lesson plans using Virtual TVET and were awarded certificates of completion by Labtech and certified by Worlddidac after the course.

The closing ceremony was held on August 25, 2022. In addition to the program organizers from Labtech, the CPSC Director-General, Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe also attended the proceedings. He wished the participants well as he emphasized the importance of this program to the participants. The participants of the program also appreciated the 4-day proceedings and wished that it will be replicated in the future.



Dr. Kesavan Ulaganathan (left), GB-Engaged Faculty Consultant from CPSC and Dr. Steven McKee (right), President and Founder of Labtech, Inc. during the opening ceremony



HVAC online modules were delivered by Mr. Brad Ker, program coordinator and resource person from Labtech.

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CPSC-DTE Bangladesh In-Country Program Focuses on Entrepreneurship for TVET Professionals



The Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC), together with the Directorate of Technical Education (DTE) under the Technical and Madrasah Education Division (TMED) of Ministry of Education, Bangladesh, has conducted the Online In-Country Program on Entrepreneurship for TVET Professionals on September 11 to 15, 2022 through Zoom platform. The program was participated by 40 TVET teachers, managers, and administrators from various technical polytechnics and colleges under DTE.

The program was primarily designed to provide an appreciation of the relevance of entrepreneurship education in TVET, knowledge about new strategies for entrepreneurship promotion, and an understanding of the process of entrepreneurship enabling them to plan for their respective institutions and also provide support in the national effort to integrate entrepreneurship education in the TVET sector of the country for better-enhanced supply of TVET entrepreneurs.

The program was jointly supervised by CPSC Director General Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe and DTE Director General Dr. Md. Omar Faruque. Dr. Suresh Kumar Dhameja, Professor in the Department of Entrepreneurship Development & Industrial Coordination (EDIC) at the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Chandigarh, India, served as program coordinator and resource person as well. The nominations from DTE were facilitated by local coordinator Engr. Md. Aktaruzzaman, the current Director for Planning & Development. Theme papers were presented by the resource persons from Bangladesh namely: Mr. Hari Pada Das, TVET expert for the European Union's Human Capital development Programme for Bangladesh 2021 (HCDP21) and Mr. Md. Bayazid Arafin, Assistant Vice President of IFIC Bank Ltd.

During the five-day training, theme papers and workshops were facilitated by the invited resource persons. Dr. Dhameja discussed the Blue Ocean Strategy for Entrepreneurship Promotion in TVET, environmental scanning and business opportunity identification, innovation and technology business incubation, social, rural and women entrepreneurship, formulation of business plan, and management of micro, small and medium (MSME) enterprises. Mr. Md. Bayazid Arafin discussed lectures tackling financing schemes for industry and business setup by TVET professionals. Lastly, Dr. Hari Pada Das delivered a lecture on industry-academia linkages for entrepreneurship development.



CPSC Director General Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe delivering the opening remarks.

Regional Program in Singapore Promotes TVET Industry Revolution 4.0 through a Leadership Training Program



The Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) once again collaborated with the Singapore Cooperation Program (SCP) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)- Singapore to organize the program on the Industry Revolution 4.0: Leadership Training Program on September 26-30, 2022. The opening and closing ceremonies, as well as some classes, were held in the conference rooms of the Institute of Technical Education (ITE). The 5-day event also included study visits to Nanyang Polytechnic.

The program was attended by 21 representatives from CPSC member countries, as well as participants from Antigua & Barbuda, Brunei, Malta, Morocco, Serbia, and Zimbabwe. Overall, a total of 28 TVET experts attended the program.

The 5-day course was designed to introduce Singapore's industry 4.0 transformation journey in TVET and explore Singapore's approach to developing human capital and supporting the workforce to pick up new skills and prepare for new opportunities.

In addition, the program allowed the participants to gain a good understanding of Industry 4.0 and identify the gaps and areas of work that require adaptation and change. They were also trained to use the Singapore Smart Industry Readiness Index to identify the gaps and transformation needs and develop the digital transformation roadmap for their respective areas of work to embark on the country's digital transformation, "Industry 4.0".

The program was jointly supervised by Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe, CPSC Director General, and Ms. Eleanor Kang, Deputy Director of the Asia-Pacific Programs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ms. Mary Manjelique Garcia, CPSC Training Assistant, accompanied the participants during the whole duration of the program.



Prof. Wickramasinghe giving his special lecture on "Staff Development for Promoting 21st Century Skills in TVET"

The participants were welcomed in an opening ceremony on September 26, 2022, in which they were introduced to the program organizers and briefed about the activities for the next five days. Aside from the program supervisors, the event was attended by Mr. Bruce Poh, Chief Executive Officer of the ITE Education System (ITEES), and other key officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Topics such as “TVET Partnership with Industry for Industry”, “Developing a Successful TVET System- The Singapore Experience”, “Management of the TVET College”, “TVET Infrastructure and Learning Environment Innovation”, “Transforming TVET, Transforming Lives, the ITE Experience”, “ITE Journey of Excellence: Outside in and Inside Out” and “Smart Teaching to Prepare Students for the Digital World” were some of the lectures that were delivered by a team of competent professionals from ITE.

To further enhance the learning experience, the program also included actual study tours to ITE Campuses all-around Singapore, particularly their Colleges of Creativity and Innovation and Enterprise and Innovation. A visit to the Nanyang Polytechnic was also embarked on.

The closing ceremony held on September 30, 2022, invited notable officials from the SCP, MFA, and CPSC. The participants expressed their appreciation to the organizers for showcasing Singapore’s experience and hope to replicate these innovations in their home countries. They also commended the organizer’s efforts in successfully organizing the program as they look forward to future exposure visits in Singapore and other member countries.

In another highlight of CPSC’s successful mission in Singapore, Prof. Wickramasinghe also paid a visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) Headquarters on September 28, 2022, where he was able to meet Mr. William Tan, the Director General of the Technical Cooperation Directorate, as well as Ms. Eleanore Kang, Deputy Director of Asia-Pacific Programs. He also visited the Ministry of Education (MoE) where he was able to meet Ms. Lian Hui, Assistant Director of International Relations at the International Cooperation Branch under the Planning Division. His visits strengthened CPSC’s familiarity with MFA and MoE and enabled both entities to further discuss common issues concerning Singapore’s continued support of CPSC’s programs.



The participants’ at the courtyard of Nanyang Polytechnic campus



The participants’ during their numerous visits to ITE’s learning facilities



CPSC DG meets with Ms. Lian Hui, Ministry of Education Singapore



CPSC DG meets with officials from MFA Headquarters

CPSC Resumes Customized, Face-to-Face Training; Welcomes 27 Nepalese Officials in Manila



For the first time in nearly two years, the Colombo Plan Staff College once again welcomed international guests in its headquarters in Manila for the 5-day Customized Program on Quality-Assured TVET in Nepal and Industry-Institution Collaboration for Employability after the COVID -19 Pandemic.

The program was held in collaboration with the British Council-Nepal and the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT). A total of 27 senior-level managers: composed of the principals of Nepal TVIs, policy makers and administrators of the CTEVT, were able to embark on this visit from August 22-26, 2022.

The program was designed to share insights on industry-institution collaboration in line with the British Council, Nepal funded grant project called Strengthening Employer Engagement in CTEVT Schools (SEECs). This program, contextualized in Nepal's present needs, explores the phenomenon of institutional development and recognizes the necessary capabilities of a TVET institution to survive in the changing environment. There is a felt need for TVET institutions to change and it is important to launch new ways to adapt to it. A systematic approach to adjusting and transitioning technologies from their existing state to one that is considered superior is the call of the times.

After the program, the participants were expected to demonstrate a good understanding and awareness of the need for modifications in TVET management and governance to develop a quality-assured culture. They were also expected to identify the components of TVET for improvement to address and meet the requirements of industry, as well as the employability skills that today's world of work need. They were also expected to promote the implementation of institution-industry collaboration

to build a solid platform for change in the TVET system. They were also tasked to prepare an action plan for system development to ensure employability of graduates through industry linkages in TVET.

The program was supervised by Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe, CPSC Director General. Overall coordination was delivered by Dr. Romulita Alto, CPSC Visiting Faculty Consultant. The academic requirements were delivered by various sources including Dr. Kesavan Ulaganathan (CPSC Governing Board-Engaged Faculty Consultant), Engr. Dr. Mian Khuram Ahsan (CPSC Senior Faculty Specialist), Dir. Maria Susan Dela Rama (Executive Director of TESDA Certification Office) and Fr. Jose Dindo Vitug (Executive Director of the Don Bosco Technical Institute)



Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe, CPSC Director General (left) presenting CPSC's Token of Appreciation to H.E. Betty Palaso (right), Ambassador of Papua New Guinea to the Philippines



The participants during the classroom sessions



Visit of the participants to TESDA Headquarters in Taguig City, Philippines.



Visit of the participants to Construction Manpower Development Company in Dasmarinas City, Province of Cavite.

The CPSC Governing Board Vice Chairperson and Ambassador of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, H.E. Betty Palaso graced the opening ceremony held on August 22, 2022.

Together with the CPSC team, Her Excellency welcomed the participants in the Philippines and cited the relevance of the program to the regional development of TVET. She also lauded CPSC for successfully conducting the training despite the limitations caused by COVID-19.

The CPSC Director General, Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe, also underscored the importance of the training in developing Nepal's TVET system and expressed his hopes that the lessons that the participants will gain from this training will be used to further contribute to Nepal's progress.

During the five-day training, the participants were trained in the classroom on the following topics: institution-industry linkage concepts, benefits and models, quality assurance and accreditation in TVET, research and development of Tracer Study in TVET, development of training needs and materials, training delivery methods and system development planning.

To enhance the classroom lessons, a visit to the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and the TESDA Women's Center, as well as the Construction Manpower Development Corporation, were arranged for the program.

To maximize their training experience in the Philippines, CPSC also arranged tours to Tagaytay City and Villa Escudero in Quezon province for them to be able to appreciate some of the key cultural focal points of the country. In addition, the delegation was billeted at EDSA Shangrila Hotel for the whole duration of the program to ensure their comfortable stay in the country.

Overall, the program was able to meet its objectives and was able to imbibe additional knowledge on the promotion and successful implementation of institution-industry linkages in the TVET sector for its professionals. The participants were able to demonstrate a deeper understanding and more meaningful awareness of the needs of TVET management and governance as their contribution in building a quality-assured TVET in Nepal.



CPSC DG attends INDMO International Skills Conference in Timor-Leste

Representing the Colombo Plan Staff College and the Asia-Pacific Accreditation and Certification Commission as the Director General and President, respectively, Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe was in Timor-Leste from August 12-18, 2022 to visit some institutions in the country and to be one of the panelists at the 2nd Timor-Leste International Skills Conference. The event, with the theme "Increasing the Quality and Inclusiveness of Timor-Leste's TVET for National Development" was held at the Oka Convention Center located in the country's capital city, Dili on August 15-16, 2022.

During his trip, Prof. Wickramasinghe was able to share his knowledge and information with the participants, particularly on the subject of mutual recognition of qualifications and TVET institutional accreditation. In addition, he was able to establish new connections and renewed existing linkages with key officials from various international organizations for future partnerships and collaboration. He also visited key technical institutes in the country and exchanged information about key interests in TVET.

Aside from attending the conference activities, he was also able to meet esteemed officials from the Instituto Nacional de Desenvolvimento de Mão-de-Obra (INDMO), CPSC's development partner in Timor-Leste, particularly their Director, Ms. Isabel Fernandes de Lima. INDMO is considered one of the premiere TVET institutions in the country. Their delegation visited CPSC back in August 2019 to further discuss opportunities for collaboration, particularly in the field of institutional accreditation.



Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe (second from the right) with other esteemed guests of the conference.



Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe addressing the audience as a panelist during the Conference



Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe (third from left) visiting a technical college in Dili together with some of the conference attendees.



Key attendees of the conference include the following: H.E. General Taur Matan Ruak, Prime Minister of Timor-Leste; H.E. Dr. Armindo Maia, Minister-MEJD – Secondary Technical and Vocational Education; H.E. Mr. Longuinhos dos Santos, Minister-MESCC – Tertiary Technical Education and H.E. Dr. Rui Augusto Gomes, Minister, Ministry of Finance.

CPSC Strategic Plan 2023-2028 Starts with the National Consultation Workshop

The Colombo Plan Staff College started the drafting of the new CPSC Strategic Plan 2023-2028 through the successful organization of the National Consultation Workshop (NCW). The program, which involved 10 Filipino TVET representatives, was held on September 14, 2022 at the CPSC Headquarters in Pasig City, Philippines.

The national consultation workshop is an initial phase to request stakeholders to provide advice to CPSC about their needs, wants, and expectations. As it is the first level of the three-stage consultation, CPSC involved representatives from the host country, the Philippines. The participants are composed of representatives from senior executives of TVET institutions, industry associations and TVET practitioners.

The program was supervised by Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe, CPSC Director General. Program coordination was supervised by Prof. Romulita Alto, Ed.D., Program Coordinator and Visiting Faculty Consultant and was supported by Dr. Kesavan Ulaganathen, CPSC Governing Board-Engaged Faculty Consultant and Co-Coordinator of the Program. Lastly, facilitation of the program requirements was executed by Mr. Rae Emmanuel Echaveria, Research, Publications and Information (RPID) Officer of CPSC.

For one day, the participants were able to come up with a draft vision, mission and goals statement for CPSC's proposed Strategic Plan 2023-2028. These inputs were reconciled in CPSC's internal strategic plan and was ratified by both NCW representatives and CPSC Management.

Prof. Raul F. Muyong, Ed.D., the President of the Iloilo Science and Technology University (ISAT-U), served as the chairperson of the proceedings. He was able to facilitate the generation of draft outputs from the participants and coordinated the discussions between group members.



National Consultation Workshop

September 14, 2022 | CPSC, Manila, Philippines

Prior to that, presentations about the Overview of the Strategic Plan Process, CPSC Strategic Plan 2018-2023 Achievements and Challenges, and the Upcoming Trends and Needs of TVET in CPSC Member Countries, were presented to the delegates by Prof. Alto, Prof. Wickramasinghe and Mr. Echaveria, respectively.

The program ended with the endorsement of a draft vision, mission and strategic goals by the NCW delegates to the future delegates of the Experts' Meeting, tentatively scheduled to be held in November 2022.



Prof. G.L.D. Wickramasinghe (front), the Director General and Program Supervisor, discusses the opportunities and challenges of the upcoming CPSC Strategic Plan 2023-2028.



The NCW delegates discussing their inputs in the workshop exercise (left) Prof. Raul Muyong the head of the NCW Delegates, consolidating the group inputs and facilitating discussions (right).



JZGMSAT continues its pursuit of quality TVET in the Philippines through APACC on-site reaccreditation



Jacobo Z. Gonzales Memorial School of Arts and Trades (JZGMSAT) became the first institution under Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Philippines, to undergo on-site reaccreditation in two years since the COVID-19 pandemic has globally dominated. APACC successfully conducted the on-site visit to JZGMSAT on August 16 -18, 2022 in Biñan, Laguna, Philippines.

JZGMSAT had been APACC-accredited in 2009 and 2012, earning bronze awards for both accreditation cycles. Once again, JZGMSAT seeks to renew its accreditation in its continued and determined pursuit of achieving its vision to become a premier polytechnic institution in the region.

The evaluation activity commenced with the opening program which was attended by both JZGMSAT and APACC teams. The APACC evaluation team was composed of the lead accreditor from Thailand, Dr. Paiboon Saiyawongs, member accreditor from the Philippines,

Engr. Vladimir Santos, and documentation officer from Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC), Ms. Marisoc Catud. Also present during the opening program as an observer was Dr. Kesavan Ulaganathen, CPSC Governing Board-Engaged Faculty Consultant. Mr. Benito Reyes, JZGMSAT Vocational School Administrator III, welcomed the APACC delegation and, afterward, presented the accomplishments of the institution throughout the years. The accreditors in turn also delivered their special remarks.

The brief opening program was followed by a tour of facilities to showcase the amenities and equipment in the institution. The rest of the days were dedicated to the detailed discussion and evidence validation for every indicator of the seven APACC criteria on Governance and Management, Teaching and Learning, Human Resources, Research and Development, Image and Sustainability, Other Resources, and Support to Students.



Continued on p. 21...

Don Bosco Technical Institute of Makati Becomes the First Technical Institute Under the Don Bosco - One TVET Philippines, Inc. to Apply for APACC Accreditation

The Don Bosco Technical Institute of Makati became the first technical institute under the Don Bosco - One TVET Philippines, Inc. system to undergo an onsite APACC accreditation conducted from September 19 to 21, 2022.

The accreditation commenced with an opening program attended by the Don Bosco Technical Institute of Makati's team and the APACC accreditation team consisting of lead accreditor from the Philippines, Prof. Romulita C. Alto Ed.D., member accreditor and CPSC Governing Board-Engaged Faculty Consultant from Malaysia, Dr. Kesavan Ulaganathen, and documentation officer and CPSC Projects and Consultancy Division (PCD) Assistant, Mr. Paulo Anthony Mendoza. The delegation was welcomed by Fr. Jose Dindo Vitug, SDB, the Technical Director of the TVET Department of the institution. He expressed his motivation that through APACC accreditation, the institute will be able to effectively build a culture of excellence and that it will be able to deliver more quality TVET programs in the service of the Filipino youths. The welcome remarks were then followed by the special messages of the APACC accreditors.

Following the opening program, a brief tour of the facilities ensued. The accreditation team visited the TVET facilities of the institute including its automotive, fitter machinist, electromechanical, and airconditioning and refrigeration workshops and classrooms. Other school facilities such as the school library, clinic, and guidance counselors' offices were also visited. The accreditors were also able to interview some of the institute's students and staff and were able to observe ongoing lectures and workshops as well.

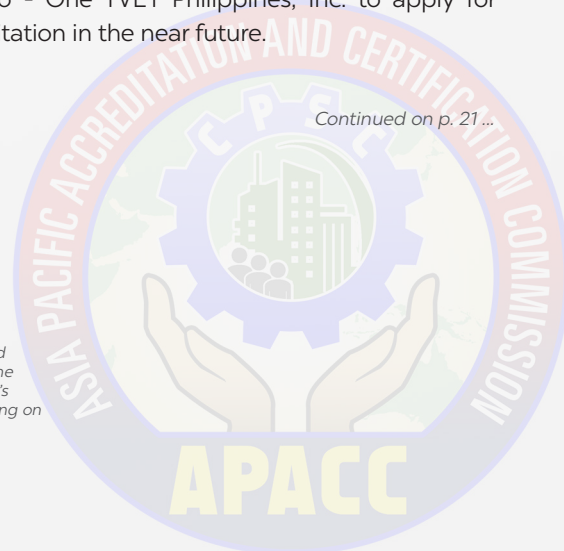
The three-day onsite visit was dedicated to evaluate the institution on the seven APACC criteria on Governance and Management, Teaching and Learning, Human Resources, Research and Development, Image and Sustainability, Other Resources, and Support to Students.



The exit meeting was attended by the institute's team and the APACC accreditation team. The latter expressed their deep appreciation to the institute's staff for their hospitality and cooperation throughout the three-day accreditation activity. Prof. Romulita C. Alto emphasized in her remarks the importance of embracing positive changes that will allow the improvement of the operations of the institute. Following this, she in turn presented the initial commendations, affirmations, and recommendations of the evaluation activity. In his closing remarks, Fr. Jose Dindo Vitug likewise extended his acknowledgement to the entire Don Bosco Technical Institute of Makati's TVET Department following the successful completion of their first APACC accreditation. He also expressed his hopes that the Don Bosco Technical Institute of Makati will become the model institution to motivate the other technical institutions under the Don Bosco - One TVET Philippines, Inc. to apply for APACC accreditation in the near future.



The APACC accreditors presenting the initial commendations, affirmations, and recommendations to the members of the Don Bosco Technical Institute of Makati's TVET Department during the exit meeting on September 21, 2022.





CPSC Welcomes its New Faculty Members



Dr. Kesavan Ulaganathen Governing Board-Engaged Faculty Consultant

Dr. Kesavan Ulaganathen is a Malaysian national who has an extensive experience in teaching in higher technical education in Malaysia for decades. His expertise is in optical communication, industrial engineering and instrumentation, satellite communication, wireless communication, computer-aided design for electronic design, semiconductor technology, digital communication, and RF and microwave technology.

Prior to CPSC, he was the Head of Department for Mathematical, Science, and Computer at Polytechnic Sandakan Sabah, in East Malaysia and has been holding this position since 2017. He was also a senior lecturer at Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Polytechnic (POLISAS) from 2009 to 2016.

Dr. Kesavan Ulaganathen obtained his PhD in Wireless Communication and his Master of Engineering in Electrical, Electronics, and Telecommunication from the Universiti Teknologi Malaysia in 2014 and 2005 respectively. He has a Bachelor of Science in Engineering (Electronics and Telecommunication) degree from the College University Institute of Tun Hussein Onn (UTHM), Malaysia.

Engr. Dr. Mian Khuram Ahsan Senior Faculty Specialist

Engr. Dr. Mian Khuram Ahsan is a highly accomplished Pakistani national with a diverse background in Engineering Projects. With extensive expertise in project planning, budgeting, execution, tendering, and system monitoring, he has made significant contributions in the fields of database management, risk analysis, business development management, consultancy, and public administration management. With an impressive career spanning government jobs, private sector engagements, and collaborations with development partners and international organizations, Engr. Dr. Mian Khuram Ahsan brings a wealth of experience to his work.



Throughout his 16-year tenure as Director of the TVET Authority of Pakistan, Engr. Dr. Mian Khuram Ahsan played a pivotal role in shaping the country's technical and vocational education and training sector. His profound understanding of the government system and strong connections with development partners in Pakistan and the Asia Pacific region have been instrumental in driving positive change.

Engr. Dr. Mian Khuram Ahsan possesses a wide range of competencies, including project design and management, TVET, monitoring and evaluation, quality management system (QMS), financial management, accreditation, and human resource development. His expertise and leadership have enabled him to successfully handle international projects, contributing to strategic planning, risk analysis, budget planning, and the facilitation of professional training for TVET institutions across the country.

In addition to his remarkable professional achievements, Engr. Dr. Mian Khuram Ahsan has pursued academic excellence. He completed his Ph.D. in Power Electronics and Power Drives from the School of Electrical and Information Engineering at Zhenjiang Jiangsu University in China in 2019. Notably, he was a pioneer in introducing Artificial Intelligence (AI) to the electrical system. He also holds a Master of Project Management from ABASYN University, Peshawar Pakistan, and a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering degree from N.W.F.P. University of Engineering and Technology, also in Peshawar, Pakistan.

With his wealth of experience, profound knowledge, and commitment to excellence, Engr. Dr. Mian Khuram Ahsan continues to make significant contributions to the field of engineering and project management. His dedication to advancing technical education and his ability to drive transformative change make him a valuable asset in any endeavor he undertakes.

5 Useful Practices in the Workplace to Help Contribute to



1. Incorporate Hybrid/Online Working Setup for Employees

Allowing employees to work from home – even if it's one day a week – can result in major decreases in your employee's commute emissions.

2. Limit the use of paper

Transitioning to paperless mechanisms is an easy way to save print-related costs and slow the deforestation rate globally.

3. Encourage employees to use public transportation or electric-based vehicles

Compared with driving alone, taking public transportation reduces CO2 emissions by 45%, decreasing pollutants in the atmosphere and improving air quality.

4. Always turn off the lights and computers during breaks and after work

Put your computer in sleep mode instead of using screen savers that still use energy.

5. Introduce potted plants into your office space

Having plants in the office has been proven to decrease air pollution and increase the mood and productivity of employees.

Sources:

1. <https://greenbusinessbureau.com/green-practices/20-sustainable-business-practices-for-your-workplace-and-office/>
2. <https://transportation.ucla.edu/blog/5-environmental-benefits-sustainable-transportation#:~:text=Less%20Pollution%20and%20Clearer%20Skies&text=Compared%20with%20driving%20alone%2C%20taking,atmosphere%20and%20improving%20air%20quality.>
3. <https://www.shrm.org/resourcesandtools/tools-and-samples/hr-qa/pages/environmental-sustainability-and-eco-friendly-practices-in-the-workplace.aspx>





Reckoning Climate Change through Art

Year after year, the negative effect of climate change becomes more dangerous and visible, yet the human maelstrom continues to escalate without mitigating these devastating effects... from the eyes, minds and hearts of the young artists, a clear picture of the climate emergency will be revealed to all, calling for collective action to build planetary stewardship that leads to sustainable development pathways round the world. (UNESCO, 2021)



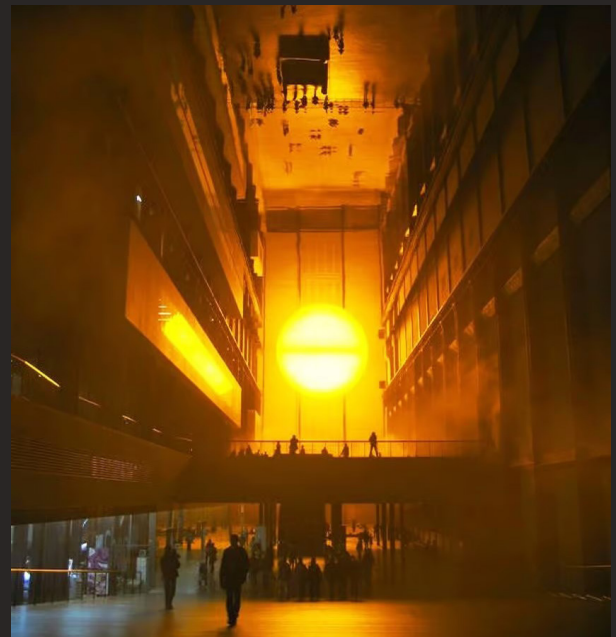
Ice Watch, 2014 by Olafur Eliasson (From Ice Watch, Instagram)



Plastic Ocean, 2016, by Tan Zi Xi (courtesy of Oceanic Global)

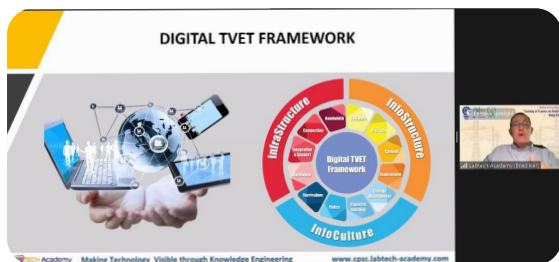


Climate Change is Real, 2020, by Nor Tijan Firadaus (courtesy of Artling)

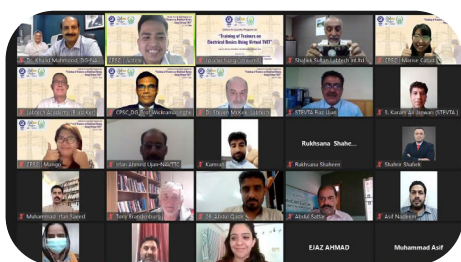


The Weather Project, 2023, by Michael Reve (Wikimedia Commons)

The closing ceremony was held on July 7, 2022 and was attended by key guests from NAVTTC including its Director General, Dr. Khalid Mahmood. During his speech, he was able to provide his positive feedback regarding the program and looks forward to further activities of CPSC that involve Pakistani TVET practitioners, especially in the electrical engineering sector. His response was seconded by the Local Coordinator and Assistant Director of International Cooperation at NAVTTC, Mr. Irfan Ahmed Ujan. Lastly, the program was positively regarded by the participants during the feedback session in which they noted its timeliness and significance in today's context.

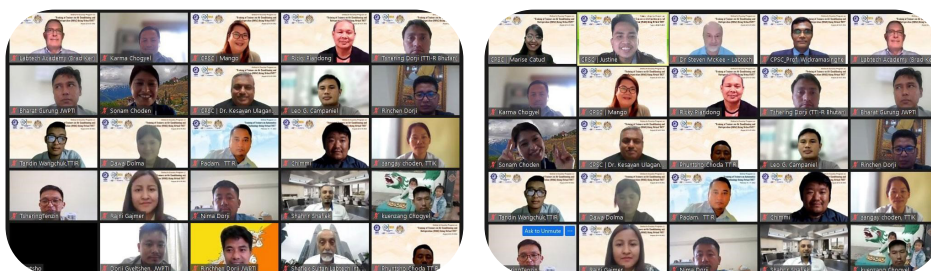


Digital TVET Framework as Discussed by Mr. Brad Ker of Labtech



Group picture of the participants and program organizers.

The 3-day on-site visit was concluded with an exit program wherein Mr. Benito Reyes, in his closing remarks, acknowledged the whole team's commitment to the preparation for the accreditation and their contribution to making the whole accreditation endeavor possible. He also expressed his gratitude to the APACC team for the time and effort they allotted to the activity and assured that the feedback would be taken into consideration for the improvement of services of the institution. The short program was also graced by the presence of the Provincial Director of TESDA-Laguna, Ms. Carizza Dacuma to show her support and appreciation for JZGMSAT's pursuit of excellence through APACC accreditation. Lastly, the initial commendations, affirmations, and recommendations were presented by the lead accreditor, Dr. Paiboon Saiyawongs.



Screenshot of the participants



Participants' Feedback



Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity to learn more about electrical basics. We are also thankful to CPSC, Labtech, and NAVTTC for giving us this opportunity to learn about the latest technology in the TVET sector which broadened our knowledge through this training.

Now, we will be able to teach our trainees with this latest technology using simulation trades and technologies which CPSC and Labtech gave us access to for six months. We will be using this technology through our trainings in this digital era.

Mr. Fiaz Ujan
Participant

*Online In-Country Program (Pakistan) on the Training of Trainers on Electrical Basics Using Virtual TVET
July 4-7, 2022*



I would like to thank CPSC and Labtech International for the amazing training on the Online In-Country Program on the Training of Trainers on Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Using Virtual TVET.

In the past three days, we have learned about understanding and mastering the digital TVET framework, adopting blended learning methodologies, technical operation and troubleshooting of modern training systems, and lesson planning using virtual TVET. I enjoyed the pre-test and post-test the most as these were very fun.

Ms. Sonam Padon Dorji
Participant

*Online In-Country Program (Bhutan) on the Training of Trainers on Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVAC) Using Virtual TVET
August 22-25, 2023*



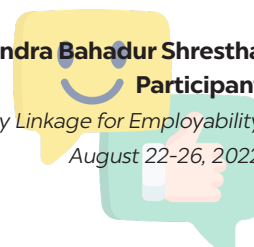
Thank you Dr Wickramasinghe for your excellent presentation and leading the well organized capacity development programme on Crafting a Culture of Quality-Assured TVET and Institution-Industry Collaboration.

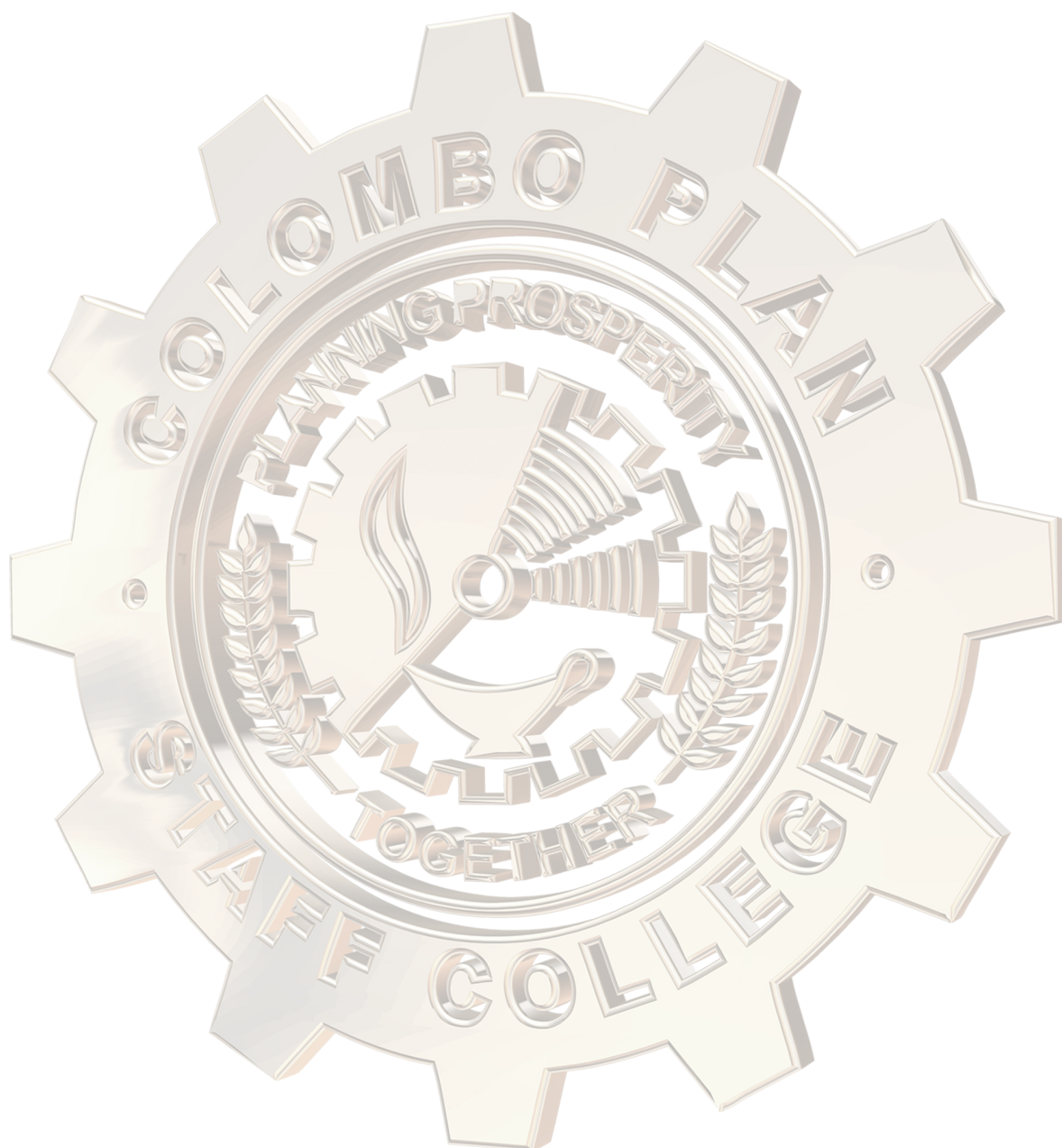
Meanwhile I would like to inform you that we had a debriefing event with all the participants and almost all participants expressed their views that the training programme gave them good insight and helpful for their work.

Please keep in touch and whenever you visit Nepal, please let us know. We will also think in our team about our future collaboration between British Council Nepal and CPSC.

Mr. Rajendra Bahadur Shrestha
Participant

*Customized Program on Crafting a Culture of Quality-Assured TVET in Nepal and Institution-Industry Linkage for Employability
August 22-26, 2022*





CPSC
Since 1973

Shared Vision 2023

The Inter-governmental TVET Leader for Sustainable Development

Mission

*Transforming TVET towards Sustainable Societies through
Outcome-Based Quality Training, Accreditation, Research,
Innovation and Image Building for stakeholders*



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