



THE ROLE OF THE SECTOR SKILLS COUNCILS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING SYSTEM OF UZBEKISTAN

Position paper of the GIZ project “Support of the Reform and Modernization Process in the Vocational Education System of Uzbekistan (TexVET)”

One of the important indicators of an effective VET system is its orientation to the needs of the labor market. That is why countries seeking to build a modern VET system are building their own strategies to integrate labor market requirements into the training process. At the same time, countries proceed from the principle that it is important to ensure the participation of employers at all major stages of vocational training, from identifying needs and developing occupational standards to assessing and certifying student competencies.

In Germany, for example, close cooperation between the state and the economy is one of the important principles of the VET system, where the state, employers and trade unions jointly create the framework conditions for vocational education and training. This includes the development of standards and curricula as well as the evaluation, certification, and quality assurance of vocational education and training. Enterprises also participate in implementing and funding initial and continuous education and training measures

The modern VET system in Uzbekistan is being built considering the best practices of foreign countries. In 2020, by a resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers (No. 287 of May 15, 2020), the National System for the Development of Professional Qualifications, Knowledge and Skills was approved, which has eight levels and includes flexible mechanisms for achieving qualifications.

One of the important actors of the National System for the Development of Professional Qualifications, Knowledge and Skills is the Sector Councils for the Development of Professional Qualifications and Competences (hereinafter referred to as the Sector Skills Councils). By Presidential Decree (No.4939 of December 31, 2020), Sector Skills Councils for 29 sectors were created, as well as the Institute for Labor Market Research was

established. This institute provides methodological, organizational, and informational support for the activities of Sector Skills Councils, including the development and implementation of occupational standards in practice.

An article on Sector Skills Councils and Qualification Assessment Centers was added to the Law on Employment of the Population (No.LRU-642 of October 20, 2020), and the Cabinet of Ministers Decree (No.616 of September 30, 2021) approved the Model Regulation on Sector Skills Councils.

The main directions of the Sector Skills Councils of Uzbekistan are:

- identifying industry skills and knowledge needs and trends based on labor market monitoring.
- development, implementation and improvement of the Sector Qualifications Framework.
- coordination of the activities of ministries, agencies and organizations for the development and implementation of occupational standards.
- formation of the system of recognition, validation and accreditation of the results of non-formal and informal learning, including the organization of the Qualification Assessment Centers activities.
- organization of work on vocational guidance and development of informational materials.
- improvement of classifier of key positions and professions of employees on the basis of the Sector Qualifications Framework and occupational standards.

The Law on Employment of the Population indicates that the financial support for the activities of Sector Skills Councils is carried out at the expense of ministries, state committees, departments, associations, companies, and organizations that have created Sector Skills Councils.



As can be seen from the above, the institution of Sector Skills Councils is new for Uzbekistan and for its formation, they need financial, technical, and methodological support.

The contribution of the TexVET project to the development of the Sector Skills Councils in Uzbekistan:

The TexVET project sees Sector Skills Councils as an important institution that can play a key role in improving the VET system and making it more oriented to labor market needs.

Sector Skills Councils play a key role in the creation and development of Qualification Assessment Centers, whose role is to recognize, validate, and certify non-formal and informal learning outcomes.

TexVET project activities in support of the Sector Skills Councils will focus on following directions:

- Advising on establishing/improving regulatory frameworks and developing strategies for the further development of Sector Skills Councils in Uzbekistan (Macro or Policy level)
- Capacity building of the Sector Skills Council for the development of professional competencies in the textile, garment and leather industries

in strategic planning and organizational development; labor market research; development of occupational standards, as well as in the organization of professional orientation of young people (Meso or Institutional level)

- Creation, approbation and institutionalization of training and development programs for the employees of the Sector Skills Councils (Micro or Implementation level)
- Enabling the efficient use of international good practice.

Our partners:

- Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Innovation.
- Ministry of Employment and Poverty Reduction.
- Association "UZTEKSTILPROM"
- Sectoral Council for the Development of Professional Competences in the Textile, Clothing and Leather Industry
- Labor Market Research Institute

Published by

**Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH**

Project

“Support of the Reform and Modernization
Process in the Vocational Education System of
Uzbekistan (TexVET)”

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