

# IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

## SUBMITTED TO THE THIRD MEETING OF THE MONITORY AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE OIC-VET PROGRAMME

(TEHRAN, 16-20 JULY 2011)



# Vocational Education and Training Programme for OIC Member Countries (OIC-VET)

## Implementation Report

The following Implementation Report on Vocational Education and Training Programme for OIC Member Countries (OIC-VET) provides a summary of activities to date on the Programme and the future works planned to be implemented during the forthcoming period. By doing this, the document focuses on the activities accomplished by the Statistical Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) since the Second Meeting of the Monitoring and Advisory Committee (MAC) of the OIC-VET Programme held in Antalya, Republic of Turkey on 11-12 May 2010.

### 1. COMPLETED WORKS / ACTIVITIES

#### 1.1 National Focal Points (NFPs) of the OIC-VET Programme

*[The 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC] underlines the critical role of the National Focal Points (NFPs) for the successful implementation of the OIC-VET Programme, and calls upon the NFPs to pool and coordinate their efforts to the planned and ongoing pilot projects under the Programme.*

In line with the above decision of the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC, SESRIC has strengthened its efforts in enhancing its relations with current National Focal Points of the OIC-VET Programme and increasing the number of National Focal Points designated by the member countries. The 26<sup>th</sup> Session of COMCEC takes note of the increasing number of the Member States which have already designated their NFPs for the OIC-VET, and calls upon the other Member States to do so. The 26<sup>th</sup> Session of COMCEC also underlines the critical role of the National Focal Points (NFPs) for the successful implementation of the OIC-VET Programme, and calls upon the NFPs to pool and coordinate their efforts to the planned and on-going pilot projects under the Programme. Following the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC, SESRIC have undertaken the necessary communications with the OIC Member Countries that have not designated their National Focal Points for the Programme through their respective national authorities, and requested them to designate their National Focal Points and to provide the Centre with their communications details, in order to represent their respective countries at the meetings of the Monitoring and Advisory Committee (MAC) of the OIC-VET Programme. As a result, the number of NFPs has increased to twenty-four as following:

- |                      |                  |                          |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Azerbaijan        | 9. Iraq          | 17. Senegal              |
| 2. Bahrain           | 10. Jordan       | 18. Sierra Leone         |
| 3. Bangladesh        | 11. Malaysia     | 19. Syria                |
| 4. Brunei Darussalam | 12. Maldives     | 20. Togo                 |
| 5. Cameroon          | 13. Morocco      | 21. Tunisia              |
| 6. Gabon             | 14. Qatar        | 22. Turkey               |
| 7. Indonesia         | 15. Pakistan     | 23. United Arab Emirates |
| 8. Iran              | 16. Saudi Arabia | 24. Yemen                |

## 1.2 OIC-VET Sub-Programme on Trade, Economy and Finance (OICVET-TEF)

*[The 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC] endorses the concept paper and the work plan on “OIC-VET Sub-programme on Trade, Economy and Finance (OICVET-TEF)” which was prepared by the Task Force composed of the representatives of the IDB, SESRIC and COMCEC Coordination Office, and requests the task force to finalize its work for the initiation of the sub-programme in early 2011.*

Upon the recommendation of the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the COMCEC, for the aim of enhancing the OIC-VET and incorporate related activities in the OIC Member Countries within the OIC-VET, representatives from the IDB, SESRIC and COMCEC prepared a concept paper and a future work programme on a Sub-Programme on Trade, Economy and Finance submitted to the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of COMCEC. The proposed OICVET-TEF, aims at complementing the on-going efforts in joint cooperation among OIC Member Countries in the fields of trade, economy and finance through supporting the projects proposed in accordance with the set rules and guidelines, particularly on exchange of professionals and innovative approaches as well as establishing networks of training among the relevant experts.

The 26<sup>th</sup> Session of COMCEC endorsed the concept paper and the work plan on “OIC-VET Sub-programme on Trade, Economy and Finance (OICVET-TEF)” and requested the task force to finalize its work for the initiation of the sub-programme in early 2011. In this connection, the Centre has prepared and submitted an Action Plan to the IDB, which presents the basic modalities of implementing this sub-programme to improve the quality of vocational training in the areas of trade, economy and

finance in the public and private sectors with the aim of supporting and enhancing the opportunities for individuals in the member countries to develop their knowledge and skills and thus to contribute to the development and competitiveness of the economies of their countries.

The Action Plan also included the following project proposals to be implemented jointly with IDB and SESRIC during the first year of the Sub-Programme. Efforts are being exerted by two institutions in order to realise the implementation of the proposed programmes.

No	Title	Description	Potential partners
1	Scholarship Programme on Trade, Economy and Finance	Providing 100 Muslim students in IDB member countries with the opportunity to have undergraduate or graduate studies in trade, economics and trade	IDB Group SESRIC COMCEC
2	Knowledge and experience sharing programme for trade professionals	Organising study visit for professionals in international trade in LDCs to comparatively advance member countries	IDB Group - ITFC SESRIC
3	Certificate Programme on Trade	Developing a full-fledged certificate programme for professionals in trade sector	IDB Group - ITFC SESRIC OIC Universities
4	Skill Development for Youth Employment	Workshop on developing a comprehensive project on skill development for youth employment in member countries	IDB Group SESRIC TOBB
5	International Students Internship Programme	Internships of university students in trade, economy and finance area in companies in member countries	IDB Group SESRIC MUSIAD
6	Training of Trainers in Agriculture Sector	Training of agricultural trainers in least development countries on the promotion of agricultural production and marketing	IDB Group SESRIC COMCEC

In this regard, **'Familiarization and Knowledge Sharing Program for Senior Staff of Trade Ministries on International Trade and Industrial Development'** is going to be mutually organized by ITFC, SESRIC and TOBB in September 2011 in Ankara. The main objective of the program is to establish links, provide networking opportunities for the participants and enhance cooperation among concerned institutions from participating countries of OIC on international trade and industrial development.

Consistent with the request of 26<sup>th</sup> Session of COMCEC, two new capacity building programmes have been designed by the SESRIC considering the fact that these programmes can facilitate and activate the intra-OIC trade. These are Stock Exchanges Programme and Cotton Training Programme. The details will be provided in the relevant section on 'Capacity Building Programmes'.

### **1.3 Implemented Pilot Projects**

The 26th Follow-up Committee of COMCEC welcomed the launching of pilot projects to be implemented in 2010 in coordination with National Focal Points of the Member States and concerned OIC Institutions. Accordingly, three pilot projects have been developed and implemented under review in the framework of the OIC-VET Programme. The details of the three pilot projects implemented so far are as follows:

#### **a. "Study Visit on Occupational Health and Safety"**

SESRIC has successfully initiated, in cooperation with the Turkish Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (İSGÜM), the first Pilot Project of the OIC-VET Pilot Application Phase in the field of occupational health and safety during the period 24-28 May 2010, in Ankara, Turkey, with the participation of experts and directors of occupational health and safety from 7 OIC Member Countries, namely Azerbaijan, Jordan, Libya, Malaysia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Syria. Additionally, the Arab Labour Organization was also represented at this Pilot Project.

#### **b. "Strengthening VET through Local Vocational Courses: the Experience of the Centre of Art and Vocational Training Courses of Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (İSMEK)"**

The OIC-VET pilot project titled "Strengthening VET through Local Vocational Courses: the Experience of the Centre of Art and Vocational Training Courses of Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (İSMEK)" was organised jointly by SESRIC and İSMEK in Istanbul, Turkey, during the period 8-10 June 2010 with the participation of representatives of the municipalities from nine OIC Member Countries, namely

Azerbaijan, Indonesia, Iran, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Pakistan, Syria and Yemen.

### c. “Pilot of the OIC International Student Internship Programme (OIC-ISIP)”

The OIC International Student Internship Programme (OIC-ISIP) is a special international internship programme developed under the OIC-VET Programme, and aims to enhance the quality of workforce employed in OIC Member Countries and strengthen integrity and convergence of labour markets, and promote competitiveness of OIC economies through increasing knowledge and skills of university students about to enter into the labour market in accordance with national legislation and practices. The pilot application of the OIC-ISIP started in the summer 2010 in collaboration with two NGOs, namely the Independent Industrialists and Businessmen’s Association (MÜSIAD) and BABIALEM International Student Association, recruiting some 14 university students from different OIC Member Countries in companies in Istanbul.

## 1.4 Launched Programmes/Networks

### a. OIC International Student Exchange Programme (OIC-ISIP)

*The 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC welcomed the OIC International Students Internship Programme (OIC-ISIP), which has been recently developed under the International Business Forum (IBF) in the framework of the OIC-VET Programme, and calls upon Member States to actively participate in the OIC-ISIP for promoting competitiveness of OIC economies through increasing the knowledge and skills of university students about to enter into the labour market.*

The pilot project of OIC-ISIP was successfully completed in the summer 2010 and the participants of the pilot project of OIC International Students Internship Programme (OIC-ISIP) were presented plaques by H.E. Abdullah Gül, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the COMCEC, during the ceremony taken place at the 14th International Business Forum in Istanbul, Turkey on 6 October 2010.

From the year 2011 on, the OIC-ISIP programme operates fully as an internationally recognised internship programme by all OIC Member Countries under the International Business Forum (IBF) which will cater to the basic training needs of the university students pursuing different degrees in OIC universities.

### b. İSMEK Master Trainer Programme (İMTP)

In accordance with the agreement on cooperation with SESRIC, the Centre for Art and Vocational Training Courses of Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (ISMEK) has started to provide free training courses to master trainers in respective institutions in OIC Member Countries. The programme is open for participants who are aware of

the subject and have at least intermediate level field knowledge. All the training courses provided by İSMEK are free of charge for qualified participants from the OIC Member Countries.

First of these trainings have been held between 21 March – 1 April 2011, at İSMEK training centers in Istanbul. Ten trainers from related vocational institutions in Pakistan have attended to courses on “Child Raising and Education”, “Wood Shaping”, “Needle Lace”, “Sewing Women Clothes” and “Machine Embroidery” in the context of training of trainers. The certificate ceremony has been held on 1 April with the participation of representatives from both SESRIC and İSMEK in Istanbul.

### **c. OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network (OIC-OSHNET)**

SESRIC organized an OIC-OSHNET Kick-off Meeting on 16-17 May 2011, with the participation of the 39 representatives from 15 OIC Member Countries, Occupational Safety and Health Institutions and concerned OIC institutions in order to discuss the main framework and operationalization of the OIC Network for Occupational Safety and Health (OIC-OSHNET) Project.

As an OIC-NETWORK Project, the OIC-OSHNET aims to establish closer cooperation for sharing knowledge and experience in occupational safety and health area, to conduct joint research and training and to organize new initiatives, projects and programmes in the field of OSH. Besides, it objects to build public awareness in occupational health and safety area in OIC Member Countries, as well as to improve the quality of services in OSH field.

In this context, SESRIC organized an OIC-OSHNET Kick-off Meeting on 16-17 May 2011, with the participation of the 39 representatives from 15 OIC Member Countries, Occupational Safety and Health Institutions and concerned OIC institutions in order to discuss the main framework and operationalization of the OIC Network for Occupational Safety and Health (OIC-OSHNET) Project.

At the end of the meeting, representatives of OIC Member Countries mutually agreed on establishing an Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Portal, where knowledge sharing is facilitated among member countries, developing a country profile standard and collecting the profile of each country on occupational safety and health conditions, establishing an expert and institutions database and deciding on the Terms of Reference of OSHNET at the 19th World Congress on Safety and Health at Work on 11-15 September 2011, Istanbul.

## **1.5 SESRIC Capacity Building Programmes (CBPs)**

Along with the Resolution of the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the COMCEC, which requested the concerned OIC institutions to incorporate their vocational training programmes and other human capacity building activities into the OIC-VET Programme, thereby

generating a common OIC platform for easier follow-up and more benefits for the member countries, SESRIC has already incorporated its long-standing Capacity Building Programmes.

Capacity Building Programmes of SESRIC are long term training programmes and large scale capacity development and construction project conceived, steered and fully funded by the SESRIC. The Programme aims at enhancing the capacity of the relevant institutions through establishment of a strong and active network congregating centres, trainers and trainees in OIC Member Countries in the concerned fields. The Programme involves collecting information from the relevant authorities of the governments, assessing the needs and capacities of the member countries, twinning the provider and the receiver member country, implementing training through short courses or workshops, evaluating the outcomes and impacts of the training and disseminating the outcome and results of the training activities.

With four newly designed capacity building programmes namely Capacity Building Programme for Stock Exchanges of the OIC Member States, Cotton Training Programme, Environment Capacity Building Programme and OIC Trade Capacity Building Programme in 2011, SESRIC currently has eight sub-programmes for capacity building:

**a. Statistical Capacity Building Programme (StatCaB) in the OIC Member Countries**

The Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Programme has been initiated in early 2007 as a long-term training programme and large scale capacity development project. This programme aims to identify and implement training programmes by matching the capacities and needs of the National Statistical Organizations in the member countries depending on the survey responses on Statistical Capacity Building. On some occasions, the Centre may also arrange training in collaboration with other international organizations. Up-to-date, twenty-six short-term training courses and several workshops have been organised with the participation of hundreds of experts from the OIC NSOs. More information about this programme and implemented projects can be found at the OIC-VET Portal: [www.oicvet.org](http://www.oicvet.org)

**b. Central Banks Capacity Building Programme in the OIC Member Countries**

As part of efforts towards enhancing the level of cooperation and coordination among the institutions to mitigate the negative impacts of global financial crises and shocks in international financial markets on the economies of Member States, the Capacity Building Programme for Central Banks has been initiated in early 2009 by SESRIC. Within this framework, the Centre is organising short-term training programmes regarding needs and capacities of the Central Banks in the member countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC). This programme aims to identify and



implement training programmes by matching the capacities and needs of the Central Banks in the member countries, depending on the survey responses where needs and capacities of the Central Banks are determined. More information about this programme and implemented projects can be found at the OIC-VET Portal: [www.oicvet.org](http://www.oicvet.org)

#### **c. Ibn Sina Programme for OIC Health Capacity Building**

SESRIC developed the IbnSina Health Capacity Building (IbnSina-HCaB) Programme in early 2010 in order to improve the health service delivery and practices in OIC member countries. This programme aims to identify and implement training programmes by matching the capacities and needs of the Ministries of Health in the Member Countries, depending on the survey responses where needs and capacities of the Ministries of Health are determined. More information about this programme and implemented projects can be found at the OIC-VET Portal: [www.oicvet.org](http://www.oicvet.org)

#### **d. Occupational Health and Safety Programme (OHS-CaB) in the OIC Member Countries**

Besides other activities in the field, the Occupational Health and Safety Capacity Building (OHSCaB) Programme has been initiated in early 2010 to address the outstanding needs and ways for improving workplace safety and health in OIC member countries. This programme aims to identify and implement training programmes by matching the capacities and needs of the occupational health and safety institutions in the Member Countries, depending on the survey responses where needs and capacities of those institutions are determined. More information about this programme and implemented projects can be found at the OIC-VET Portal: [www.oicvet.org](http://www.oicvet.org)

#### **e. OIC Cotton Training Programme (OIC-CTP)**

Cotton is one of the most important crops in the world and is of particular importance in OIC Member Countries, some of which are the world's largest producers. In this regard, the OIC came up with a 5-year Action Plan on Cotton in 2006 to develop more practical ways and means for enhancing cooperation among the OIC Member Countries in the field of cotton production and trade, and to enable them to increase efficiency and effectiveness of the cotton sector.

OIC Cotton Training Programme (OIC-CTP) has been developed by SESRIC within the framework of the implementation of the OIC 5-Year Action Plan on Cotton to organise short and long term training courses in close collaboration with the Centres of Excellence specialised in cotton research and training in OIC Member Countries. More information about this programme and implemented projects can be found at the OIC-VET Portal: [www.oicvet.org](http://www.oicvet.org)

## **f. Environment Capacity Building Programmes**

The Environment Capacity Building (Environment-CaB) Programme has been developed by SESRIC in order to promote environmentally sustainable lifestyle changes and thereby improve the state of the environment in OIC member countries. To achieve its projected goals of encouraging OIC member countries to be environmentally aware, the Centre disseminated surveys, collected answers from member countries and will organize short-term environment training programmes after evaluating the related questionnaires with regard to the needs and capacities of the Environment Authorities of the OIC Member Countries. More information about this programme and implemented projects can be found at the OIC-VET Portal: [www.oicvet.org](http://www.oicvet.org)

## **g. Capacity Building Programme for Stock Exchanges of the OIC Member States**

Capacity Building Programme for Stock Exchanges of the OIC Member States aims to organize training courses on various technical aspects related to the stock exchanges through matching the needs and capacities of the stock exchanges of the OIC Member States. The questionnaire was prepared and disseminated to member countries and trainings will start after the collection and evaluation of survey responses where needs and capacities of stock exchanges of the OIC Member Countries are determined. More information about this programme and implemented projects can be found at the OIC-VET Portal: [www.oicvet.org](http://www.oicvet.org)

### **1.6 Mission Works**

In this context, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), Centre for Vocational and Art Courses of the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (ISMEK) and Ministry of National Education (MONE) of the Republic of Indonesia on 5 April 2011 during the official visit of H.E. Abdullah Gül, President of Turkey and Chairman of Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (COMCEC). The MoU aims to develop cooperation and collaboration between the institutions in the areas of common interest so as to facilitate the attainment of the goals of the institutions with a view to enhancing cooperation in vocational, technical and art education and training among the Republic of Indonesia and the Republic of Turkey. According to the MoU, the parties shall exchange technical and administrative assistance in matters of common interest, share information to benefit from each other's experiences,

resources and expertise with respect to best practices, potential projects and initiatives related to vocational education and training.