2021 OECD SOUTHEAST ASIA REGIONAL FORUM

Human Capital Development in Southeast Asia: Fostering Competitiveness to Build Back Better

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Changing World of Work

Challenges and opportunities faced by ASEAN:

- Digital transformation
- Aging societies
- Climate change
- Increasing labour migration
- COVID-19 pandemic
Adopted at 36th ASEAN Summit, June 2020

Declaration to prepare HRD to be future ready, resilient, and able to manage just transition

No one left behind in the changing world of work
Target Outcomes of ASEAN HRD Roadmap

- Cultivated lifelong learning culture
- Improved inclusiveness in education and employment for all
- Demand driven competencies and qualifications that meet labour market needs
- More employment opportunities, better employability, higher quality of jobs and enterprise competitiveness
- Sound HRD policies and financing
Study on HRD Readiness in ASEAN

Achievements:
• HRD and life-long learning components are incorporated in national policies and practices
• Access to education and trainings and the institutional capacities have improved

Improvements are recommended:
• Measures to instil future-oriented perspectives in education
• Acquisition of a broader range of 21st century skills
• Leveraging the full didactic potential of digital technologies

Follow-up Study on Competitiveness of ASEAN Human Resources through Responsive TVET Curriculum (on-going)
• Involvement of private sector in TVET
• Utilisation of labour market information for TVET improvement
ASEAN TVET Council

A multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder body that provides a platform for coordination, research and development on innovations and monitoring of regional programmes that support the advancement of TVET in the region.

Objectives:
• To develop evidence-based policy recommendations
• To strengthen coordination and cooperation with businesses and industries
• To support programmes that narrow the gaps between vocational skills demand and supply across ASEAN
• To support the advancement of access to TVET for all
• To identify a holistic/collective response of ASEAN
Five broad strategies:

1) enhancing the health system;
2) strengthening human security;
3) maximising the potential of intra-ASEAN market and broader economic integration;
4) accelerating inclusive digital transformation; and
5) advancing towards a more sustainable and resilient future
ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework

Some of the regional initiatives in ACRF:

- Adaptation of TVET curricula to the post-COVID-19 future of work
- Promotion of business models that incorporate reskilling and up-skilling of workers
- Promotion of measures to safeguard employment and support the unemployed in the COVID-19 most affected sectors
- Identification of regional gaps/issues in existing policies in addressing labour concerns under new normal
- Fostering regional social dialogue to maintain responsiveness of labour policies in the new normal
Thank you!

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