

Session 3: Public – Private Partnership: Cross-Sharing of Regional Experiences

INDUSTRY-INSTITUTE INTERACTION TO PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP: A JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE

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ABSTRACT

Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) by its nature has to be connected with other sectors of the society, particularly the prime stakeholder, the industry, in order to educate and train the technical personnel and skilled workers needed for socio-economic development. In today's rapidly changing society, it is essential for this type of partnership with the world of work in order to meet the changing requirements.

For achieving this mutually beneficial relationship, there is a need for change in the approach of both the parties involved. The people from the industry should change their strategy. They should not consider the institute, as merely a supplier of manpower, but instead should view it as organizations, which can be helpful in solving their problems. Industry should seek active participation from institutes in attaining their objectives. On the other hand, institutes should get rid of the traditional methods of running the operation and should come out with some innovative ideas to meet the expectations of the industry. So there is a need for common platforms where both the parties can meet periodically and can share the ideas, which can be provided by the industry-institute interaction cell.

The perennial and persistent cry of most of the industries in the Asia Pacific Region is that the graduates they receive from the technical and vocational education and training (TVET) systems do not have the requisite skills, knowledge and attitudes or values to meet their needs. It can be explained by the difference in perspectives of education and industry. Education looks at the general development of students that will give them a wide choice and opportunities to prepare them upon graduation while industries look for technicians and employees with specific skills who will fit directly into their system.

Growth and development in technology have gone so fast that it has resulted in new patterns and paradigms in the region. To sustain this growth, there is a need for a steady supply of trained and educated manpower that can cope with the changes. Likewise, there is a need for technicians who are prepared to learn at any stage in their career and who can master new skills easily. Industry that is the ultimate beneficiary has recognized the need to develop this kind of human resource in a more systematic and practical way.

The concept of Public-Private Partnership is the progressive development of the relation between private sector and public institution which was earlier referred as Industry Institute Interaction.

A PPP is a contract between a public sector institution and a private party, in which the private party assumes substantial financial, technical and operational risk in the design, financing, building and operation of a project. Traditionally, private sector participation has been limited to separate planning, design or construction contracts on a fee for service basis – based on the public agency's specifications.

Expanding the private sector role allows the public agencies to tap private sector technical, management and financial resources in new ways to achieve certain public agency objectives such as greater cost and schedule certainty, supplementing in-house staff, innovative technology applications, specialized expertise or access to private capital.

The present paper describes the journey from industry institute interaction to public private partnership and also discusses major issues and problems of the linkages. Finally it has presented major challenges in terms of Appropriateness, Mutually Beneficial, Imaginative and Holistic nature of the Public Private Partnership.