



# **SEA-VET.NET - GOOD PRACTICE**

## **National Vocational Education and Training (VET) Report**

*Facilitating VET Policy Making in Viet Nam*

**July 2018**

## National Vocational Education and Training (VET) Report

### Introduction

#### VET in Viet Nam

The advent of the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution has highlighted the role of human development in Vietnam. Vocational training is vital to the development of human resources for the production revolution. Many related strategies and national development plans testify to this; such as:

- Law on Vocational Education and Training (2015)
- Strategy for VET Development for 2011-2020,
- National Target Program on Vocational Training for 2011-2015,
- Strategy on Development of the Vietnamese Human Resources for 2011-2020.

With VET as the pillar for sustainable economic development and labour structuring, Vietnamese policymakers require valid and reliable VET-related data to make better decisions in VET, to track the progress of VET Law implementation and to evaluate programmes for reforming VET in Vietnam.

#### Challenges in Developing VET Policies

The development of VET-related policies has, thus far, been based on separate reports with insufficient information that may not fully reflect many VET areas in Vietnam. The separate VET reports had inconsistent information; and in many cases, only provided statistics without thorough analyses, assessments, comparisons and development trends.



### Overview

<b>Implementing Institution(s):</b>	National Vocational Education and Training (VET) Report
<b>Region(s) of Implementation:</b>	Viet Nam
<b>Timeline:</b>	2012 - ongoing
<b>Beneficiaries:</b>	<i>National Vocational Education and Training (VET) Report</i>
<b>Total cost incurred/ resources required:</b>	2012-2016: no specific cost incurred 2017: approx. 8,800\$/year
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://nivet.org.vn">http://nivet.org.vn</a>

A standardized VET reporting process and a publication to regularly report the results of monitoring and evaluation of achievements in implemented programmes is essential to develop the country's VET system.

### Solution to Track the TVET System

During the early stages of proposing for the VET Report, challenges such as the lack of TVET indicators to measure effectiveness and efficiency of the TVET sector, lack of public and centrally-available data on TVET system and sound data from primary sources have been identified.

#### Indicator-based VET Reporting

The need for an effective instrument at single reference point, to track TVET development and policy-making annually led to the application of an indicator-based approach in VET reporting.

The indicator-based VET report was new in Viet Nam and the ASEAN region. It was employed considering the high reliability, appropriateness and internationally comparability of the reported data and information.

The advantages are that the indicators form the “core elements” of the report, based on the *SMART* criteria (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Reliable, Time bound). This contributes to transparency, consistency and trends of data in the VET report.

### ***Sustainable Tracking Tool***

To date, the VET Report has seen a series of five publications (2011, 2012, 2013/2014, 2015 and 2016). Each publication delivers quality analyses, assessments, trends and tracks the implementation of strategies and plans in the VET sector.

Providing VET-related information to VET policy makers, administrators, managers, researchers, TVET institute officers, business and enterprises, donors, students, workers as well as international organizations interested in VET development in Viet Nam, the VET reports continue to include crosscutting issues as an added-value towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the Vietnamese Government.

Since 2015, the annual VET Report has a focal topic (eg: TVET “Centres of Excellence” for 2015 and “Cooperation with Enterprises” for 2016). This new integration helps feature the key issues in the Vietnamese VET system based on changing times, laws and regulations, which keeps the VET reports updated and reliable.

### **Learning from German VET Reporting**

Due to Germany and Vietnam’s longstanding successful cooperation in TVET, the Vietnam National Institute for Vocational Training (NIVET), in trilateral cooperation with the German Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), embarked on a project to develop VET Reporting on a yearly basis.

Germany’s VET Report is known to serve the German vocational training system as a monitoring and a policy advisory instrument. Stakeholders from government, social partners, the academic community and society consider the VET reports as a reliable, accurate and up-to-date source of information.

Learning from the German VET reporting system, Vietnam seeks to develop a comprehensive VET report that could depict the “big picture” of its VET system, to design a time-bound

and proper process of report development undertaken by a working group, which includes selected researchers and VET experts at NIVET.



### **Implementation VET Reporting in Viet Nam**

The development of VET Reporting in Vietnam is the first of its kind in the ASEAN region. Initiated in 2010, the milestone project has objectives to strengthen the capacity of NIVET’s researchers and to provide system advice for better VET development in Vietnam.

Successful VET reporting will become an annual activity to track development and policies and monitor sector specific areas using a novel indicator-based approach.

### ***Steps to Develop the VET Report***

The main steps in developing the VET reports include defining the basic structure of the report, collecting and arranging data, developing a story line and drafting the report.

The detail steps are as follow:

- First, a report structure, reporting indicators, guiding questions and main topics are developed by the working team, in collaboration with GIZ, BIBB and the Directorate of Vocational Education and Training (DVET).
- A draft working plan is prepared.
- The first technical workshop is organised in the first quarter of the year by NIVET, GIZ and BIBB.
- Relevant stakeholders such as DVET, General

Statistics Office (GSO), Institute of Labour Science and Social Affairs (ILSSA), Vietnam Chamber of Industry and Commerce (VCCI) etc. participate and agree on the final structure, indicators, guiding questions and topics of the VET report.

- BIBB experts transfer experiences in producing German VET Report to NIVET researchers and workshop participants.
- Following this, the reporting team start to collect data.
- The team writes the first report.
- The draft report is sent to the reviewing panel including VET experts and relevant consultants (from BIBB, GIZ and stakeholders) to obtain feedback for improvements in the second technical workshop.
- The reviewed draft (in Vietnamese) is finalised based on obtained feedback.
- The content of the final version is translated into English.
- Both Vietnamese and English final versions are integrated into a well-designed layout and printed.
- The VET report is published with registered copyright. Online publication are available on websites of NIVET (<http://nivet.org.vn>) and GIZ (<http://www.tvet-vietnam.org/en/topic/424.r-tvet-report.html>).
- The stakeholders (ministries, research institution, universities, TVET institutions, TVET practitioners, international organisations etc) share feedback regarding the quality of the published VET report via an online survey.
- The feedback is analysed to improve relevance and quality of subsequent reports.
- Consultative meeting(s) are organized every year along with study tours (for NIVET's researchers to Germany or BIBB experts to Vietnam) to discuss lesson learnt for continuous improvement.

## Lessons Learnt

VET reporting is a sustainable ongoing process in Vietnam. Since 2016, the development of Vietnam VET Report has been assigned as a regular prioritized task of NIVET and involves the co-efforts of the whole working team.

The success factors that sustained the practice during the last 6 years are stable human resources and knowledge management. New members of the

team can pick up the requirements in report development due to well-designed manuals and guidance and support from other team members. Learning opportunities such as annual technical workshops and periodic working sessions are arranged to keep the team in pace with latest knowledge and to solve any problems.

The team still face challenges in terms of obtaining adequate and relevant data for the reports, good collaboration among team members and stakeholders, marketing the printed and online versions to a wider target audience and maintaining a sound financial plan in order to widen its coverage and impact.



## Future Outlook

Thus far, the key findings in the series of VET Reports are used to develop the Project for Reforming VET Quality until 2020 with Projection to 2030 in Viet Nam. Policy recommendations in the VET reports are referenced in the revisions of national agendas of skills standards, testing and certification and quality assurance framework.

VET reports are also referred by VET insiders in the national and international organizations while international organizations such as ADB and UNESCO-UNEVOC respectively referenced the VET report in the Gender Assessment of TVET and the development of Vietnam Country TVET Profile.

The experience of developing the indicator-based VET report at NIVET could be customized in other Southeast Asia, which may lead to a common database in the VET sector for the region.

## Conclusion

NIVET has built its capacity and reputation in developing national VET reports as part of its research

activities, receiving approval from GDVT for development of national VET report as its annual regular task. Furthermore, they achieved financial independence from GIZ / BiBB in 2017, where an annual state budget resource has been reserved for the sustainable development of VET Report.

Continued, sustainable and improved development of VET reports would contribute to decision making in VET, progress tracking of VET Law implementations and VET reform programmes, referencing by VET insiders, experts and international organizations.

It is hoped that improved image communication of VET and VET reports in future would raise awareness on the role of VET in shaping the future workforce and in accelerating economic growth for the next generations.

## References

<http://nivet.org.vn>

<http://www.tvet-vietnam.org/en/topic/424.r-tvet-report.html>

## Further information

**Dr Nguyen Quang Viet**

Deputy Director

National Institute for Vocational Training

Email: [Quangviethung@gmail.com](mailto:Quangviethung@gmail.com)



“Good Practices” are chosen according to selection criteria that have been created by a working group. They aim to serve as benchmarks for transformation towards quality TVET. However, they reflect on the individual circumstances of the submitting country and may only be adopted with context specific modifications.

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**Address** : SEAMEO VOCTECH, Jalan Pasar  
Baharu, Gadong BE1318, Brunei  
Darussalam  
Telephone : +673 244 7992  
Email : [info@voctech.org](mailto:info@voctech.org)  
Website : <http://www.voctech.org>

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