



12th Meeting of the OECD Southeast Asian Regional Policy Network on Education and Skills

Virtual meeting, 30 November 2022, 8:30 CET (or 14:30 Jakarta/Bangkok time)

This network aims to foster knowledge exchange in support of national growth and regional integration by encouraging a whole-of-government approach to the formation and implementation of skills policies. It builds on the platform of the OECD's [Employment and Skills Strategies in Southeast Asia \(ESSSA\)](#) initiative, which has been networking skills and labour ministries from ASEAN member countries since 2008. With the growing participation by Southeast Asian countries in the OECD's international education surveys ([PISA](#), [TALIS](#) and [PIAAC](#)) and [reviews on vocational education and training \(VET\)](#) and local job creation, the RPN provides valuable comparative data and analysis to help countries systems in the region build more efficient and effective education, skills and employment policies.

OVERVIEW OF THE 12TH MEETING

The 12th Meeting of the OECD Southeast Asian Regional Policy Network on Education and Skills provides an opportunity for senior leaders from Southeast Asian countries to learn from the latest OECD research and exchange with peers on how to adapt education, skills and employment policies to a rapidly changing environment. Key objectives include:

- Strengthening links between OECD and Southeast Asian countries to support Southeast Asian education, employment and skills policies
- Learning from Southeast Asian's education, employment and skills strategies for addressing challenges and making the most of the opportunities presented by globalisation, climate change, technological progress and demographic change.

The focus of the 12th meeting is on the topic of "Skills in Partnership" – in recognition that skills systems which are built on strong partnerships can help ensure that the various actors can reap the benefits from skills investment and that no-one is left behind. The meeting will feature a presentation of key emerging findings from the forthcoming OECD publication "A Skills Strategy for Southeast Asia", as well as presentations by countries in the region and OECD countries on recent policies and initiatives to foster partnerships in their skills systems.

The draft agenda can be found below.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

OECD Global Relations Secretariat

Alexander BÖHMER (Head of the South Asia – Southeast Asia division),
Alexander.Bohmer@oecd.org

OECD Centre for Skills (SKC)

Marieke Vandeweyer (Head of Unit, Vocational Education and Training),
marieke.vandeweyer@oecd.org

OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Cities and Regions

Kristine Langenbucher (Head of Unit, Employment and Skills),
Kristine.Langenbucher@oecd.org



Draft agenda (times are in CET)

Welcome and opening

Event emcee: Mr. Samuel Kim (Policy Analyst – OECD)

8.30-8.50

Opening remarks:

- **Mr. Alexander Boehmer** (Head of South and Southeast Asia – OECD)
- ASEAN Secretariat, TBC

Setting the Context: A Skills Strategy for Southeast Asia

8.50-9.15

Mr. Andrew Bell (Head, OECD Skills Strategy Projects – OECD Centre for Skills)

Emerging insights

Discussion and Q&A

Transition to breakout sessions (see details below)

9.15-10.15

Break-out sessions

1. *Apprenticeship: Giving employers a key role in the design and delivery of TVET*

2. *Collaborative skills systems: employers driving better skills outcomes*

3. *Better Use of Skills in the Workplace: Why It Matters for Productivity and Local Jobs*

Moderator: Ms. Marieke Vandeweyer
(OECD Centre for Skills)

Moderator: Mr. Andrew Bell
(OECD Centre for Skills)

Moderator: Ms. Kristine Langenbucher
(OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities)

Speakers:

- Dr. Siripan Choomnoom, Thailand
- Ts. Shahrul Nizam bin Kasim, Malaysia

Speakers:

Dr. Young Saing Kim, Korea
Dr. Nazrul Aziz, Malaysia

Speakers:

Darjusch Tafreschi, GIZ Vietnam office
Professor Emeritus, Anil Verma, Canada
Lesley Giles, United Kingdom

Discussion and Q&A

Discussion and Q&A

Discussion and Q&A

Report Back and Next Steps

10.15-10.30

Moderators/Rapporteur report back from each break-out session

Closing remarks by **Nadim Ahmad** (Deputy Director – OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities)



Breakout sessions

Please send us your preference using this link: [here](#)

1. Apprenticeship: Giving employers a key role in the design and delivery of TVET

Strong Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) systems are designed in close collaboration with the world of work - i.e. employers and trade unions- and give learners the opportunity to learn in the workplace. This connection to the world of work contributes to a better alignment between the offer and content of TVET and labour market needs, and smoothens learners' transitions into the labour market. Countries have developed different mechanisms to involve employers in the design of TVET, including at the national, regional, local and sectoral level. Moreover, countries differ strongly in the extent to which they use work-based learning, how it is designed and delivered, and how employers from different sizes and sectors are encouraged and supported to provide work-based learning opportunities. This session will provide an opportunity for participants to discuss how employer engagement in TVET works in their country, as well as recent developments and challenges faced, with the aim to share good practices, identify common challenges and opportunities, and foster collaboration.

2. Collaborative skills systems: employers driving better skills outcomes.

Partnerships between employers and the government are essential for dealing with the inherent complexities of ambitious skills reforms and complex skills pressures. Employers are uniquely positioned to provide policy makers with first-hand insights, among others, on “what skills are in short supply” and “what works on the ground” and can play an important role supporting policy implementation. Partnering with employers also helps to generate a greater degree of political legitimacy, which can increase the likelihood of skills reforms succeeding. This session will explore the different mechanisms for government and employers to partner in skills policy for various purposes (e.g. to obtain advice on skills policy priorities, source expertise on changing skills needs, etc.).

3. Better Use of Skills in the Workplace: Why It Matters for Productivity and Local Jobs

There are both economic and social reasons to look at how to better use skills and talent in the workplace. Workers who better use their skills are more likely to have greater job satisfaction, earn better wages and are more prepared to adapt to changes in the nature of work. Employers benefit from a more productive and innovative workforce, enabling them to maximise business performance and profitability. Despite these potential benefits, workers both in OECD and Southeast Asian economies report that their skills are not fully utilised in the workplace. This gap represents a drag on local economic development placing downward pressure on job quality as well as economic diversification opportunities. Breakout session 3 will explore skills utilisation is driven by work organisation, job design, technology adaptation, innovation, employee-employer relations, human resource development practices and business product market strategies. It is often at the local level where the interface of these factors can best be addressed. Policies which aim to improve skills use in the workplace can help address the multi-faceted challenges many local economies are facing and contribute to national productivity and inclusive growth objectives.



OECD resources and background

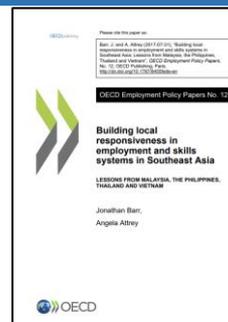
Regional studies



[Towards a Skills Strategy for Southeast Asia: Skills for Post-COVID Recovery and Growth \(OECD Skills Strategy Southeast Asia Phase I\)](#)

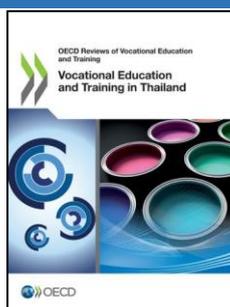


[The role of technical and vocational education and training \(TVET\) in fostering inclusive growth at the local level in Southeast Asia](#)



[Building local responsiveness in employment and skills systems in Southeast Asia](#)

Country reviews



[Vocational Education and Training in Thailand](#)



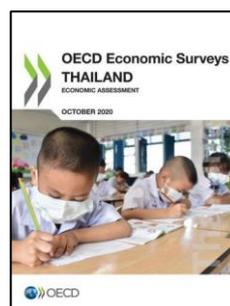
[Employment and Skills Strategies in Indonesia](#)



[Employment and Skills Strategies in the Philippines](#)



[Economic Surveys: Malaysia](#)



[Economic Surveys: Thailand](#)