

SKILLS 21 BUILDING A BETTER BANGLADESH

- > **BETTER COORDINATION:** A **National Qualification Framework** is being created to fully harmonize primary, secondary, technical, *madrasah* (Arabic for religious educational system) and other higher education streams
- > **BETTER OPPORTUNITIES:** Transform seven TVET institutes into '**model**' **training institutions** that will be more inclusive, environmentally-conscious and better integrated with local economies/industry. The 'model' centres plan to **train 17,500 youth**
- > **BETTER GOVERNANCE:** Develop the capacity of partners to establish a **Sector Wide Approach (SWAp)** for good skills governance in the country



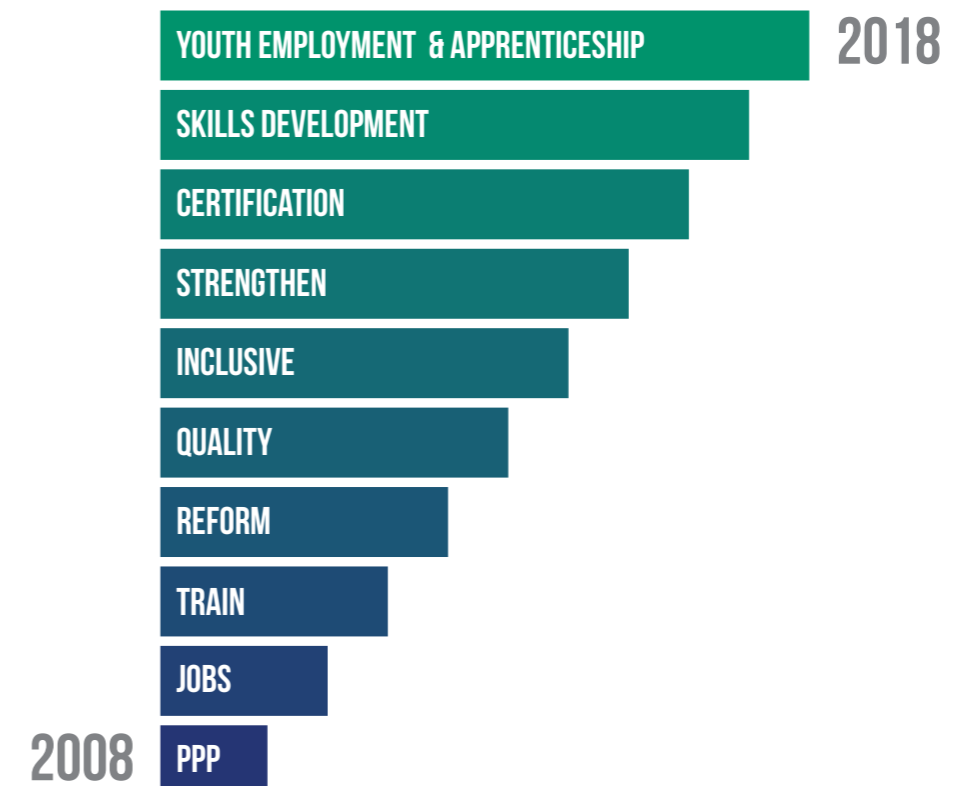
This leaflet provides an overview of the ILO's support and commitment to the skills and TVET sector in Bangladesh and on creating a stronger foundation upon which the country can build a strong, skilled workforce. This partnership is the culmination of the government's strong commitment to reform, support from development partners, and active collaboration of the private and public sector employers and employees.



International
Labour
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A DECADE OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT



THE ILO IN BANGLADESH 2008-2018

Like many of its Asian neighbours, Bangladesh faces a major challenge trying to develop modern, employment-based skills for tens of millions of young women and men.

The International Labour Organization's (ILO) landmark programmes are aimed at strengthening and improving the environment for industry skills development, addressing the mismatch between the supply and demand for skills training, and, drive the increased employability of millions of young women and men.

For more than a decade, the ILO has worked closely with the Government of Bangladesh, and a network of social partners, to reform the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sector and to improve access for people to increase their skills and employability, in particular, youth, women and people from vulnerable groups.

"ILO's initiatives to strengthen Bangladesh's national skills system has led to a shift from outdated skills training to a modern, job-focused training system."- Md. Faruque Hossain, Executive Chairman, National Skills Development Authority

The ILO and our partners have worked on:

2008: A European Union (EU) funded project to **reform and strengthen the TVET sector in Bangladesh**

2014: A Canadian Government funded project, called **Bangladesh Skills for Employment and Productivity (B-SEP)**, to further reinforce the country's skills training landscape.

2017: An EU funded **Skills 21: Empowering Citizens for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth**, for the expansion of a national skills development system.

“ I was struggling to find a job and could not raise funds to start my own business. I then decided to take a course in housekeeping at the TVET centre in Dhaka. I now work for a major 5-star hotel and hope to find work overseas in the near future. ”

Fahmida Abedin Disha, hotel housekeeper, Amari Hotel, Dhaka

"Every young Bangladeshi, irrespective of whether they are male or female, disabled or otherwise, must be allowed to learn skills. ILO's initiative in skills development is to ensure that Bangladesh's young people get the best opportunities, the best training, and the best skills. They need and deserve a good education and modern skills to prepare them for the future of work." - Tuomo Poutiainen, Country Director, ILO Country Office for Bangladesh

ILO's contribution to developing the skills architecture and eco-system in Bangladesh: **Policy** (including legislation and strategies); **Systems** (including quality assurance mechanisms); and **People** (including social inclusion, labour market penetration and improving livelihoods).

A DECADE OF SKILLS ACHIEVEMENTS (2008-2018)

2008

Launch of ILO's landmark **TVET Reform Project**

Strengthen capacity of National Skills Development Council (NSDC)

Competency Based Training and Assessment introduced in the TVET sector

2011

2012

National Skills Development Policy approved

National Skills Assurance System revised to include a National Technical and Vocational Qualification Framework (NTVQF)

Centre of Skills Excellence established in the leather, agro-food, and tourism and hospitality sector

National strategy for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in skills development

Launch of ILO's Bangladesh Skills for Employment and Productivity (B-SEP) project

2013

2014

Establish and strengthen Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) system for skilled workers

Launch of Centre of Skills Excellence project

5% quota for the enrolment of persons with disabilities introduced in TVET institutes

2015

2016

Established Bangladesh Business and Disability Network (BBDN)

Developed a national apprenticeship strategy for Bangladesh

Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB), ILO's global business management training programme, launched

Launch of ILO's Skills 21 project

2017

2008-18

Industry Skills Councils established in 13 sectors

37-competency baseline indicators developed for training, assessing and certifying skilled workers

48 registered training organizations established nationwide

2012-18

2014-18

Institutionalization of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP), Employment Support Service (ESS) and Career Guidance Cell (CGC) model for TVET

Enhanced capacity of key stakeholders (including government and employers) to run certified apprenticeship schemes in 68 'upazilas' (or sub districts)