



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Technical Meeting Of Resource Persons For The Training of TVET Teachers On Curriculum and Instructional Material Development In The Ecowas Region

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The ECOWAS Commission in cooperation with the National Board for Technical Education in Nigeria, NBTE, organised a Second Technical Meeting of Technical and Vocational Education and Training, TVET, Resource Persons from 17-20 March 2011 which was held at NBTE TVE Centre of Excellence in Kaduna. The objective of the meeting was to take stock of the training activities and workshops for TVET teachers and inspectors on curriculum and instructional material development conducted during 2010 in seven ECOWAS Member States and deliberate on the content, methodology, schedule, resource requirements and general logistics for the training in 2011. The meeting was also to produce a synthesized report of the 2010 training and plan the way forward.

The major drive initiated by the ECOWAS Commission to revitalize TVET in the sub-region is in response to the high priority given to it by ECOWAS Heads of States and Government and the sector Ministers as reflected in the resolutions of the 36<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of Heads of States and Government; and the Third Conference of ECOWAS Ministers of Education, both held in 2009. The two bodies took note of the various desperate attempts being made by the youths of the region to earn a living and recommended that definite steps should be taken to impart employable skills to them in order to promote wealth creation and social emancipation of TVET practitioners. Following the launching of the Abuja Process to revitalise TVET at the UNESCO-ECOWAS Workshop held in August 2009, the ECOWAS Commission commenced the implementation of its recommendations concerning the development and



**Figure 1: Opening of 2<sup>nd</sup> Technical Meeting with NBTE Executive Secretary**



**Figure 2: Participants in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Technical Meeting, Kaduna 2011**

updating of TVET curricula and learning materials; establishment of a network of regional TVET centers of excellence; development of National and Regional Qualifications Framework; and training of technical teacher. As recommended by the Ministers of Education for a speedy approach to revitalizing TVET the UNESCO format for curricula development which is the outcome of about ten years of consistent collaboration between UNESCO and Nigeria was to be adapted to the peculiar needs of other countries.

As a first step the ECOWAS Commission Directorate for Education, Culture, Science and Technology organised a planning technical meeting at Kaduna from 11-12 July 2010 which worked out details regarding the content, methodology, schedule, and resources requirements for the training workshops in all Member States. This was followed by an Induction Workshop for the International Resource Persons, IRPs who would in turn train TVET Teachers/Inspectors/Advisers on Curriculum and Instructional Material Development in the ECOWAS Region. The Induction Workshop was held in Lome, the Togolese Republic, from 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2010. During the period from September to December 2010 eight workshops were successfully organised by the ECOWAS Commission in Benin, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Ghana, Niger, Nigeria (North and South), and Senegal. Using the recommended UNESCO-ECOWAS format, 240 teachers/ inspectors/ advisers selected from the seven countries benefited from the two-week training workshops in 2010.

The training was hands-on with participants developing their own curriculum during the first week and the learning materials during the second week in their areas of expertise. Each participant also made presentations of the materials developed to the entire group, an arrangement which promoted motivation, team work, and high level determination among participants to develop materials of good quality.

The opening ceremony of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Technical Meeting was attended by the Executive Secretary of NBTE, Dr. Masud A. Kazaure, the Director of Education, Culture, Science and Technology Prof. Abdoulaye Maga, six TVET international resource persons and professionals



**Figure 3: Nigeria North Workshop, Kaduna, Sept 2010**



**Figure 4: Nigeria South Workshop, Lagos Oct 2010**



**Figure 5: Burkina Faso Workshop Oct 2010**



**Figure 6: Ghana Workshop, Tema, Nov 2010**

from UNESCO NBTE Project and the ECOWAS Commission.

The meeting reviewed the reports of the 8 workshops conducted during 2010 and assessed the outcomes and results achieved. In the light of the experience gained, the meeting also reviewed and updated the training instruments and modality to be employed in the next phase of the training programme. From the evaluation of the Workshops by the participants it was evident that all the workshops were timely and rated as big success. A consolidated report of the training was produced and a Plan of the Way Forward and schedule for the training workshops to be conducted during 2011 was also reviewed. The Plan envisage the replication of the training in ten more workshops to cover all remaining ECOWAS countries during 2011.

In the countries covered in this phase different curriculum formats and methods were adopted in each country due to interventions from different Development Partners. The workshops participants therefore expressed delight that the uniform approach being proposed by ECOWAS will go a long way in revamping and harmonising the TVET sector

At the closing session the participants commended the ECOWAS Commission and especially the Commission of Human Development and Gender for its vision of generating employment in ECOWAS Member States through the development of TVET in the region. The meeting further urged the Education Department to keep up the momentum of the training and capacity building.

The Director of Education, Culture, Science and Technology thanked the participants for their assiduous hard work, in-depth knowledge of the subject matter and total commitment to the success of the UNESCO-ECOWAS TVET Revitalisation project in the ECOWAS region. He informed them that the Commissioner for Human Development and Gender was very pleased with the first phase of the TVET training workshop and he assured the meeting that their recommendations will be forwarded to the ECOWAS Authorities for further action.



**Figure 7: Benin Workshop Dec 2010**

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**Figure 8: Senegal Workshop, Dec 2010**

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