

Council for Technical & Vocational Education
&
Training, Guyana



*Status of Implementation
of Programme for the
Award of the CVQ.*

*Prepared by:
Sydney Walters,
Director.
July 4, 2013.*

The Council for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (CTVET) and indeed all the training providers of Guyana wish to extend a heartfelt congratulation to the ILO-CINTERFOR on the attainment of your fiftieth anniversary. I can recall the years when we were privileged to use CINTERFOR's Basic Collections as well as Modules of Employable Skills. We also benefited from workshops and seminars sponsored by you as well as the various books and reports on TVET that you have disseminated to be used to enhance the quality of TVET programme delivery. The relationship has been fruitful and rewarding. Consequently, I wish to say once again a heartfelt congratulation to you.

TVET Policy:

In Guyana the further development of TVET is being pursued with the implementation of the provisions of the National TVET Policy and

Strategic Plan which articulate the development strategy for TVET for the period 2011-2021.

One of the major activities that is being undertaken under this TVET development plan is the implementation of Competency Based Curriculum in order to prepare the various training providers for recognition by CARICOM to award the CVQ. The outcome of such development must be to satisfy the changing demands of business and industry, the free movement of skilled personnel and to further promote the social demand for TVET nationally among others.

Competency Based Education and Training:

The TVET policy requires that Competency Based Education and Training (CBET) be introduced on a national basis. The policy also requires that all the post – secondary institutions and the Board of Industrial Training prepare their students/trainees/apprentices to satisfy the requirements for the award of the National Vocational

Qualification (NVQ) where appropriate and the Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ). At the secondary level CBET is being offered at fifty selected secondary schools and ten Practical Instruction Centres through the Secondary Competency Certificate Programme. In addition, arrangements are being made for the CXC CVQ programme to be piloted in two secondary schools.

Inputs To The System:

To date we have undertaken the following:

- the strengthening of the capacity of the Council for TVET so that it has the capability to discharge all of its functions. To this end, nine additional persons will be recruited very shortly to satisfy the requirements of the current staff inventory;
- the Database Record and Management System which is being developed for the post-secondary institutions will

be completed within the next three months. GM\$ 32 have been expended to purchase the equipment necessary for this programme;

- approved Regional Occupational Standards were obtained adapted and are in use and we are in the process of developing Occupational Standards for the Occupational Areas of Automotive Electrical Servicing and Repairs Levels I, II and III, and Agricultural Machinery Servicing and Repairs Levels I, II and III;
- facilities standards were acquired and are also in use, where necessary facilities standards were developed by the Council;
- training materials are being developed on an ongoing basis with the use of the Occupational Standards as the base document;

- the capacity of all the post – secondary institutions under the Ministry of Education has been strengthened. This was achieved by the following:
 - the training of eighty five percent of the tutorial staff members on the delivery of CBET;
 - the training of the administrative and tutorial staff members on Quality Assurance Criteria and Guidelines;
 - the training of the principals/administrators of all the institutions in post-secondary institution management;
 - the establishment of a Resource Centre at each post-secondary institution;
 - the establishment of a Quality Assurance Committee at each post-secondary institution;
 - the acquisition of tools and equipment on a priority basis;
- and
- the training of Assessors, Internal Verifiers and External Verifiers. It must be noted that the training of Assessors

and Verifiers will continue so as to satisfy the demand of the TVET system.

In addition to the foregoing, we have established an assessment strategy to assess students/trainees performance and a National Assessment and Certification Board.

Challenge:

The challenges to the Council for TVET and the Ministry of Education are as follows:

- the up-grading of the facilities of the post-secondary institutions and the Technical Departments of the Secondary Schools so that they are equipped to deliver the practical programmes of the various occupational areas;
- getting some of the tutorial staff members of the various post-secondary institutions to accept the change from the

traditional mode of delivery to Competency Based

Training delivery;

- soliciting maximum support from industry; and
- the financing of TVET.

The National Policy on TVET and the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Act of 2004 have empowered the Council to work with the training providers and stakeholders of TVET to alleviate these difficulties.

Audit:

The nine post-secondary institutions under the Ministry of Education are currently being audited by the Council for TVET to determine their state of readiness to be recognized to offer the CVQ. This activity comes after a workshop was held on “Quality Assurance Requirements for the Delivery of the Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ)”. Consequently, Guyana hopes to apply for recognition to issue

the CVQ earliest.

Training for the Mining Industry:

The Council for TVET and the Ministry of Education are looking forward to the implementation of the institutional partnership that was established between the College of the North Atlantic in association with the Marine Institute and the Linden Technical Institute. The partnership is on training for the Mining Industry. The training that is to be undertaken by this Institutional Partnership will be informed by the results of a Skills Need Survey which was conducted in the Mining Industry by the Statistical Department of the Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security and the Council for TVET.

Skills Need Survey:

The Council for TVET is working with the Statistical Department of the Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security and the Inter American Development Bank to conduct a Labour Market Survey in the following sectors:

- Manufacturing;
- Commerce;
- Forestry;
- Hospitality; and
- Engineering and Construction.

The emphasis will be on the demand for and the supply of human capital for these sectors. The post-secondary institutions and the Board of Industrial Training will also be surveyed. The survey is scheduled to be completed at the end of August, 2013.