

08/11/2022

VET and skills development in Malawi

INTPA VET training – practical training about VET and employability opportunities

8-9-10 November 2022, Lilongwe, Malawi



Malawi context

- *Young and fast growing population: 51% (9M) being 18 y.o. or younger (2018 census)*
- *Cohort and intake capacity: out of the 5M children population in primary education, only 35k enter tertiary education, and of those about 13k (1/3, maj. males) have access to formal VET*
- *Predominance of informal TEVET training and low skilled youth: main alternative to the vast majority of out of school youth and those who have not completed secondary education*
- *Matching VET supply and labour market demand: TEVET sector does not produce enough graduates (quantity) nor the skills required by industry (quality)*
- *Decent Jobs: btw 300k and 500k youth enter the active labour force every year with limited chances to secure decent formal employment. Est. 80-90% jobs are in the informal sector*
- *Business skills: mostly absent amongst the youth and there is limited supply of business development services and business support services*



TVET reforms

- **Sector**
 - *Data availability: major challenge for planning purposes. Initial attempts to introduce TMIS/LMIS;*
 - *Access: expand coverage of TEVET offer through Community Centers in rural setting and secondary cities for lower certification;*
 - *Quality: gradual transition toward competency based VET (starting from construction sector)*
- **Strategic overarching framework:**
 - *Malawi Vision 2063: the blueprint development strategy focusses on human capital and specific economic opportunities to which the TEVET offer should align to provide needed workforce: i.e agriculture productivity and commercialisation, mining, tourism, manufacturing, etc*
 - *Malawi National Job Creation Strategy: respond to aspirations of Vision2063, national productivity to tackle unemployment and promote wider sector reform such as trade and export strategy*
 - *TEVET Policy and TvetAct on going reform to modernise the system and make it more efficient*



EU responses

- *EU and WB are the main partners supporting the TEVET sector in Malawi, coordination on DoL*
- ***EU support under the 11th EDF:***
 - i. *Skills and Technical Education Programme (STEP) EUR 33M 2016-2020;*
 - ii. *Zanchito - Skills for Jobs EUR 55M, 2021-2026 => aligned to the Malawi Vision2063. Project approach: work/supply; grants to TEVET providers and TA on governance related aspects*
- ***Zantchito part of the Team Europe Initiative “Green Growth” focussing on diversification of the economy and investment in human capital. Focus based on Final Evaluation STEP:***
 - *Evidence based TEVET system for efficient planning, policy making and measure performance: TMIS, Labour market analysis, tracer studies, etc;*
 - *Dialogue amongst policy holder, authority, Tevet providers and private sector/industry for enhanced governance and labour market oriented offer; incl DPs coordination in absence of a functioning TWG;*
 - *Support gradual decentralization of the system to suit specific local economy opportunities (e.g. Sector Skills Council; Centres of Vocational Excellence)*



EU responses ..cont.

- *Complementary to EU geographical bilateral interventions:*
 - *EU VetToolBox: ad hoc TA such as the opportunity mapping by British Council for skills anticipation and job creation: evidence based study to match major investments -EU and not EU-, employment opportunities and skills offer required*
 - *Erasmus+ 2021-2027: focus on TEVET and mobility/twinning (SAAM Pilot)*

