

## Regional exchange for public-private partnerships

Under **Pillar 2** of the **Team Europe Initiative Opportunity-driven Skills and VET in Africa (TEI OP-VET)**, regional exchanges are organised as in-person and virtual platforms for **dialogue** and **mutual learning on public-private partnerships for skills development**. In line with the **Global Gateway Strategy**, these exchanges aim to **better connect skills development and VET with employment opportunities arising from investments and value chain needs**, ensuring that training systems respond to real labour market needs in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA).

### Key objectives of the regional exchanges:



Capture private sector perspectives on industry trends, employment opportunities and skills gaps to help bridge skills development with employment opportunities arising from investments.



Integrate skills development and VET into sectoral investments and related value chain discussions.



Foster partnerships by creating spaces for dialogue, exposure and practical engagement between public and private stakeholders.



Encourage mutual learning and knowledge exchange among public and private stakeholders to support an opportunity-driven approach to VET (OP-VET).



Promote collaboration within Africa and between Africa and Europe, linking regional exchanges to EU- and EU Member State's OP-VET initiatives and sectoral investments.

### What's in it for you?

#### Private sector and industry representatives

- Add your voice to shape skills and training discussions linked to your needs in relevant value chains
- Share insights on industry trends, skills gaps, job profiles and future workforce needs
- Identify partnership opportunities with VET providers and public institutions

#### VET providers and training institutions

- Gain direct exposure to private sector needs and emerging job opportunities
- Identify opportunities for partnerships, curriculum updates and work-based learning
- Learn from good practices and innovative OP-VET models across the region

#### Public authorities and policymakers

- Better align skills and VET policies with investment priorities and labour market demand
- Strengthen dialogue with the private sector on skills development that leads to employment
- Learn from regional experiences on OP-VET implementation

#### Regional organisations, development partners and implementing agencies

- Promote coherence and complementarity across skills, VET and investment initiatives
- Exchange knowledge on good practices for linking skills development to concrete job opportunities
- Strengthen regional and Africa-Europe cooperation on skills development

### Thematic focus

Regional exchanges are aligned with Global Gateway priority areas and value chains linked to TEI OP-VET implementation at country level, including:



Transport  
(corridors, ports,  
urban mobility)



Critical  
Raw  
Materials



Renewable Energy  
& Green Hydrogen



Agribusiness



Health/  
Pharma



Digitalisation

## Regional exchange in practice

Regional exchanges are often organised during major investment, business or sectoral events, ensuring strong private sector participation and direct links to investment opportunities. For example:



© TEI OP-VET participating at the EAIF 2025 conference in Uganda

A Spotlight Session on “**Skills Development in Renewable Energy Investments and Related Value Chains**” aimed to identify concrete employment opportunities within the value chains of renewable energy to stimulate dialogue among the industry representatives and VET actors during the annual **Energy Access Investment Forum (EAIF) 2025 in Uganda**. Similar sessions are planned for the EAIF 2026 in Kenya.

A side event roundtable during the **2025 AU-EU Business Forum in Angola** titled “**Corridors of opportunities: skills, investment and decent jobs**” explored how skills development aligned with Global Gateway and Lobito Corridor opportunities can support sustainable growth, quality jobs, and public-private collaboration. Lobito Corridor-related discussions will continue in a regional exchange during the annual DRC Mining Week in 2026.



© TEI OP-VET side event at the 2025 AU-EU Business Forum in Angola

### What does opportunity-driven VET mean?



The opportunity-driven approach to VET (OP-VET) acknowledges that VET does not create jobs. Instead **VET acts as an enabler and support function for decent employment**.



Introducing a **paradigm shift in VET/skills development**: It is **reverse-engineered from concrete job opportunities**. VET is coupled with investments, private sector engagement and public-private-partnerships.

### What is the TEI OP-VET about ?

**The Team Europe Initiative Opportunity-driven Skills and VET in Sub-Saharan Africa (TEI OP-VET)** aims to link skills development and VET with investments in Global Gateway priority areas (Digital, Health, Transport and Climate & Energy) to unlock the employment potential created by these investments and related sector/value chain developments.

It is running from **2024-2029** and is structured around **3 pillars**:

- **Request-based Technical Assistance Facility**
- **Opportunity-driven VET and skills development projects**
- **Regional exchange and public-private partnerships**

### Want to know more?

Follow the TEI OP-VET on LinkedIn and Capacity4Dev to stay informed about upcoming regional exchanges, event participation and key insights from the field



LinkedIn page

**Your Gateway to skills and jobs**  
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Web page