

Press Release

SUDOKKHO INTRODUCES QUALITY STANDARDS FOR PRIVATE TRAINING CENTRES FOR THE FIRST TIME IN BANGLADESH



Mr. Munshi Shahabuddin, Honorable Secretary of the Technical and Madrasah Education Division, Ministry of Education said that if the private training institutes are able to uphold commitment to profession and nation, maintain quality in all aspects and create effective linkage with the industry they will sustain as businesses even if there is no funding support available in future. He was speaking as the chief guest at an event at Westin Hotel on 4th September organised by Sudokkho, a United Kingdom and Switzerland funded private skills market development programme.

The event was organised to introduce, for the first time in Bangladesh, a set of quality standards, which will help the private training centres for effective and efficient operations. By implementing and maintaining the standards, the training centres will be able to provide sustainable services to the targeted market within the developing political and economic environment. The quality standards are aligned with the Bangladesh Technical Education Board (BTEB) requirements for registration and accreditation of the training center as Registered Training Organisation (RTO).



Mr. Rawnak Mahmud, Director General of the Directorate of Technical Education and National Project Director of Sudokkho chaired the event. He appreciated the initiatives of Sudokkho and assured Bangladesh government's commitment in providing policy support in favour of the private training centres. He urged that the training centres should also take necessary steps to ensure quality of their services for sustainability of their business.

The initial discussion was followed by a panel discussion where the speakers discussed the application of quality standards in the operations of the private sector and the envisaged challenges in implementing them in the future, the potential improvement of the quality and relevance of skills delivery in the private sector, implementation of the quality standards without the support from the donor community, perceived role of government to improve the capacity of the private sector to implement the quality standards and institutionalization of the standards in the national TVET system.



The panel consisted of Mr. Munshi Shahabuddin (Secretary, TMED), Mr. Rawnak Mahmud (DG, DTE), Mr. Erling Petersen (Team Leader Sudokkho), Mr. Jahangir Alam (Director, DTE), Mr. SM Shahjahan (Deputy Director, BTEB), Ms Laila Karim (Sr. Advisor, Aayat Skills Development Centre), Mr. SM Mahfujul Hoque (Sundarban Institute of Technology and Engr. Kazi Zakir Hossain (Principal, Dhaka Polytechnic Institute). The panel was moderated by Mr. Dan Baffour Awuah who is an international TVET expert having extensive experience in implementing quality standards in Gambia, Namibia and Nigeria.

Mr. Erling Petersen, the Team Leader of Sudokkho and the first person to introduce quality standards for education and skills training institutes in African continent stressed on the point of commitment from the training centres. He also emphasised that the quality standards is not exclusive only for the private sector but can be utilised across the board.

Representatives from TMED, DTE, BTEB, CISC, RTISC, Business Associations along with 61 partner training centres of Sudokkho participated in the event.

Sudokkho is a seven-year private skills market development programme in Bangladesh funded by UK aid through its Department for International Development (DFID) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). Sudokkho builds upon the TVET reform agenda of the government of Bangladesh. The programme is executed by the Directorate of Technical Education (DTE), Government of Bangladesh. Palladium International is implementing the programme in consortium with SwissContact and British Council.

Sudokkho tests and scales-up market-driven, quality skills training systems within the readymade garments and construction sectors that will stimulate further investment in training by trainees, private training providers and employers. Sudokkho aims to ensure employment of 65,000 poor people, including women and disadvantaged populations, after successful completion of training through its partnerships with privately owned training service providers (PTPs) and industry-based training (IBT) initiatives.

For more info visit: www.sudokkho.org

Contact

Mahbubur Rahman

Communications Advisor, Sudokkho,

House 5, Road 10, Baridhara, Dhaka.

Email: Mahbubur.rahman@thepalladiumgroup.com

Cell: 01711020783