



Technical Meeting on ILO/APSDEP Activities: Bangkok: 8-9 October 2001

Reform of APSDEP: Linkages with MDTs, IFP/Skills and other agencies

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Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs) in Asia and the Pacific

- The primary role of the MDTs is to provide demand-driven policy and technical support to the ILO's tripartite constituents in the region.
- MDT specialists also provide significant support to other agencies (UNDP, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNIFEM etc.) Bretton Woods institutions and multi and bilateral programmes/projects in the region, (IPEC, ILO/Japan PEP and APSDEP).



Linkages to APSDEP and Bilateral Partners

The MDT training specialists (EASMAT, SEAPAT and SAAT), often in collaboration with the IFP Skills and the ILO International Training Centre Turin, provide significant direct technical and financial input and advisory services to APSDEP activities.

Bilateral partners, Philippines (TESDA), Japan (OVTA) and the Republic of Korea (KOICA). Very often Japan and Korea cover all in-country costs and logistical support for participants from ILO member states.



APSDEP

APSDEP is a regional programme established within the framework of the ILO, operating within the mandate and the four strategic objectives of the ILO:

- *Principles and rights at work*
- *Decent employment and income*
- *Social protection*
- *Social dialogue*

It functions by sharing national and regional experiences and insights on skill development issues of common concern to member countries.



What has APSDEP been doing recently?

Sharing ideas and introducing examples of good work practices at meetings, workshops, training courses and through the development of systems and materials on skills development.

APSDEP strives to provide value added knowledge and skills for the development of high quality work practices in the region.



Examples of APSDEP/EASMAT Activities

APSDEP Model Occupational Skill Standards (MOSS) became too slow to develop and maintain in today's rapidly changing work environment.

Under APSDEP, EASMAT provided significant assistance to member states in the development of new Regional Model Competency Standards (RMCS).

This was achieved through meetings in Japan, Thailand and Korea from 1996 to 2001. (KOICA funding accommodation for participants and activities in Korea.)

(A finalised version of the RMCS is being edited and to be published by IFPSkills in the near future.)



Examples of APSDEP/EASMAT Activities

Many APSDEP activities are supported by Japan (OVTA), Korea (Koica), ILO Turin and the MDTs:

- 1998, development of the pilot framework for the RMCS;
- 1999, Skill Development & Globalization - dealing with a difficult and sensitive issue;
- 2000, Workplace-based Recognition and Training - looking at new approaches to responsibilities and organization of the workplace.



Examples of APSDEP/EASMAT Activities ...

- 1997, rising unemployment and the economic crisis saw APSDEP seek EASMAT's assistance to deal with regional issues of the strengthening interaction between skills development and employment promotion services-Kunming, China;
- 1998 and 2000 meetings in Japan and Philippines respectively saw the issue of skills training for women dealt with in both urban and rural environments.



Examples of APSDPEP/EASMAT Activities ...

Although many activities were carried out at the regional or sub-regional level, the importance of developing training policies and strategies at the national level were recognised and followed-up.

For example, a follow-up of the regional workshop on globalisation and workplace learning was made at the national level in Malaysia earlier this year and EASMAT/IFPSkills/KRIVET will implement a similar workshop in Seoul, Korea in November with RBTC and KOICA funding.



Some Collaborative Training Issues Addressed by APsDEP/MDTs/Turin/IFPSkills

- ✦ Computers and technology
- ✦ Competency standards
- ✦ Human resource management
- ✦ New training technologies
- ✦ Employment promotion (rural and urban)
- ✦ Training systems for Pacific island countries
- ✦ Equity policies - training people with disabilities
- ✦ First Asian Skill Competition
- ✦ Training to address some of the specific problems faced by women

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