

MINISTRY OF HIGHER AND SECONDARY SPECIALIZED EDUCATION MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND COMMUNAL SERVICES MINISTRY OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR RELATIONS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF UZBEKISTAN

NEWSLETTER



UZBEK-SWISS "SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN UZBEKISTAN" PHASE IV



Supported by



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Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

TASHKENT - 2020





Uzbek-Swiss
"Skills Development Project
in Uzbekistan", Phase IV

nformation on the project

Common goal

The project contributes to the improvement and further development of the system of vocational education and training by introducing and strengthening a system approach to cooperation between stakeholders in the training, retraining and advanced training of water sector specialists under the "Demand-training-job placement" cycle.

Total amount

3.7 ml USA dollars

Period of implementation 2015-2020

Government's decision

Bilateral agreement signed on June 30, 2015 between the governments of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Swiss Confederation on the implementation of the "Skills Development Project in Uzbekistan", Phase IV

Partner organizations

- -Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, Center of Vocational Education;
- -Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations;
- -Ministry of Water Resources;
- -Ministry of Housing and Communal Services:
- -Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan.

Investment targets

- -5 pilot colleges of Samarkand and Syrdarya regions;
- -7 regional vocational training centers at vocational colleges;
- -Information and methodological service of the Center of Vocational Education;
- -Centers of Vocational Education of the Ministry of Water Resources and the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services.

Implementation plan

The action plan for 2015-2020 for the implementation of the "Skills Development Project in Uzbekistan", Phase IV developed by the project and the Center of Vocational Education and coordinated with the Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations, the Ministry of Water Resources, the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan was approved on July 18, 2016 by the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

PILOT COLLEGES

- -Mirzaabad VC of land reclamation:
- -Gulistan construction VC;
- -Samarkand VC of computer technology and land reclamation;
- -Bogishamal industrial VC;
- -Bulungur agricultural VC.



1. NEW MODEL OF LABOR MARKET ANALYSIS

In order to improve and develop the system of vocational education and training of specialists in the water sector, in early 2016 a working group consisting of specialists from the Ministry of Labor, the CVE and the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources developed the Concept and tools for analyzing the labor market, determining the supply and demand for training, retraining and advanced training of specialists in the water management system. The Concept was discussed and approved at the first meeting of the Project Steering Committee on May 11, 2016.

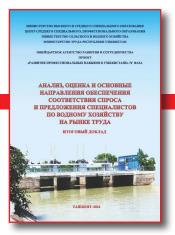
In order to determine the demand and supply in the labor market in the field of water management, specialists with higher and secondary specialized education, in the context of industries and regions, collected information on the following areas: - from the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, information was received on the need for specialists and on the sources of meeting the needs of all enterprises and facilities for 10 basin departments of irrigation systems of the republic;

- from the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, information was received on the training in 5 higher educational institutions of specialists in the field of water management, forecasts on training and employment of specialists for the sector of water management:

- from the Center of VE, information was obtained on 82 vocational colleges involved in the training of specialists with secondary education in the field of "Water Management and Land Reclamation", on the forecasts of training at these colleges of specialists and their employment.

In line with the results of the research undertaken by the project on the labor market in the field of public utilities, the project developed an analytical report "The need for specialists for housing and public services and sources for its provision".

In order to study the labor market in the housing and communal services sector, specially designed questionnaires were used, with the help of which information was obtained from 188 vocational colleges on training of specialists in the "Construction and installation of engineering communications", and information was collected on the needs of enterprises and organizations of housing and communal services and information on training of personnel with higher education at the universities of the country. Given the reforms in the



DEVELOPED DOCUMENTS

The Concept for a model of interaction between key ministries and agencies to ensure training of specialists for water management in line with its needs and demand in the labor market.





system of vocational education undertaken in 2019, a toolkit for analyzing the demand and supply of specialists on the labor market of Uzbekistan was developed by the project. It provides a practical research methodology applicable in all economic sectors. Given the results of the study of the labor market in the water sector, the project developed a Concept for a model of interaction between key ministries and agencies to ensure training of specialists for the water sector

in line with its needs and demand

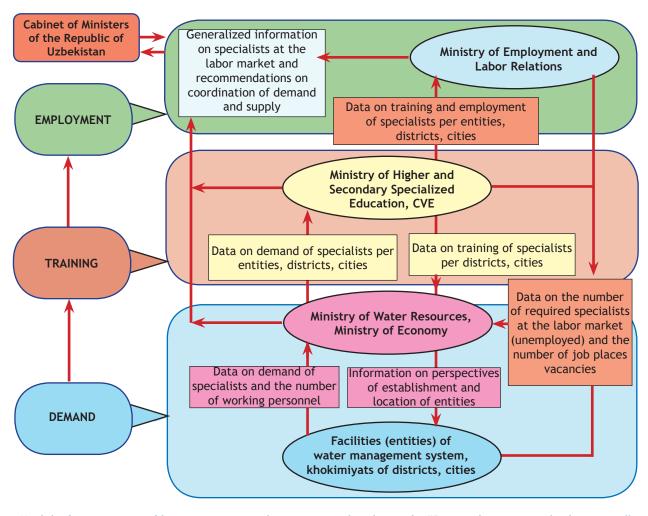
in the labor market.

The methodological aspects are reflected in 2 handbooks:

DEVELOPED DOCUMENTS

- "Mechanisms of interaction between key ministries and agencies for the training and employment of specialists with vocational education in line with the needs of the labor market in the Republic of Uzbekistan";
- "Tools for analyzing the demand and supply of specialists on the labor market of Uzbekistan".





Model of interaction of key ministries and agencies under the cycle "Demand-training-job placement" on the example of water management



2. DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATIONALREGULATORY DOCUMENTS AND EDUCATIONAL MANUALS

In order to introduce and strengthen a systemic approach to cooperation between stakeholders in the training of specialists from the water and utilities sector: the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services and the Center of VE studied information about labor market in the regions. In line with these studies, on the recommendation of stakeholders, pilot occupations were selected. All the specializations of these two pilot professions, based on the requirements of the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population, were unified and

PILOT OCCUPATIONS

- Technician for operation and maintenance of hydrotechnical structures and pumping stations
- Technician-technologist for operation of public utilities

renamed as working professions in the "Classifier of working professions and main positions of employees", developed in 2015. For the development of training and regulatory documents on pilot professions, 2 working groups were created, consisting of representatives from key ministries and agencies, teachers from pilot vocational colleges and employers.

The curriculum, in coordination with the line ministries and agencies, included 60-hour internship program "Acquaintance with the profession at manufacturing enterprises" for first-year students. Sectoral educational standards, curricula and educational programs for pilot professions were approved by orders of the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education as of April 6 and August 25, 2016. The project progress at pilot vocational colleges was monitored on regular basis.

In particular, in June 2016, the

effectiveness of the organization of introduction training at 5 pilot vocational colleges in Syrdarya and Samarkand regions was evaluated.

Leading specialists from the enterprises of the "Suvokava" production association Gulistan and Samarkand cities, the Office of Energy and Communications of pumping stations, the Management of water irrigation systems in Syrdarya and Samarkand regions, the Partnership of private owners of housing "Ilgorkelazhak" in the city of Samarkand, the Office of the Irrigation System "Mirza Pai" and others participated in the survey. Packages of educational and regulatory documents on the pilot professions were developed and published. The packages include industry-specific educational standards, curricula and programs for pilot occupations. The packages were disseminated to all vocational colleges of the country, which train personnel









for the pilot professions.

A student logbook for internship has been developed for students of pilot VCs, as well as an improved version of the initial practice student logbook in a profession in partner enterprises.

In all pilot VCs in February 2017, seminars were held on the organization of practical work and filling in of the student logbook during on-the-job training at the enterprise.

Together with the educational and methodological center «Kommunalukuv» of the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services, the needs for advanced training of specialists in the system of housing and communal services were studied.

Based on ILO requirements, 5 modular training manuals were developed on the following topics:

- 1. Quality control of drinking water and sewage,
- 2. Operation of water supply, sewage and wastewater treatment systems,
- 3. Provision of services for consumers in the field of drinking water supply and sanitation,
- 4. Modern pumps, pumping facilities and stations of the drinking water supply system,
- 5. Housing and building management.

Leading specialists of the communal services system, teachers of the Tashkent and Samarkand architectural and construction institutes and basic vocational colleges were involved in the development of textbooks.

In order to improve the policy framework, training and regulatory documents of the advanced training system for specialists of key ministries and agencies, "Provisions on the procedure for training, retraining, advanced training of workers, managers, engineers and specialists in housing and communal services of the Republic of Uzbekistan as well as the «Regulations on the procedure for the development and requirements for the structure, content and design of advanced training and retraining of personnel in the housing and communal services system» were developed.

This Regulation has been revised, given the ongoing changes in the system of vocational education, together with the specialists of the Center for Vocational Education. The normative document applicable in all economic sectors - "Requirements applied structure, the content, design of educational programs based on the competencies for advanced training of specialists in all sectors of economy" - was approved by the order of the Center for Vocational Education No. 391 as of July 25, 2019.

Recommended by the International Labor Organization (ILO) and internationally recognized "Know about Business" modular manual for use by vocational

institutions has been developed and adapted to national educational standards by specialists of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan and the Center of Vocational Education.

Within the project, a training seminar was held for teachers on «Basics of entrepreneurship and technology of employment» at vocational colleges, as well as specialists of regional departments of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry. More than 9000 start-up entrepreneurs were trained by certified trainers in organized courses «Know about Business». In order to effectively use the equipment in the educational process, methodological manuals were developed on the use of the excavator-loader simulator and the a Arc-gaswelding simulator in the educational process of vocational colleges and advanced training centers. Based on skills analysis, industry-specific educational standards and curricula were developed, using the modern modular approach.

In order to assist the Regional Training Centers in the implementation of new tasks in 2019, the following materials were developed:

- methodological guidelines "Organization of vocational training based on the modular approach" and "Methodological recommendations for the development of modular-based training packages";









- a short-term training program the workshops: for tractor drivers, designed for 36 hours applicable for initial vocational training and advanced training courses:
- a long-term training program for "Arc-gas-welder", designed for 240 hours. The course programs are agreed with the relevant ministries and agencies and approved by the Center for VE.

The SDP-4 project contributes to the reforms undertaken in the sector of vocational education in Uzbekistan by developing linkages between the labor market demand and the supply of the educational system.

In October 2019, a number of seminars were held with the participation of leading foreign experts, as well as specialists from the State Inspectorate for Education Quality Supervision under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, the Ministry of Labor, the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Uzbekistan, aimed at development of occupational standards.

The following regulatory documents were developed during

- Occupational profile for "Laboratory technician for quality control of water and wastewater";
- Occupational standard for "Laboratory technician for the quality control of water and wastewater."

Based on the experience gained, the Project, with the support of the State Inspectorate for Quality Supervision of Education under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations, the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Uzbekistan, has developed the practical guidelines "Occupational standards development mechanism". The guidelines contain recommendations for occupational standards development providing detailed description of the preparation, implementation and validation procedures.









3. TRAINING ORGANIZATION AT VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTERS

Tο implement the concept improving the system of advanced training and retraining of specialists in pilot professions, appropriate measures were taken. The working group carried out a number of activities on advanced training of teachers-masters of professional training and teachers of vocational colleges as well as water and public utilities specialists at training centers for advanced training and retraining, Regional vocational training centers at vocational colleges. at the Tashkent institute of irrigation and agricultural mechanization engineers at the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services.

MAIN FACTS

About 9 000

start-up entrepreneurs were trained in the "Know about Business" courses. On March 1, 2016, a joint order was adopted by the Center of VE of the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education and the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the organization of advanced training courses for water management specialists in 2016 at basic vocational colleges". In order to provide methodological support for courses, on March 10, 2016, a practical workshop was organized for directors and teachers of 31 VCs and those responsible for conducting training courses. At these courses, modular curricula and manuals in 4 areas are applied:

- Improving the ameliorative state of irrigated lands and exercising control over them,
- Operation of modern reclamation technology,
- Operation of reservoirs,
- Operation of pumping stations, irrigation and drainage wells. In line with the order, weekly advanced training courses were held in 6 areas at the VCs.

They were elaborated under the project jointly with Center of VE, the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, Tashkent institute of irrigation and agricultural mechanization engineers, as well as qualified specialists of water management enterprises. More than 4,500 managers of water users association, hydraulic engineers, engineers-technicians, and operators of water facilities undertook advanced training in this field.

According to the action plan, advanced training courses for "industrial irrigation and amelioration" specialists were held at the Tashkent institute of irrigation and agricultural mechanization engineering.

The advanced training courses improved the skills of 49 masters of practical training.

In order to increase the work experience of the masters of practical training, 18-hour courses were organized for the enterprises of Tashkent Plant "Agregat", Tashkent Plant "Suvs-

















MAIN FACTS

The project conducted

39

trainings and workshops, during which

1133 people

developed their capacities in workshops.

anoatmash", "Uzsuvloyiha", Subsidiary "Uzmeliomashlizing Service" and in Kuyi-Chirchik college of transport and services. On the basis of the training laboratory of the Tashkent institute of irrigation and agricultural mechanization engineering, 42-hour practical courses were organized aimed at improving the professional skills of masters-teachers of practical training.

Over the past period, the project conducted 39 training workshops on the following topics:

- Development and improvement of sectoral educational standards and curricula for pilot professions.
- Methodical support and effective implementation of advanced training courses for water management specialists at basic vocational colleges.
- Improvement of the educational process at the pilot VCs and regional training centers.
- Introduction into the process of teaching subjects and practical educational programs based on modular curricula.
- Organization and practical training for students of 2 courses of pilot groups.
- Using the excavator loader simulator based on the Minsk Tractor Plant (MTP) in the educational process.
- Improving the regulatory framework for the system of retraining and advanced training of housing and communal services personnel
- The use of the arc-gas-welding training simulator in the training process.
- Presentation of the information system (IS) «Registration and monitoring of vocational training and job placement» and others. Specialists from line ministries and agencies participated in these events. In general, at the seminars 1133 people improved their skills.

Pursuant to the order of the Center of VE as of January 19, 2016, a new version of the Regulation "On the Regional Voca-

tional Training Center at the Vocational College" was developed, approved by a joint resolution of the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population, the Chamber of Commerce, the Council of the Federation of Trade Unions of Uzbekistan, as well as the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In February and March 2017, a joint resolution was adopted by the territorial departments of the Center of VE, the Main Labor Department, the Council of the Federation of Trade Unions and the regional departments of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Uzbekistan to establish Regional Vocational Training Centers at vocational colleges in Syrdarya and Samarkand regions. In line with this resolution, Regional Vocational Training Centers were established on the basis of the Mirzaabad VC of land reclamation, Gulistan construction VC. Samarkand VC of computer technology and land reclamation, Bogishamal VC of industry and Bulungur agricultural VC.

In August, 2017 at the Institute for advanced training and retraining of the System of Secondary Specialized, Vocational Education, together with the Uzbek Association of Teachers of English, a 42-hour course "Basic Level in English of Teachers -TFT-1" was organized to improve qualification of English teachers at pilot VCs. The training workshop was attended by 23 English teachers of 12 pilot VCs. At the Sectoral Center for retraining and advanced training the Tashkent institute of irrigation and agricultural mechanization engineering, as well as at the training and methodical center «Kommunalukuv», workshops were held on the topic "Automation of pumping stations of water supply systems", "Drinking water supply system of buildings", "Reinforcement for water supply of buildings"

and "Sodium hypochlorite production equipment". These events were attended by teachers of special subjects, trainers, employers and employees of the pilot VCs and staff of the project.

Together with the SDC project "Water Resources Management in Uzbekistan", advanced courses were organized to improve the skills of specialists of irrigation system departments on the "Use of information and computer technologies in the irrigation and amelioration system", based on educational and methodological materials developed under the project. Courses were organized in June, 2017 in the Republic of Karakalpakstan and 11 regions. The courses were attended by 122 specialists, who at the end received certificates.

In order to introduce the inter-sectoral information system into practice, in August 2018, together with specialists from the Center of VE and company "Micros Development", a training seminar was held on the topic "Registration and Monitoring of Vocational Training and Job placement". At the seminar, specialists from 14 territorial departments of vocational education familiarized themselves with the principles of managing the IS and its functionality, as well as gained the necessary practical skills to navigate the information system.

On August 28, 2018, the order No. 144 of the Center of VE "On the Implementation of the Information System" was issued and the administration group of the "Registration and Monitoring of Vocational Training and Job placement" Information System was created under the leadership of the first deputy of the Center of VE.

On September 27, 2018, a training workshop was held in Tashkent for senior officials of the territorial departments of vocational education on the use of this information system. The

seminar was attended by specialists of the Center of Vocational Education and responsible employees of the Institute for Innovative Development of vocational education personnel training and retraining, responsible specialists of the information system of VE territorial departments and responsible specialists of "Micros Development" for the development of the IS.

The information system "Registration and monitoring of vocational education data" created by the project is integrated into the Interministerial Information Platform for transparency and information exchange.

The "Users' instructions for data entry and navigation of the information system" has been developed for the teaching staff/ operators in vocational education institutions that will regularly input the data.

On September 28, 2018, a training seminar was held at the "Kommunalukuv" Training Center of the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services on the topic "Improving the regulatory framework for the system of retraining and advanced training of housing and utilities personnel".

In October, 2018, training workshops were held at the Mirzaabad vocational college of hydro-melioration and at the Samarkand vocational college of computer technologies and hydro-melioration on the topic "Using an excavator loader trainer based on MTP in the educational process". During the seminars, 41 industrial training masters from pilot vocational colleges, teachers in the specialties were trained to use the "Backhoe loader simulator" in the educational process. On November 27, 2018, the presentation of the information system «Registration and Monitoring of Vocational Training and Job placement» was held. The presentation was attended by the Ambassador of the Swiss

Confederation in Uzbekistan,













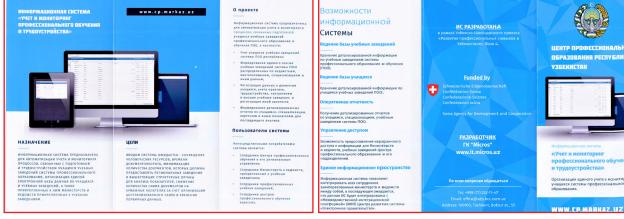
Mr. Olivier Chave, project director Mr. Wolfgang Hellwig, First Deputy Minister of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education of Uzbekistan, Director of the Center of Vocational Education Mr. M.Kholmukhamedov, responsible officials of the Center of Vocational Training, represent-

atives of partner ministries and agencies, as well as directors of pilot vocational colleges.

Also in December, 2018 training seminars on the topic: "Using an electric-gas welding simulator in the educational process" were held at the Bogishamol industrial VC and at the Gulistan construc-

tion VC.

During the reporting period, on the basis of special curricula and programs, training, retraining and advanced training courses were organized for temporarily unemployed persons, specialists of enterprises, as well as for teachers and trainers of practical courses at 12 regional vocational training centers at VCs in Andijan, Namangan, Syrdarya, Samarkand, Fergana and Tashkent regions. During the reporting period, more than 10,500 people participated in the training courses.





4. EQUIPMENT PROVIDED FOR PILOT INSTITUTIONS

For the successful training of students and advanced training of specialists, availability of advanced aguipment and appropriate conditions in pilot colleges play an important role. To this end, the project undertook a number of activities on the organization and equipment of modern classrooms in the pilot VCs. In the 5 pilot VCs working group offices, seminar-training halls, an information resource center and computer laboratories, equipped with necessary furniture and office equipment were set up. In addition, training laboratories "Automatic water pumping stations" were organized in the Bulungur agricultural VC, Samarkand VC of computer technologies and land reclamation, also Mirzaabad VC on land reclamation, and the Bogishamol industrial and Gulistan construction VCs, equipped with thematic training stands on water supply and treatment system as well as an installation for the production of sodium hypochlorite.

Also number of activities were undertaken to strengthen the material and technical base of the "Kommunalukuv" Republican Training Center of the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services. The training center includes: a hall to carry out seminar-training, an office for occupational health and safety, a laboratory for water supply and sewage systems, a laboratory for the automation of pumping stations and energy saving, an information resource center and a computer room. Laboratory and training rooms are



equipped with the corresponding training stands, such as "Water supply and water purification system", "Automatic equipment of pump stations of water supply systems" and "Testing valves and stop valves".

All classrooms are effectively used for advanced training courses for public utilities specialists.

To date, more than 1,300 authorities of water supply and sewage utilities enterprises, engineers and technicians in the operation of water supply facilities, operators of chlorination plants, chairmen and employees of the houseowner's associations, employees of the subscriber service, etc., have completed advanced training courses, in all 16 specializations.

The classrooms of the Branch Center for Retraining and Advanced Training of Teachers at the Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineering are also equipped with computers and office furniture.

Internet systems, interactive boards in 7 classrooms at pilot colleges of the project were installed. A textbook "Using the ESPRIT electronic board in the educational process at the Centers for advanced training and vocational colleges" has been drafted. On the basis of this manual, trainings were organized for teachers of pilot colleges of the project and the





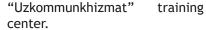












Information Resource Center, equipped with the most modern facilities was set up at the Information Resource Center of the Center of VE.

In order to put the information system "Registration and Monitoring of Vocational Training and Job placement" into practice, servers were provided for the operation of the information system and in 2018.

Two pilot colleges of the project, Mirzaabad VC of land reclamation, and Samarkand VC of computer technologies and land reclamation, were equipped with simulators "Backhoe loader simulator".

In 5 pilot colleges of the project, electric and gas-welding equipment, as well as an electric arc welding training simulator, were commissioned.

For the effective use of the supplied modern equipment, training seminars were organized for teachers of the training center, masters of practical training of basic vocational colleges, as well as for specialists from the industry.









MAIN FACTS

Under the project phase IV, pilot institutions are equipped with training and laboratory equipment in the amount of US

\$ 1,000,000



5. SUSTAINIBILITY OF PROJECT RESULTS

For effective implementation of activities and dissemination of project results, action plans were developed and approved in line with the established procedure to facilitate project implementation and introduce innovative project experience into the educational process in conjunction with the Information and Methodological Support Service of the Center of VE (approved on February 6, 2017), the Training and Methodological Center «Kommunalukuv» of the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services (approved on March 31, 2017) and the Center for retraining and advanced training of personnel at Tashkent institute of irrigation and agricultural mechanization engineering (approved on March 10, 2017).

To this end, working groups for

set up in all the above mentioned organizations (Service Order as of January 20, 2017).

Trainings are organized to disseminate the results of the project for trainees of advanced training of VC teachers of special disciplines and masters of practical training.

On April 25 (for teachers of special disciplines), on May 22 (for masters of practical training) and on June 16 (for teachers of special disciplines) in 2017, leading specialists of the CVE and the staff of the project conducted training at the Center for Retraining and Advanced Training of Personnel at Tashkent institute of irrigation and agricultural mechanization engineering to evaluate the obtained Center of VE specialists, managers and project experts. Upon completion of the advanced training courses, 35 teachers and 31 masters were given CDs with electronic manuals on "Water Management and Land Reclamation" elaborated by the project. The electronic versions of textbooks developed under the project have been transferred to the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the use by small businesses and entrepreneurs. In 2019, on the basis of the bilat-

approved by the Institute of pedagogical innovations, retraining and advanced training of managerial and pedagogical staff of vocational education, the project experts moderated seminars on monthly basis covering the topic "International best practices in VET innovations on the example of SDP-4 project experience". Over 400 directors of vocational colleges and deputy directors for vocational training, as well as teachers of the Institute attended these seminars. In order to ensure sustainabil-

ity and spread experience and results of the project, all the resources of the "Skills Development Project in Uzbekistan" were transferred to national partners for further application.





INTERNET



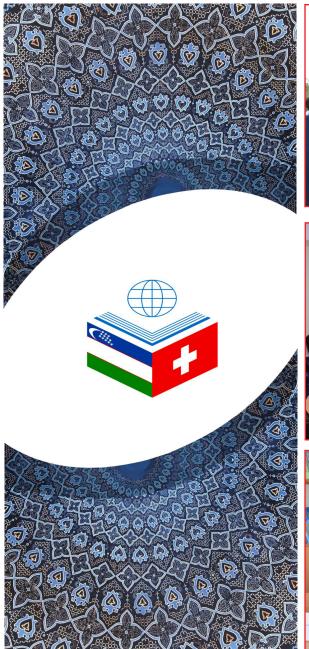


















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Uzbek-Swiss «Skills Development Project in Uzbekistan», Phase IV















