

RATIONALIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Abstract

To realize the ambition of becoming a high-income economy, Malaysia will need to have a workforce that is equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to support and drive the economy. This study is focused on the rationalization and streamlining of the TEVT sector, including TEVT offerings, business and operating model and funding structure. It also touches on the articulation of professional pathways for TEVT certificate holders. The scope of this study covers publicly-run skills, technical and vocational institutes across industry sectors. A high-level overview of private skills, technical and vocational institutes has been taken into account in analyzing the overall TEVT landscape. From the study, there are three issues faced by each key stakeholder group need to be addressed to unleash the potential of this sector.

- *Students*: TEVT is currently not a mainstream education option and typically not a viable alternative to entering the workforce as it does not provide clear educational and professional pathways for students
- *TEVT providers*: Highly fragmented landscape with numerous providers from various ministries resulting in multiple qualifications systems and non-uniform curricula standards
- *Employers*: Lack of recognition for TEVT qualifications from employers/industry players

In order to rationalize the TEVT in landscape in Malaysia, three recommendations have been proposed which are:

1. Redefine the governance of the TEVT sector to drive performance
2. Realign offerings across public institutes to meet economic needs
3. Utilize funding as key lever to drive direction and performance of institutes