



PCCI, TESDA SIGN MOA PROMOTING A MORE ENTERPRISE-BASED TVET SYSTEM IN PHILIPPINES



(From left to right) TESDA DDG Lina Sarmiento, PCCI President Amb. Benedicto V. Yujuico, TESDA Director General Isidro Lapena, PCCI HRDF President Dr. Alberto P. Fenix, Jr., PCCI Chairperson Maria Alegria Sibal-Limjoco.

In continuous pursuit of improving the skills of the Filipino workforce promoting more enterprise-based education training, PCCI signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with TESDA to set up a Nationwide, Pre-employment Dual Education and Training System (NPDETS). The signing was held on 16 January 2020 in TESDA Office.

Signatories of the partnership included TESDA Director-General Secretary Isidro S. Lapena, PhD., CSEE, PCCI President Ambassador Benedicto V. Yujuico, and PCCI HRDF President Dr. Alberto P. Fenix Jr. Also attending the MOA signing are top officials of PCCI and TESDA.

Dual Education and Training (DET) refers to an approach where students are trained both in school and in company. With DET, students who have taken their respective TVET trainings will benefit from the combination of practical, on-the-job, enterprise-based training, and theoretical education. This model has proven to increase chances of employment in developed countries like Germany.

In 2014, a DET Program was piloted by PCCI through PCCI Human Resources Development Foundation in the hotel and restaurant sector in Laiya, Batangas. Local partnerships formed from the public and private sector allowed for the

integration of the DET in the standard DepED curriculum of schools in Laiya. This DET Program was validated with the Tourism Industry Board Foundation Inc. (TIBFI) and the Hotel and Restaurant Association of the Philippines (HRAP). Said DET Program is now being replicated in other parts of the country.

Believing in TESDA's success in creating skilled workforce, NPDETS aims to nationalize the DET approach in the Philippines. Once operationalized, business associations, chambers, enterprises and schools (or ACES) will be able to take more active roles in establishing competency standards, developing curriculum and training plans, as well as conducting assessment and certification of students/trainees.

Activities for this partnership entail the identification of priority industry sectors where DET will be implemented. Priority sectors include agriculture, hotel and restaurant/tourism, construction, and information and communications technology (ICT). ACES, in partnership with TESDA, will be able to identify qualifications and competencies from these sectors which will translate into the development of DET Programs for replication.

The training regulations developed will help students/trainees meet expected training outcomes sought for by priority sectors. Furthermore, NPDETS will capacitate and accredit ACES, set up assessment procedures and establish a joint-certification system recognized by both the business sector and TESDA.

According to Dr. Fenix, five local chambers are already replicating the Hotel and Restaurant DET Program. "We've completed the training for the hotel and restaurant sector and is being replicated in five chambers in Bicol, Pampanga, Quezon City, Tacloban-Leyte and Oriental Mindoro." Dr. Fenix said.

PCCI is the largest business organization in the country advocating for business growth and sustainable development for the business community especially micro, small and medium enterprises. Understanding the need to address the gaps in country's human resources, the organization institutionalized the PCCI HRDF as the implementing arm in human resources development.