

AFRICAN UNION PARTNERSHIP

Competition TVET for the 21st Century in Africa *The Most Promising Practices on the African Continent*

Do you work with a technical vocational education and training (TVET) program in Africa that is delivering skills for the 21st century?

Do you work with a TVET program in Africa whose students are finding jobs and becoming successful entrepreneurs?

Do you work with a TVET program in Africa that is demand-driven and employer-led?

If so, you'll definitely want to nominate it for the TVET for the 21st Century in Africa Competition.

Competition is open from August 1 – 31, 2015
Go To www.wfconnections.org

Competition Open	August 1 – 31, 2015
Public Voting	September 1 – 10, 2015
Winners Announced	October 1, 2015
AU Specialized Technical Committee Meeting Showcasing Winners	October 26 – 28, 2015

Introduction: The African Union Commission is launching a competition to uncover the 20 most promising models in technical vocational education and training (TVET) for the 21st century: technical and vocational education that provides needed skills for Africa's developing economies in the African Union's 54 member countries. The competition is being implemented in collaboration with FHI 360 under the African Union Partnership program, funded by USAID. Winners will be identified as models of effective TVET and promoted on the African Union, FHI 360, and other partner websites. The AU and partners will also support winners through technical assistance, training, and networking to promote exchange of successful practices. The competition is being

implemented in collaboration with FHI 360 under the African Union Partnership program, funded by USAID.

Overview: The competition is looking to identify and highlight promising TVET centers in Africa. All qualifying submissions will be reviewed by a panel of judges consisting of experts from the African Union, FHI 360, experts on TVET in Africa, and the African private sector. The goal is to promote promising models in Africa and the top 20 applicants will be featured at the African Union Specialized Technical Committee (STC) meeting on Education, Culture and Human Resources, an event that brings together all ministers responsible for Education, Science and Technology in Africa, with participation of Regional Economic Communities and all key agencies working in education in Africa. The top 20 will also be included in promotional materials and websites for the African Union, FHI 360 and other partners. The aim is to highlight leading examples of best practice in TVET in Africa, in order to provide exemplars and learning models for enhancing TVET development in Africa, as one of the major means for promoting entrepreneurship, youth employment and innovation for generating wealth and development.

The strongest applicants will be identified and profiled, with 10 being invited to come to Addis Ababa (2 institutions from each of the 5 geographic regions) where they will be invited to present their programs at the STC exhibition, October 26-28. The exhibition will be attended by Ministers of Education, Science and Technology and senior government representatives, African Union staff, officials from TVET and civil society and other international agencies. We anticipate that the cost of participation in the exhibition will be covered, pending confirmed availability of funds.

Eligibility:

This competition is open to any governmental, non-governmental, non-US organization, non-profit or for-profit entity. Nominees are being sought from programs operating in member countries' formal and informal sectors. It includes TVET at secondary, post-secondary, informal, or continuing education levels. Programs that operate across more than one country may also apply.

All entries must show that they have a direct link to employers or employer associations and lead to successful employment or successful, new business start-ups.

Entries may come from:

1. Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions working with one or more businesses
2. Private sector businesses working with one or more educational institutions (secondary and post-secondary and schools outside the formal education system) in the development of employable skills
3. Private sector associations conducting trainings that are open to the public
4. NGOs that are working with the private sector to build needed skills
5. A consortium of ministries (for example tourism, labor, education and planning) investing across ministries in a multi-sectoral program with the private sector in skills development

Application Process:

The application form will be made available on www.wfconnections.org on August 1, 2015 in English, French, Arabic and Portuguese.

Please email aup@fhi360.org by August 15, 2015 if you have any questions about this competition.

Award:

A panel of 7 judges will select 10 winning entries and 10 runners-up from across the continent. 2 winners and 2 runners-up will be selected from each of Africa's 5 geographic regions.

All finalists will be featured in public promotion through the African Union, USAID and partner outlets (such as social media, websites, blog posts, etc.). The African Union Commission's Department of Human Resources Science and Technology (HRST) will facilitate ongoing knowledge sharing, promotion of best practices, and provide training support and training of trainers. HRST will also promote the winning entities as Centers for Excellence across the continent.

Awards and prizes will be announced on October 1, 2015.

Evaluation Criteria:

The evaluation of applicants will be comprised of two components:

1. Public votes: the public will be able to vote for the TVET models they admire most through the online platform. TVETs are encouraged to rally their community to gain votes for their TVET. Voting will be open from September 1 – 10, 2015. A link will appear on the www.wfconnections.org website after the competition has closed.
2. A panel of 7 judges will select 10 winning entries and 10 runners-up from across the continent.

The criteria presented below have been tailored to the requirements of this award. A total of 100 points are possible for the complete application. The relative importance of each criterion is indicated by approximate weight by points.

In evaluating the applications, the judges will examine overall merit and feasibility, as well as specific criteria relevant to each component as elaborated below. Applicants should note that these criteria: (1) serve as the standard against which all applications will be evaluated, and (2) serve to identify the significant matters, which applicants should address in their applications.

Criteria	Points
Design: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the program demand-driven and employer-led? • Are there partnerships with the public and private sector? 	20
Access: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there open access and transparent rules for selection of students and other participants • Is the program gender-inclusive? 	20
Impact: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the program lead to successful employment or successful, new business start-ups? • Does the program generate portable skills that are valuable in many, not just one business? • Is there economic and social impact as a result of the program? 	25
Organizational capacity and sustainability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are results tracked and measured? • Does the institution ensure continuous quality improvement of the program? • Does the program have sustainable financing? • Is the program replicable? 	20
Community Support (Public Votes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the community supportive of the TVET and is it delivering services to the community? 	15
TOTAL	100