The key essence of the project’s initiative is to correlate the existing approaches to training and the needs of the labor market. The program is aimed at improving the functioning of the system of vocational education, by improving the structure and orientation of TVET institutions in the labor market. Efforts are aimed at skills development in sectors that have a significant potential to increase economic growth, productivity, and expand employment opportunities.

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Introduction to the project
How many women and men are in employment and how productive they are at work has a lot to do with the available opportunities to acquire and maintain relevant skills. Countries, enterprises and persons all perceive skills development as strategic, and consequently seek to step up investments in skills. In aspiring to realize the potential of skills development, they face common challenges.

In September 2009, G20 Leaders called for putting quality jobs at the heart of the recovery, and committed to implementing recovery plans that support decent work, help preserve employment and prioritize job growth. Leaders adopted a framework for strong, sustainable and balanced growth as the instrument for their cooperative action. They acknowledged the role of skills development in that framework, stating that “each of our countries will need, through its own national policies, to strengthen the ability of our workers to adapt...
to changing market demands and to benefit from innovation and investments in new technologies, clean energy, environment, health and infrastructure."

In June 2010 the ILO prepared a strategy “Skilled workforce - the basis of intensive, sustainable and balanced economic growth” which serves as a platform for this project.

The G20 Training strategy reflects major components ensuring a link between education and training with the world of work and correspondence between received training to employment opportunities, including:

- Anticipating future skills needs;
- Promoting the participation of social partners in training design and delivery;
- Encouraging sectoral approaches;
- Enhancing labor market information and employment services;
- Improving training quality and relevance;
- Promote gender equality and broad access to training among youth, people with disabilities, rural and migrant workers.

The strategy and expected results of the project

The technical cooperation project “APPLYING THE G20 TRAINING STRATEGY” aims to improve the vocational education and training in the target countries. The project concept aims to adapt the principles and components of the G20 Training Strategy to the conditions and specific needs of the countries. The main objective is to strengthen the capacity in each country to improve the national systems of vocational training, access to training for those who are most in need of it, and, ultimately, to improve competitiveness and economic growth of the countries. As part of the G20 Training Strategy is to improve vocational and technical skills, the project will use a range of tools of technical cooperation provided by the ILO to improve the skills and employability of workers, as well new and innovative tools developed by the ILO partners.

The ultimate goal of the project is to strengthen national systems of vocational training, which will enhance employment opportunities. Upon completion of the project it is expected to achieve the following objectives:

1. That national vocational training professionals in target countries have enhanced capacity to deliver training; that, for example, professionals have the skills needed to effectively administer institutions, to assess qualifications, to plan course content and curricula, to improve teacher training and training delivery, and to establish and maintain linkages with employers

2. That training programs are demand-oriented and meet the current needs of national economies but also anticipate emerging economic opportunities that result from globalization and the potential for increased trade.

3. That the capacity of Russian experts and institutions is strengthened in the delivery of international technical assistance in the field of vocational education and training, and linkages with international networks and knowledge are enhanced.

Photo: ILO