

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
IN THE FIELD OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND
TRAINING
IN SECONDARY EDUCATION

BETWEEN

THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OF SRI LANKA

AND

THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE OF THE
REPUBLIC OF FINLAND

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The Ministry of Education of Sri Lanka and the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Finland, hereinafter referred to as 'the Participants';

Desiring to enhance the existing relations of friendship and cooperation between both countries;

Motivated by their willingness to make efforts to contribute to mutual understanding and benefit;

Convinced that educational cooperation is an essential factor in the development of closer relations between their people;

Accepting that education is a key to the development of more equitable, competitive and sustainable societies;

Have reached the following understanding:

Section 1
PURPOSE AND FRAMEWORK

The Participants will seek to strengthen their bilateral cooperation in the field of vocational education and training (VET) in secondary education. The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (later referred as MoU) is to provide the basis and framework for the development of cooperation activities of mutual interest, which will include the possibility of signing specific agreements and instruments between the agencies/institutions/other parties of both Participants having competence in the areas identified by this MoU.

The Participants will also seek to strengthen their cooperation in multilateral fora with the aim to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ensuring inclusive and quality education for all and promoting lifelong learning.

The Participants will develop cooperation relations between the two countries in the field of VET in secondary education with respect to the national legislation of each of the two countries.

Section 2
MAIN FIELDS OF COOPERATION

Within the context of this MoU, the Participants will have the possibility of sharing their experience and expertise in the fields of vocational education and training in secondary education. The Participants will promote cooperation and the exchange of experiences, which include following:

- a) The design of education system, including new pedagogies, practices for learning, pedagogical management, qualifications development, research, implementation and assessment with a view to promote educational quality and practices in general;
- b) Development of VET leading to an initial vocational qualification;
- c) Promotion of new and innovative learning environments for vocational upper secondary education and training;
- d) The design of technical, vocational and professional education and training in areas of (mutual interest) with the aim of fostering labor market relevance and inclusion of young people;
- e) The exchange of information and experiences in planning and developing curricula/qualification requirements, VET governance, management, administration and leadership of VET institutions and development of ICT skills of students and the use of ICT in teaching and learning;
- f) The exchange of knowledge as regards the promotion and development of vocational education in upper secondary education; and
- g) The design and implementation of evaluation and assessment systems with the aim of obtaining strategic information for decision-making and the strengthening of each Participant's vocational institutions and their actors.

Section 3
MOBILITY AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Participants will promote educational activities in order to encourage mobility and cooperation. Such activities may include sharing experiences and best practices and methodologies, mobility of teachers, experts, researchers and students, participation in conferences, seminars and meetings (or similar) held in the other country. Each Participant will disseminate educational opportunities and scholarships offered by the other Participant.

Section 4
INFORMATION EXCHANGE

The Participants will support the exchange of materials on technical and vocational education in secondary education, educational methodology, including the use of state-of-the-art-communication technologies/ICTs.

Section 5
DISPUTES

Any dispute about the interpretation or application of this MoU will be resolved by consultations between the Participants, and will not be referred to any national or international tribunal or third party for settlement.

Section 6
AMMENDMENTS

This MoU may be amended at any time by the mutual written consent of the Participants.

Section 7
TERMINATION

This MoU may be terminated by either Participants giving six (6) months written notice. The Participants will consult to determine how any outstanding matters should be dealt with. Termination will not affect the validity of any arrangement or contract made under this MoU.

Section 8
DURATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE

The present MoU will come into effect from the date both Participants have signed and it will remain in effect until a new MoU may be signed or the present MoU will be otherwise terminated.

Signed in duplicate at Colombo, Sri Lanka on 12 June 2018 in English.


Sunil Hettiarachchi
Secretary, Ministry of Education
The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
City:
Date:


Petri Peltonen
Under – Secretary of State
Republic of Finland
City:
Date