

FE and Skills: Opportunities for Internationalisation

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Global Context

- Growing global interest in UK TVET models and programmes
- Global growth in international education with students more conscious of the opportunity and value of studying overseas
- Growing Global acknowledgement of value of curriculum, training and qualifications that are internationally recognised
- Demand for global skilled worker mobility necessitates benchmarked shared global standards and training
- Equally, focus on capacity building indigenous workforce
- Need to capacity national TVET systems via e.g. train the trainer, leadership and curriculum development programmes
- For the UK, need to develop our own response to globalisation through growing the global skills of our students and staff

Reasons for International

- Commercial – new markets and funding
- Enriches the experience of staff and students through global learning opportunities
- Raises college profile
- Drives quality through new approaches and partnerships
- Extension of strategic direction, mission and organisational development
- Takes advantage of part of college offer or respond to a particular opportunity
- Working with HMG or EU initiatives and programmes
- Global times require an international perspective

The UK College offer- student recruitment

- Established brand with strong alumni stories
- Student support
- Progression onto further study whilst studying in an 'authentic' learning environment
- EFL and opportunity to study alongside UK students
- World class learning environment and teaching
- Government quality assured
- Breadth and depth in programmes
- Safe first step into overseas study

The UK College offer- different models

- Autonomous model that is flexible, responsive and adaptable to different international contexts. Not a 'one size, fits all' approach
- Delivered in country and add value to training partners' portfolio or as own delivery offer
- Delivering programmes in areas such as entrepreneurship, leadership, teacher training and linked to colleges' specific areas of expertise
- Working through wider programmes with UK, EU and overseas partners
- Consultancy
- Internationally recognised

International partners and networks

- British Council 'Skills for Employability' programme and IES
- Foreign and Commonwealth Office ' Prosperity Fund'
- Department for International Trade
- Department for International Development
- College networks/Representative bodies
- EU Projects
- Funding agencies – EBRD, ADB
- Overseas Governments
- Employers (utilising UK network)

Challenges

- Visas
- Rationalising international with the domestic agenda
- Costs – staff, time and set up
- International demands a medium to long term investment
- Expertise
- Getting whole staff ‘buy in’
- Need for cross sector approach for large scale opportunities
- Labour Market Information

Some ingredients for international success...

- Whole college buy in
- Underpinning commercial objectives with educational
- Strategic and long term approach
- Realistic budget and resourcing
- Understanding the bigger picture and working through wider initiatives
- Get the key personnel right
- Match offer to markets and objectives
- Spirit of mutual respect with international partners
- Commitment to quality and service
- Working with other stakeholders and partners
- **Commitment**

Questions

Thanks

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