

The KENYA INSTITUTE for PUBLIC
POLICY RESEARCH and ANALYSIS

Thinking Policy Together

Developing Green Skills through TVETs to Enhance Youth Employability in Kenya



Introduction



Kenya's transition to a green economy requires a workforce equipped with green skills to meet the rising demand in sectors like renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and waste management.

However, there's a significant mismatch between the skills provided by TVET institutions and the demands of these green industries. This paper highlights the importance of integrating green skills into TVET curricula to improve youth employability and contribute to Kenya's sustainable development goals.

Key Messages



1. Youth Unemployment is High Despite TVET Growth

- Despite increased TVET enrolment (from 195,857 in 2016 to 451,205 in 2020), youth unemployment remains a significant issue, with 31.45% of youth underemployed or unemployed (KNBS, 2022).



2. Mismatch Between Skills and Green Job Demands

- Green skills in fields like renewable energy, climate-smart agriculture, and waste management are critical but not adequately integrated into TVET curricula, limiting employability.



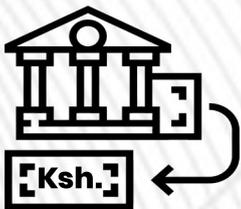
3. Green Jobs Are on the Rise

- Kenya's green economy is set to generate 240,000 direct green jobs by 2030, mainly in sectors like renewable energy and waste management (FSD Africa, 2024).



4. TVET Enrolment is Increasing

- TVET enrolment has grown significantly, with a 44.08% increase in placements from 2022/23 to 2023/24, reflecting a shift towards technical education.



5. Government Investment in TVETs

- The government's Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) approach aims to equip youth with practical skills, but green skills are not yet sufficiently emphasized.



6. Emerging Green Economy Demands New Skills

- The labour market requires green skills, yet there is a gap in TVET's ability to equip youth with competencies needed for this rapidly growing sector.



1. Integrate Green Skills into TVET Curricula

- Revise TVET curricula to include green skills in key areas such as renewable energy, climate-smart agriculture, and e-mobility to ensure alignment with labour market needs.



2. Strengthen Collaboration with Green Industries

- Forge stronger partnerships between TVET institutions and green industries to ensure that training programs meet the evolving demands of the green economy.



3. Enhance Capacity of TVET Trainers

- Provide specialized training for TVET instructors to equip them with the knowledge and tools needed to teach green skills effectively.



4. Promote Green Vocational Training in Rural Areas

- Expand green skill training initiatives in rural areas, where most green jobs like sustainable agriculture and renewable energy projects are located, to ensure inclusive development.



5. Incentivize Private Sector Investment in Green TVET Programs

- Create fiscal incentives for private sector companies to collaborate with TVET institutions, enhancing access to internships, apprenticeships, and on-the-job training in green industries.

