

About TVET

TVET UK is the UK partnership of technical and vocational education suppliers that works together to offer a full range of high quality skills development and resources for international clients. This case study shows how City & Guilds, a TVET member, worked with clients in the Gulf to develop vocational qualifications.

Bespoke Vocational Qualifications for government departments in the Gulf

City & Guilds has been involved in a couple of projects developing vocational qualifications for government departments in the Gulf region.

Developing vocational qualifications for a National Agency in Dubai

One of the key National Agencies in Dubai asked City & Guilds to produce qualifications that would help fill an identified skills gap in training provisions for office-based staff.

City & Guilds drew on its own vocational and technical qualifications and the UK occupational standards to develop qualifications and purpose built competency assessments for Cashiers, Receptionists, Secretaries and Contact Centre Agents.

The Agency's mission was to resolve the issue of this skills gap by offering a greater range of high-quality training to allow national residents to work to their potential and develop career prospects. As the qualifications were tailored to the specific needs of local government departments, they fully addressed the identified skills gap.

Developing basic vocational qualifications for national technical schools in a Gulf state

One of the recurring problems in national vocational education in many countries is the drop-out rate among students whose academic abilities do not allow them to follow more advanced programmes of study. These students tend to leave school early and often join the ranks of unemployed.

In order to address this problem, the Ministry of Education in a Gulf state asked City & Guilds to help develop basic vocational qualifications specially designed for students who cannot cope with the standard programme of study.

City & Guilds worked closely with local schools and curriculum departments to develop qualifications in welding, motor mechanics, carpentry, plumbing and refrigeration. The aim was to create programmes that would provide students with basic skills to obtain employment in key local trades.

The occupational standards were based on international benchmarks and adapted to local needs. The assessment strategy aimed to measure competency, but paid particular attention to students' academic abilities, to ensure they were not disadvantaged. City & Guilds also trained teachers and assessors at schools to deliver these qualifications, and set up a special quality assurance system to ensure the validity of assessments.