

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 two UK colleges, both TVET members, developed tourist industry training for two cities in Ghana.

Tourist industry training in Ghana

Tourism is very much an emerging industry in Ghana. Currently the main focus is on business tourism and sustainable tourism, although the country anticipates a rise in general tourism too, especially when Ghana hosts the 2008 African Cup of Nations.

In preparation for this influx of new tourists, the Tema Municipal Authority and the Tourism Development Agency in Sekondi Takoradi worked with Greenwich Community College and City College Plymouth to help develop the tourism industry. Both UK colleges had long-standing links with the Ghanaian cities, and the UK Government and the Commonwealth Local Government Forum supported the project.

The main aims were to raise the quality of service in local tourism businesses and to create courses to be delivered in-country to support the short, medium and long term training needs of the tourism industry.

The first phase was to deliver 'Welcome Host' training to over 100 front line staff from local employers in Tema. Meanwhile, the colleges ran a symposium in Ghana for staff from the Ghanaian colleges, local employers, representatives of the tourist industry and government officials. This helped to ensure that the people involved understood and supported the project.

Afterwards, staff from Ghana came to the UK for a work placement to gain an insight into the UK tourist industry.

The project has promoted training in the tourism industry, created opportunities for Ghanaian students to gain UK qualifications and helped to build capacity in the Ghanaian tourist industry. It has also created a sustainable partnership model that will be transferable to other sectors and other African countries.