

Developing a Global Statement on International Mobility in TVET/PTET

Introduction

The World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics (WFCP) invites proposals from individuals or institutions to undertake a short-term research project that will inform the development of a Global Statement on the benefits of international student mobility in the Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) / Professional and Technical Education and Training (PTET) sector. The project will result in a literature review, selected case studies and a set of actionable recommendations to guide (member) institutions, governments, and industry partners in strengthening and expanding international mobility in the sector, culminating in the release of a concise Global Statement in December 2025.

About WFCP

The World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics (WFCP) is an international network of colleges and associations of colleges. WFCP provides leadership in delivering workforce education for our global economy and members share leading-edge education strategies and best practices to increase workforce employability in countries around the world.

Project Background and Purpose

International mobility has long played a significant role in enriching TVET/PTET institutions and the broader skills ecosystem. While much of the policy discourse tends to focus on higher education, the unique contributions of international students and international student mobility to vocational training, skills development, and workforce readiness remain under-explored.

This short-term project will:

- Highlight the social, educational, and economic contributions of learners in international settings within the TVET/PTET sector, with particular attention to the role of diversity, including participation from learners of different socio-economic backgrounds;
- Address the specific nature of mobility in TVET/PTET, both physical and virtual, through traditional mobility programs, online programs, and the WFCP Youth Camps;
- Explore how internationalization strategies in TVET/PTET institutions align with evolving workforce demands and global skills agendas, while fostering broad-based opportunities for all learners;
- Build on themes from the 2024 World Congress, including AI and youth engagement, and provide a research bridge toward the 2026 Global Statement on sustainable employability.

WFCP seeks to appoint a researcher or research-allied institute to research and assist in preparation of the statement on its behalf.

The statement will be representative of all WFCP members and at the same time have application at national, sub-national and local levels. The statement should avoid being a simple collation of country experiences and will reflect common themes that have resonance and influence with national and international TVET/PTET policy. Specifically, the statement will analyze domestic and international mobility examples and assess the influence of international mobility on workforce demands, thereby deducing strategies to address the necessary transformation of TVET/PTET.

Project deliverables

The appointed researcher or partner institution will work closely with the WFCP Research and Publications Subcommittee to deliver the following:

- A literature review of current global research, policy reports, and data on international student mobility in the TVET/PTET sector, incorporating relevant insights and experiences from the WFCP Youth Camps;
- 2–3 concise case studies or best practices, with global representation, showcasing innovative mobility models or support practices in TVET/PTET;
- A set of actionable recommendations to guide (member) institutions, governments, and industry partners in strengthening and expanding international mobility in the sector
- Contribute to the drafting of a concise Global Statement, suitable for advocacy, member use, and external communications.

This is a desk-based research project; no travel is required. Virtual consultations may be held with Subcommittee members and contributors. WFCP will be the primary owner of the products developed during this research but is open to partnership and to co-badging.

Alongside this work, WFCP intends to facilitate:

- preparation of 2 to 3 case studies from WFCP members outlining their responses; and
- a call for ‘thought pieces’ to accompany the statement from individuals and institutions in the TVET/PTET sector on their views on international mobility.

Proposed timelines

Activity	Deadline
WFCP Board approval	8 July 2025
Call for ITTP submissions	10 July 2025
Submission of ITTP responses	10 August 2025
Announcement and appointment of researcher or partner	22 August 2025
Literature review and case studies	End of September 2025
Submission of small-scale thought pieces from leading TVET/PTET thinkers/WFCP members	Beginning October 2025
Production of Draft Statement	31 October 2025
Production of Global Statement w/ graphic designer	November 2025
Release of Global Statement	December 2025

Essential criteria

- Demonstrated experience in international education research, preferably in TVET/PTET sector;
- Familiarity with global mobility programs and workforce development;
- Strong writing and synthesis skills in English (native or near-native proficiency);
- Proven ability to complete short-term research within strict timelines.

Budget

WFCP anticipates this will be a 10–15 day consultancy. A daily rate will be paid based on experience and agreed deliverables. The project may also be contracted to an institute via a lump sum budget arrangement.

Submitting a proposal

Applicants are asked to submit a short proposal including:

- A brief introduction to their background or institution;
- Summary of relevant experience and examples of similar work;
- Proposed approach to the research;
- CV (if individual applicant).

Proposals should be sent to secretariat@wfcpl.org no later than **10 August 2025**. Questions may be directed to the same address.