

BILDUNGSFORUM ASIEN 2025

German-Asian Forum on Vocational Education & Training

Date: 28 March 2025

Time: 8.00 – 16.00 hrs

Location: EY · Rothenbaumchaussee 78 · 20148 Hamburg

Participants: 80-100 pax

08:00 – 09:00 hrs **Registration & Welcome Coffee**

09:00 – 09:15 hrs **Welcome and Opening**

- **Olaf Riedel**, Partner, EY
 - **Dr. Arnd Nenstiel**, Chairman of OAV, Senior Project Lead EU Green Deal, Bayer
 - **Dr. Andreas Werner**, Head of iMOVE
-

09:15 – 09:25 hrs **Opening Speech**

- **Claudia Müller**, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)
-

09:25 – 09:35 hrs **Keynote**

- **H.E. Dr. Harini Amarasuriya**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
-

09:35 – 09:45 hrs **Keynote**

- **H.E. Yeezang De Thapa**, Hon'ble Minister of Education and Skills Development of Bhutan
-

09:45 – 10:00 hrs **Short Break**

10:00 – 11:00 hrs **Panel discussion**

Bridging Supply and Demand: Challenges and Opportunities for German Education Providers in Asia – Perspectives from Industry and Policy

Concept: This panel explores supply and demand from the perspectives of educational providers and industries, with a focus on Asia. It aims to align German educational offerings with the needs of Asian businesses and policymakers. Key questions address challenges, Germany's limited presence despite numerous providers, and how German companies can improve its competitiveness globally.

- **Jan Heinze**, Managing Director, Heinze Akademie

Supported by



- **Alok Kumar**, CEO of National Skill Development Corporation International (NSDC-I)
- **Dr. Daniel Büttner**, CEO & Founder, COLCONS
- Moderation by: **Silvia Niediek**, Regional Manager South Asia, Southeast Asia & North America, iMOVE

11:00 – 12:00 hrs

Panel discussion

Building Skills: Collaborative Training for Key Sectors: Zorig Chosum in Bhutan, the Semiconductor Industry and How to Build a Future-Ready Workforce in Malaysia

Concept: This panel will focus on training and skills development in the Semiconductor Industry in Malaysia, Bhutan's Zorig Chosum (traditional arts and crafts), and their alignment with the Gelephu Mindfulness City (GMC) project. Malaysia will discuss workforce development in the semiconductor sector, while Bhutan will highlight how Zorig Chosum is being integrated into the GMC project to preserve and advance traditional crafts. The discussion will explore the role of in-house training, education providers, and politicians in ensuring these sectors thrive and contribute to national development.

- **H.E. Yeezang De Thapa**, Hon'ble Minister of Education and Skills Development of Bhutan
- **Tobias Bolle**, Director Vocational Education & Training Abroad, German Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DIHK)
- **Tuan Haji Ahmad Solihin Mohamed Yusoff**, Chief Executive officer, German-Malaysian Institute (GMI)
- **Azrina binti Hashim**, Director of Industry Talent Management and Expatriate Division, MIDA
- **Moderation by: Enrico Rühle**, Chairmen of the OAV – Working Group TVET & Chairman of the Advisory Board, FachkräfteWandel e.V.

12:00 – 13:30 hrs

Lunchbreak, Networking & Marketplace

13:30 – 13:40 hrs

Spotlight

Bureaucracy Reduction: What Has Been Achieved and What Is Being Done.

Update on recent developments and ongoing efforts to streamline administrative processes, with a particular focus on visa procedures from the BfAA.

Speaker:

Christian Oelfke, Head of the Visa Division, Bundesamt für Auswärtige Angelegenheiten (BfAA)

13:40 – 14:40 hrs

Panel discussion

Digital Up-and Reskilling: How can the digital Transition lead TVET

Supported by



Concept: This panel will examine how TVET can lead the digital transition by equipping workers with essential digital skills. Experts will discuss strategies for upskilling and reskilling to meet evolving industry needs. Real-world examples and key partnerships will showcase scalable solutions for a digitally competent workforce.

- **Florian Huber**, Partner, EY Strategy & Transactions GmbH
- **Dr. Nader Imani**, VP Global Education, Festo Didactic SE
- **Samuel Siahaan**, Vice Chair for International Associations, Indonesian Chamber of Commerce & Chair for Education and Vocational Training at the German Alumni Association (ALJERIN)
- Moderation by: **Dr. Norbert Völker**, CEO, Didacta Association

14:40 – 14:50 hrs **Spotlight**
Germany's Skilled Labor Strategy in India: Insights and Recent Developments

Speaker:
Arunachalam Karthikeyan, Head, iMOVE Office India

14:50 – 15:50 hrs **Panel discussion**
Making Migration Fair: How Both Countries Can Benefit

Concept: This involves exploring models where both countries and individuals can benefit from skilled labor migration. The focus is on ensuring that migration is fair, humane, and sustainable. Additionally, it considers strategies for Germany to retain skilled professionals.

- **Birgit Thomann**, Head of International Vocational Education and Training Department, BIBB
- **Nils Haupt**, Senior Director Corporate Communications at Hapag-Lloyd AG, Hapag Lloyd
- **Kathrin Junken**, CEO, Nepal Secretariat of Skills and Training
- Moderation by: **Sören Konartzki**, Regional Manager ASEAN, OAV – German Asia-Pacific Business Association

15:50 – 16:00 hrs **Wrap-Up**

From 16:00 hrs **Conclusion with Coffee**