
AIEC 2010 Conference
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What's in it for Oz?

Benchmarking qualifications through the International
Network of Sector Skills Organisations

Benchmarking of skills

What is the benchmarking of skills about?

- International labour mobility and industry recognition
- The national and international alignment of skills and qualifications
- Recognition of quality assessment processes and practices

The Global Skills Race

We are entering the era of a 'global skills race', which has come about as a result of:

- Ever-increasing migration
- Growing international sourcing of talent
- The decreased shelter of domestic markets or legislation
- Global forces shaping international trade patterns and supply chains

The Global Skills Race

The policy response in a number of countries has been to form stronger industry/education partnerships. These sector-based organisations:

- May be independent of government and established by employers, trade unions and educational interests
- Build occupational competencies and research labour market needs
- Are at the forefront of bridging the gap between formal education and industry practice – the supply and demand for skills

The role of Industry Skills Councils



Why do Industry Skills Councils care?

Skills benchmarking is of relevance to ISCs as they are tasked by the Federal Government to provide advice on the nation's skills and workforce development needs



ISC's Making it happen



- Service Skills Australia (SSA) working with our equivalent organisations in South Africa, Canada and New Zealand have reached an agreement on a process for industry recognition of our respective trade qualifications in Hairdressing. The industry sector of Beauty is in its final stages of mapping
- SSA has also established with Skills Active Aotearoa (NZ) and Skills Active UK an international network of standard setting bodies for the recreation, sport and fitness industries



ISC's Making it happen



- Manufacturing Skills Australia (MSA) has developed networks and arrangements with New Zealand counterparts across a range of areas, especially in competitive manufacturing



Launch of the INSSO



The International Network of Sector Skills Organisations was formally launched in March 2009, with the objectives to:

- Share international best practice and information on sector-based approaches to skills training
- Enable and facilitate the development of transnational standards and learn from specific sector-based solutions (e.g. employability skills)
- Facilitate international links between sector skills organisations, potentially including formal exchange programs of technical expertise and staff
- Carry out research and analysis to support these activities



Launch of the INSSO



The outcomes and findings of these projects will benefit:

- Industry
- Government
- Vocational Education and Training systems
- Broader education sectors at all levels
- The workforce
- Industry Skills Councils (ISCs)



Launch of the INSSO



The combined workforce of the member countries exceeds 127 million people.

- Australia – Industry Skills Councils
- Canada – Sector Councils
- United Kingdom – Sector Skills Councils
- New Zealand – Industry Training Organisations
- India – Sector Skills Councils
- Netherlands – Knowledge Centres
- South Africa – Sector Education and Training Authorities

