Bridges and Ladders:
the promise of Vocational Education and Training in Sub-Saharan Africa

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Demographic
SAA is young - 50% of the population below 25 years old
18 Million high-productivity jobs needed until 2035

Emerging Middle Class
GDP growing 5%
11% (6 million households) will go from earning less than $5000 per year to earning from $5000 – $20,000 by 2025

Rapid Urbanisation
15 cities account for 40% of Africa’s overall economic output
By 2050 64% will live in cities

Use of Technology
445 million unique mobile subscribers up from 200 million in 2010

Adapted from The Business of Education in Africa, Caerus Capital, 2017
Opportunities in TVET

Qualified and engaged youth populations looking for viable options

Innovation and use of education technology in delivery models

Government led reform in skills qualification frameworks and accreditation systems

Changing perceptions of the value of TVET

By 2035, the number of Africans joining the working age population (15–64) will exceed that of the rest of the world combined.
**Challenges in TVET**

**Funding**
Weak public funding. Finding a viable commercial delivery model is one of the most fundamental problems.

**Demand**
More limited student demand for professional, agricultural, hospitality, retail, and mid-level technical training, as well as on-the-job training. Connection of training to job outcomes undeveloped.

**Relevance**
Qualifications must be outcome driven and locally relevant. 54% of employers state that job seekers’ skills do not match their needs and two-thirds of youth are undereducated for the work they do.

**Quality**
Establishing quality systems including the provision of teaching and learning that develops confidence in a TVET product.
**TNE: the new scramble for Africa?**

- United Kingdom and Europe – long term engagement
- China and the United States - diverse interests
- Donors, commercial and impact investment
- The funders: The Gates Foundation / Jack Ma Alibaba
Australia’s value proposition

- TVET policy development and models of public/private provision
- National qualification frameworks and quality assurance systems
- Industry focused curriculum and pedagogy
- Established connections between qualifications and job outcomes
- Defined pathways to higher education
How do we move forward?

- Develop quality relationships and partnerships
- Identify key markets and industries
- Acknowledge student aspirations
- Create a link between off and onshore activity
- Advocate for Africa and African students
- Want to go on the journey
Case Study

MOU January 2014, WA Government and COMESA on cooperation in the field of mineral and petroleum resources, agriculture, vocational training and capacity building.

2016/17 relationship building / Africa Down Under / ministerial delegations

South Metropolitan TAFE and Kenya Pipeline Company: 2018 potential offshore project (business plan development stage for oil and gas related training collaboration).

KENYA

Lower middle income

Population 2017: 48.5 million

GDP 2018: US $85.98 billion

GNI Per Capita: 2015: US $1,380

Five-year GDP growth forecast: 6-7%

Ease of doing business ranking 2018: 80 (up 12 places)
MAURITIUS

Upper middle income

Population 2017: 1.3 million

GDP: US $14.4 billion

GNI Per Capita 2015: US $9,610

GDP Growth 2017: 4%

Ease of doing business ranking 2018: 25

Case Study

Charles Telfair Institute esp.1999.

Delivering Curtin University courses since 2004 and TAFE Western Australia courses since 2005.


Curtin Mauritius opened as Curtin University’s fourth international campus at Charles Telfair Institute in 2018.

Charles Telfair Institute also has its own diploma and degree awarding powers since 2013 regulated by Tertiary Education Commission of Mauritius.

Current student population of over 1850.
THANK YOU – QUESTIONS?