



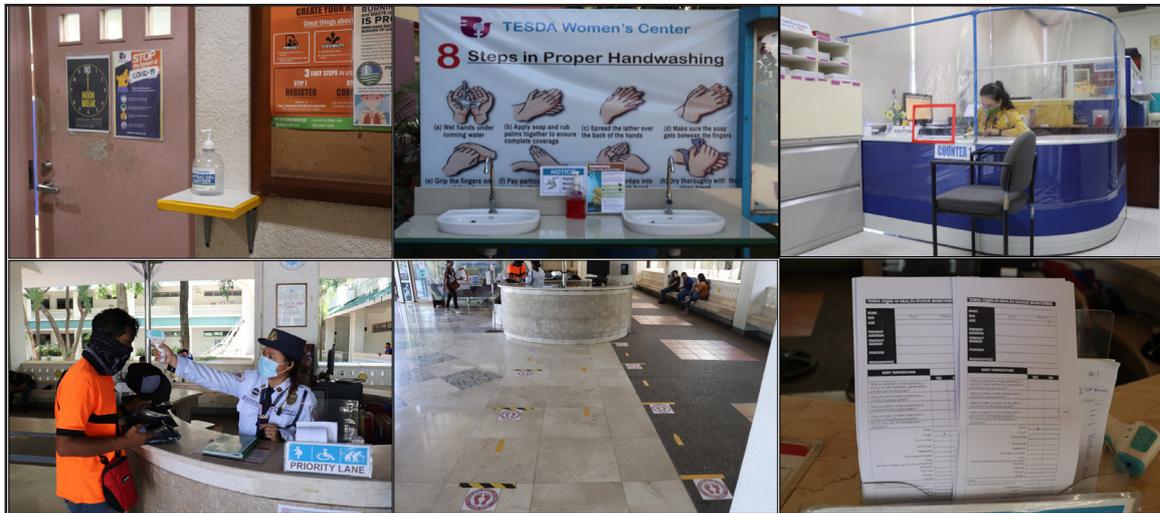
# TESDA Women's Center NEWSLETTER

1<sup>st</sup> Semester

A Publication of the TESDA Women's Center

January - June 2020

## TESDA Women's Center Ensures Compliance to Health Protocols of TESDA



TWC has taken safety measures in compliance to the health and administrative protocols. (top left) Installed hand sanitizer/alcohol stations in every entrance door; (top middle) installed hand washing stations with correct handwashing signages inside and outside TWC; (top right) installed plastic barriers in all frontline desks; (above-left) body temperature check at the main entrance; (above-middle) physical distancing signages installed around the TWC premises; and (above-right) Health Declaration Forms are required to be filled-out by all visitors and walk-in clients.

As the country is currently facing the pandemic brought about by the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19), numerous steps and undertakings were initiated by the government to fight and flatten the rising number of COVID-19 cases.

Therefore, the Inter-Agency Taskforce for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) issued Resolution No. 47, series of 2020 dated June 19, 2020 which further

amends the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines to include policies on the resumption of Technical-Vocational Education and Training (TVET) for areas placed under community quarantine.

In relation, the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) issued the TESDA Circular No. 66,

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## TESDA Women's Center towards the New Normal



Due to the massive effect of the emergence of the COVID-19 in the country and the extension of the ECQ, most of the agency's pre-identified activities have been put on hold if not suspended.

In response to this pandemic, the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) mandated to provide and deliver quality skills training to the middle-level manpower of the country has issued the memorandum no.158, series of 2020 entitled: OPLAN TESDA ABOT LAHAT: TVET Towards a New Normal which will serve as the primary reference of all TESDA Offices and operating units in carrying out its programs/activities/projects and targets for 2020 until 2022.

Hence, the TESDA Women's Center (TWC) as one of the TESDA Technology Institutions (TTI) has crafted its own Implementation Plan (IMPLAN) in concordance with the directive of the TESDA Director General, Sec. Isidro S. Lapeña which covers the TWC targets from May 2020 until December 2022.

The said IMPLAN will serve as a primary reference of TWC in carrying out all of its programs, activities and projects (PAPs) for the rest of the duration mentioned. With the guidance and approval of the NCR Regional Director, TWC will be able to implement these plans towards the "new normal" as a result of the current pandemic brought about by COVID-19.

The TWC IMPLAN is divided into three phases: Survival, Transitional, and Structural. This is following the proposal of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) to mitigate social and economic impact in the country.

For the Survival Phase, TWC is set to focus on the following: formulation of TVET related policies including technology researches in response to COVID-19, emphasis on agricultural projects such as solar irrigation and hydroponics for the target communities, production of facemasks and PPE's for the front liners, and the training of trainers for facilitating eLearning Sessions for Blended Learning.

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## Traditional Filipino Cuisine Graduates of TWC show their cooking skills in a Filipino Themed Cook-off Challenge



A group photo of the participants with their trainer, with their guests-judges of the Traditional Filipino Cuisine Cookoff Challenge in partnership with Mama Sita Foundation, Inc. and Masflex Cookware.

Traditional Filipino Cuisine Graduates of TWC show their cooking skills in a Filipino Themed Cook-off Challenge

The TESDA Women's Center in partnership with Mama Sita Foundation and Masflex Cookware holds another successful cook-off challenge entitled 'A Taste of Asia – Filipino Cuisine Competition' at the Marcela Agoncillo and Cookery Workshop last February 13, 2020.

The cooking competition was participated by sixteen (16) teams from the pool of graduates of the Traditional Filipino Cuisine Program (TFCP) where eight (8) teams competed for the Hot Meals Category and the other eight (8) teams in the Plated Dessert Category.

For the board of judges, Mama Sita Foundation invited notable personalities in the culinary field including Chef Lillian Borrromeo, Chef Tristan Bayani, Chef Richard Ramos and Mr. Nel Camba. The flavourful event was also graced by Ms. Mary Grace Ampil, the former Executive Director of Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) & Commissioner of the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) who gave an empowering message among the participants.

In the end, Marie Jo M. Sabandal & Queen Myluck C. Licup (Team 6) bagged the first place for the Hot Meals Category with their mouth watering entry - Seafood Sisig with Pancit Canton accom-

The winning entry for the Dessert Category (left) Ube and Banana Bibingka filled with Fresh Coconut and served with Pineapple Syrup and the winner for the Hot Meals Category (right) Seafood Sisig with Pancit Canton accompanied with Roots Vegetables

panied with Root Vegetables.

Teodora M. Manalo & Gina A. Valencia (Team 7) on the other hand, also won the first place for the Plated Dessert Category with their delectable entry - Ube and Banana Bibingka filled with Fresh Coconut and served with Pineapple Syrup.

For ways forward, the TESDA Women's Center and the Mama Sita Foundation is set to continue their mission to empower more women and promote the Filipino Cuisine through its Traditional Filipino Cuisine Program.

## TWC joins the Bandwagon in Producing Washable FaceMasks for “Balik Probinsya” Beneficiaries



TWC Dressmaking NC II Trainer Ms. Irene B. Mortel (left) and TWC Staff Members lead the production of washable face masks (right) to be distributed to front-liners and Returning OFW's, beneficiaries of Balik Probinsya Program

The TESDA Women's Center (TWC) is set to produce 5,000 pieces of Washable Face Masks through its project Fostering the Bayanihan Spirit: Face Mask Production for Returning OFW's, beneficiaries of the Balik Probinsya Program and TESDA Employees. The said noble project already started its operation last June 8, 2020 and will continue until completion.

Spearheaded by Secretary General Isidro S. Lapeña, the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) as an agency focusing on the country's middle-level manpower skills development already made several initiatives to help our fellow Filipinos during this time of pandemic.

Now, as NCR has been placed under Community Quarantine, TESDA is introducing its own ways and means to continue its response to the on-going pandemic. One of these measures is the offering of skills training to those returning and repatriated Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW). Aside from free training to be offered, TESDA also wants our future trainees to be safe and protected, thus, the provision of ready to use washable face masks will be given to employees and the beneficiaries of the Balik Probinsya Program of the government are being targeted as recipients of the washable face masks to be produced.

### **TESDA Women's Center towards... from page 1**

On the other hand, the Transitional Phase of TWC will focus on the in depth implementation of activities and programs in terms of training, enhancement of learning materials, revision of workshop layouts in line with the guidelines and policies for TVET arrangements in the new normal, and the strict monitoring and supervision of the programs and activities mentioned.

Lastly, the Structural Phase of TWC will adapt the following practices to ensure the relevance of its services in the new normal: online dialogues (online training, online modules, and virtual industry forums), continuous implementation of Blended Learning for its training programs, and the increase of possible partnerships and linkages with the relevant industries.

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### **TWC joins the Bandwagon in Producing Washable Face Masks... from page 2**

The "Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pagasa" program, which was institutionalized in Executive Order 114, aims to ensure whole-of-government action through balanced regional development, sustainable employment opportunities and equitable distribution of wealth, resources, and opportunities through policies and programs that boost countryside development and inclusive growth. It also targets to provide adequate social services, industrialization, and improved quality of life in rural areas through different interventions from the national government.

From the directive of Sec. Lapeña that encourages the practice of the spirit of inherent trait to help our fellow Filipinos, TESDA-NCR through the TESDA Women's Center will be making more washable face masks that will be given to the beneficiaries mentioned. This would allow them to get quality-made washable face masks through the efforts and expertise of the Dressmaking trainer and its skilled workers to be protected in acquiring the virus caused by these diseases inside and outside the TESDA premises.

Other initiatives that TESDA has been working on includes the production of face shields, protective body suits, goggles, aerosol boxes, liters of sanitizers and disinfectants as well as distributing kilos of assorted fruits and vegetables from TESDA Mini-organic farms, sack of rice and baking of various types of bread which were distributed to different communities affected by the pandemic.

## **A Peculiar Way of Celebrating Valentine's Day takes place at TWC**



TWC Urban Farming Specialist Mr. Michael Angelo S. Ragasa (far left) led the gardening activities that participated by TWC Staff Members and TWC Trainees (left) at the TWC Mini Organic Garden

A rather unique valentine celebration was organized by TESDA Women's Center for the staff, trainers, and trainees last February 14, 2020 at the TWC Mini Organic Garden, TESDA Complex, Taguig City.

Instead of the typical valentine celebration of hearts and showmanship, this year's shenanigans was to educate and further the awareness of the TWC community about green practices which was then followed by a fun and relaxing activity of using their 'green thumbs' through gardening.

All participants were formed into groups and were given dedicated garden beds where they planted vegetables such as potatoes, carrots, eggplants, cabbage and many more. The said practice will be a continuous activity wherein each group has created a round schedule for each member where they are given a task to

water the plants and take care of their crops every morning before training begins and afternoon right after their respective trainings.

This Green TVET Practice of TWC is aimed at creating a sustainable food-producing landscape using the concept of urban farming technologies supported by ecologically sound solid waste management activities. Through the Mini Organic Farm, it is expected to establish a green culture and a green community which are sustainable enough to supply the needs of the TWC community, especially in TWC canteen operations and training supplies for Cookery, Food Processing, and Food and beverage Services.

These and all the green practices that TWC are promoting and carrying out will be passed on and will continue for the upcoming batches of TWC trainees.

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## **Selected Trainers of TWC undergoes training as part of the Regional Lead Trainers of TESDA-NCR for Facilitating eLearning Sessions (FeLS)**

The National Institute of Technical Education and Skills Development (NITESD) through the National TVET Trainers Academy (NTTA) conducts a series of trainers training on facilitating eLearning to support the TTIs and TVIs in adopting Blended and/or Online Learning modes in the delivery of their TVET Programs.

In relation, the TESDA-NCR selected eight (8) initial trainers and staff that will serve as the Lead Trainers for the multiplier program of trainers training of Facilitating eLearning Sessions (FeLS) in the region. Three (3) of which came from the TESDA Women's Center namely Kimberly G. Bautista (FBS NC II Trainer), Shella D. Bawar (Bartending NC II Trainer), and Aries Glenn L. Montesines (TWC IT Administrator).

The Program is a forty (40) hour course and to be delivered online using the TESDA Online Program (TOP) plat-

form. The said training is divided into four (4) phases that the trainers must complete to be certified. These consist of the following: Self-paced Learning, Development, Demonstration, and Portfolio Evaluation which will be concluded with a Closing Program.

The first batch of FeLS training for the Lead Trainers started last May 26, 2020 and was completed on June 5, 2020. Upon the completion of the training, the following eight (8) Lead Trainers are set to continue the multiplier programs for National Capital Region with four hundred thirty seven (437) total targets of certified trainers.

This trainers training program for Facilitating eLearning Session is considered a big step in preparation for the 'New Normal' in delivering the Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in the country.

## TWC produces Breads of Hope in partnership with AFP-CRS



(Left) Secretary Isidro S. Lapeña accepted the Certificate of Appreciation for TESDA from the AFP-CRS. (2nd photo from left) TESDA NCR Regional Director Florencio S. Sunico, Jr. accepted the Certificate of Appreciation for TESDA NCR. (3rd photo from left) TWC Personnel packed freshly baked breads for distribution of AFP-CRS. (4th photo from left) an AFP Personnel distributed freshly baked breads to a person affected by the quarantine restrictions around Metro Manila

On April 18, 2020, the collaboration of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority - National Capital Region (TESDA-NCR) through TESDA Women's Center (TWC) and Armed Forces of the Philippines - Civil Relations Service (AFP-CRS) in coordination with DDG Lina C. Sarmiento, Deputy Director General for TESD Operations has maximized its capacity in producing and distributing baked products for the affected communities in the NCR brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The TWC having a Bread and Pastry Production NC II Program has utilized its state-of-the-art facilities in mass producing fresh and quality baked products during the onset of the pandemic and the imposition of Community Quarantine.

In relation, the TWC following the strict compliance to Health Protocols issued by the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) tapped some of its staff members to help in the mass production of baked products and were coached and given efficient instructions by the lead trainer of the BPP Program on how to bake different kinds of bread in order to increase the yield of production.

The said noble initiative was made possible by the AFP-CRS "Kapwa Ko, Sagot Ko" program who generously donated a total of 100 sacks of flour which was delivered to TWC.

More than eighteen (18) employees of TWC helped in the production of assorted breads such as pandesal, spanish bread, and cheese bread. These breads were picked-up by the representatives of AFP and were shared among the street dwellers, residents and front liners through their mobile kitchen.

The AFP-CRS recognizes that TESDA is one of its active partner stakeholders and was given a certificate of appreciation last June 03, 2020. Major Louzel L. Lara, in her message during the awarding ceremony said "I do believe that these are not just mere breads [because] for many of the Filipinos these are a symbol of malasakit, the TESDA's Breads of Hope."

A total of 94, 216 pieces of bread has been produced and distributed during the entire duration of the production from April to July 2020 leaving the beneficiaries with hope and gratitude.

## TWC extends helping hands during the pandemic in celebration of its 22nd Founding Anniversary

A different way of celebrating the founding anniversary of TESDA Women's Center (TWC) was been observed last April 28, 2020. Instead of the usual festive gathering, the Officer-in-Charge of TWC, Mylene H. Somera together with the TWC volunteers has joined the cause in the continuous production of face masks, personal protective equipment and baking of deliciously made baked goods that will be distributed to the frontliners and nearby communities affected by the pandemic.

Over the course of 22 years, TWC has already trained more than 8,842 women, who are equipped with skills and knowledge in their chosen qualification. Some of them have pursued their chosen fields through wage employment and some have established their own businesses and pursued the self-employment scheme.

The Center has made partnership with several known and prestigious establishments, enterprises, and industries to assist the trainees to further their skills through their On-the-Job Training.

TWC has contributed a lot in expanding the capabilities of women, not only in developing their skills but also in enhancing the women's expertise and potentials to be productive that will help uplift the lives of Filipino families, communities and the nation as well.

But because of the pandemic, the face-to-face training of various qualifications being offered by TWC has been halted due to the community quarantine and safety precautions issued by TESDA in reference to the Department of Health (DOH) and Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) health protocols.

However, TWC shows no hamper and dedicated itself in contributing to the efforts of TESDA in helping the government address the current situation of the country from the damaging effects of COVID-19.

In addition, the TWC is set to maximize its online services through its official social media accounts in delivering updates for COVID-19, creation of easy step Video Tutorials on skills that can be used for livelihood and/or entrepreneurship and the conduct different webinars relevant to the pandemic.



## Secretary Lapeña taps TWC for the Special Skills Training Program in Bartending of ExCom members



Secretary Isidro S. Lapeña (7th from left) lead the members of the Executive Committee members in a specialized training in Bartending NC II held at the TESDA Women's Center.

The TESDA Women's Center (TWC), a TESDA Technology Institution (TTI) and identified member of the TESDA Center of Excellence (CentEx) having an outstanding course delivery for Bartending NC II was tapped by the TESDA Director General, Isidro S. Lapeña for the Special Skills Training of the TESDA Executive Committee (ExCom) which commenced last February 03, 2020 at the TESDA Central Office and later on transferred at the newly built Bartending NC II workshop of TWC.

The TESDA Executive Committee (ExCom) is the body that deliberates and recommends approval of operational policies/ guidelines, plans, and programs/projects for implementation. It oversees the proper implementation of TESDA's operating offices and units. (TESDA Circular No. 41 s. 2018)

The specialized skills training program was led by the TWC Bartending Trainer, Shella D. Bawar and will consist of knowledge and skills demonstration required in a Bartending NC II qualification leading to the National Certification (NC) as part of the staff development of the ExCom members and as a means of promoting the competency-based training programs of TESDA.

The said training will focus on the following competencies: creating and mixing different alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, basic wine service, bar operations, and bartending working procedures.

The following are the members of the ExCom who undergo the special training in Bartending: Sec. Isidro S. Lapeña, PhD., CSEE, DDG Rosanna A. Urdaneta, DDG Gladys F. Rosales, DDG Mariano Michael M. Velarde, Jr., DDG Lina C. Sarmiento, Dir. Ma. Magdalena P. Butad, Dir. Marissa G. Legaspi, Dir. David B. Bungallon, Dir. Maria Susan P. Dela Rama, Dir. Imelda B. Taganas, Dir. Sonia S. Lipio, RD Elmer K. Talavera, RD Florencio F. Sunico, Jr., Dir. Angelina M. Carreon, Dir. Cariza A. Dacuma, Dir. Adzhar A. Albani, Dir. Balmyrson M. Valdez, Atty. Angeline T. Chaves, Ms. Gerty Pagaran, Ms. Emely Q. Tesoro, Ms. Wilma Bathan, Mr. Renato D. Geron, and Atty. Jan Michael P. Jaro.

Due to the onset of the pandemic and the pause for face-to-face training in TESDA, the special training of the ExCom members will continue after the community quarantine is lifted and the provision of face-to-face training is approved.

## TWC receives aid from a private partner in mass producing PPEs for the frontliners

TWC receives aid from a private partner in mass producing PPEs for the frontliners

Despite the on-going observance of the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ), TESDA-NCR through TESDA Women's Center (TWC) and in response to the TESDA Director General, Isidro S. Lapeña's initiative to address the shortage of protective equipment, is mass producing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) that will be given to the frontliners who are currently fighting the battle against COVID-19

The PPE that will be produced are washable "Bunny Suit" gowns that will be used by the frontliners especially those who will need to have a close contact with the carriers which is vital in preventing the spread of COVID-19 for both the patients and healthcare workers.

The said TWC volunteers while taking part in the said initiative are currently residing at the TESDA Compound in Taguig and are strictly observing the guidelines being issued by the Department of Health (DOH) and the Inter-Agency Task Force on emerging Infectious Disease (IATF-EID) for safety.

On April 20, 2020 TWC turned over mass-produced Per-



TESDA NCR Regional Director Florencio S. Sunico, Jr. handed-over to PCW Commissioner Sandra S. Montano the Personal Protective Equipments (PPEs) produced at the TESDA Women's Center. The PPEs will be distributed to the frontliners from various hospitals around Metro Manila.

sonal Protective Equipment (PPEs) to Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) through Commissioner Sandra S. Montano.

The mass produced PPEs were generously given to the frontliners of the AFP General Hospital, Metropolitan Medical Center, Bernardino General Hospital, New Era General Hospital and Diliman Doctors Hospital.

Finally, the rolls of fabrics that were used to produce the PPEs were graciously donated by a private partner of TESDA-NCR, Numedia Digital Signage Corp. owned by Mr. Eugene Go who is also a Technical-Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Provider.

# TWC conducts Industry Consultation to update its Curriculum in Barista NC II to Health Protocols of TESDA



(left) TWC Trainer Kimberly G. Bautista together with Industry Consultants reviewing the Curriculum of TWC for Barista NC II. (right) (L-R) Karizza Amor Aguilar, Myrrah Gonzales from Equilibrium Intertrade Corporation, Angela F. Tan from Barista and Coffee Academy of Asia, Victor Bas also from Equilibrium together with TWC Trainers Maribel M. Dumalagan and Kimberly G. Bautista during the Industry Consultation held at the Café Juana.

On January 21, 2020, the TESDA Women's Center conducted an Industry Consultation among the industry partners from the Barista Trade which was held at the Bldg. 4, Café Juana, Wooden Spoon Innovation Center at the TESDA Complex, Taguig City.

The purpose of conducting industry consultation is to make sure that the design of the curriculum offered and the delivery of the Barista Qualification will prepare the trainees adequately for the needs of the industry when they complete their course/ program of study.

This consultation also served as a platform to enhance the learning resources, specifically the curriculum offered by TESDA Women's Center for Barista Qualification. This is done through a curriculum review and validation by the invited

Industry Consultants. It is also aimed to verify that the training provided among the Barista trainees is up to date and relevant to the industry.

Alongside the validation and review of the Barista NC II curriculum was an opportunity to create partnership with Barista and Coffee Academy of Asia and Equilibrium Intertrade Corporation. The discussion focused on the opportunity of providing Capacity-Building opportunities to TWCs In-service Trainers to upgrade their skills and further improve their competencies.

Among the consultants who were present in the consultation include: Myrrah Gonzales, Karizza Amor Aguilar, and Victor Bas from the Equilibrium Intertrade Corporation; and Angela F. Tan of Barista and Coffee Academy of Asia.

## TESDA Women's Center Ensures Compliance... from page 1

2020 dated June 27, 2020 which gives guidelines on the TVET arrangements towards the New Normal during the COVID-19 Crisis.

The TESDA Women's Center (TWC) in response to the guidelines and policies issued by TESDA has taken positive actions in adopting effective practices and strategies to ensure compliance in health and administrative protocols. These include the provision of signages which were strategically placed in key areas of the TWC building to guide both the personnel and visitors of the Training Center.

TWC also practices regular disinfection and sanitation of all workstations, workshops, laboratories, rooms and buildings. A strict policy of "No Face Mask, No Entry" is also implemented with a provision of no-touch/digital thermometer or thermal scanner at the main entrance and the mandatory Health Monitoring Self-Check to be filled-out by the personnel and visitors alike.

Other initiatives of TWC to ensure the maximum safety of people going in and out of the building are the installation of hand washing sanitation facility, provision of automatic hand sanitizer dispenser, plastic barriers installed in all frontline desks of TWC, and a dedicated Health Monitoring Officer.

The conduct of the aforementioned activities of TWC is set to continue consistently following the relevant TESDA Guidelines and Policies towards the New Normal and the latest issuances of the IATF-EID.

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**Vision**  
"TESDA Women's Center is the lead TVET Institution of excellence in empowering Filipino women."

**Mission**  
"As the lead TVET Institution of Excellence in Women Empowerment, TESDA Women's Center advocates and provides programs and services geared towards quality-assured, inclusive and gender-fair TVET."

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- Computer literate and can easily navigate web conferencing applications
- Physically and mentally fit



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