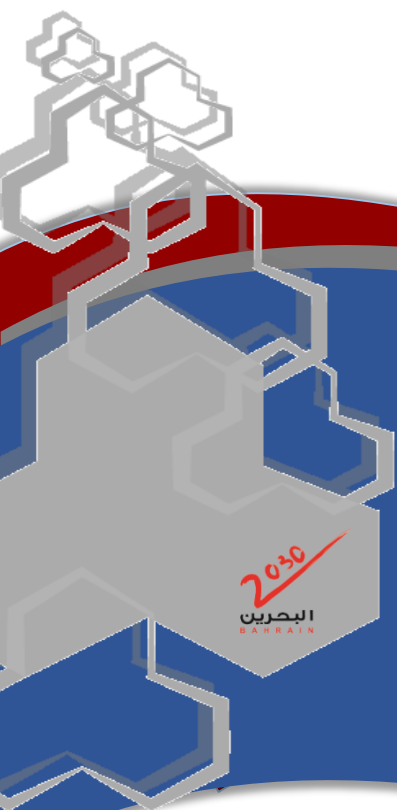




مجلس التعليم العالي
Higher Education Council

Sector Skills Task Force (SSTF): Terms of Reference



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General

1. There are three sector skills task forces (SSTF) that have been set up to cover the main sectors in which the higher education requires external input in order to fulfil its remit. The SSTFs that have been established are ICT, Financial services and Health
2. The SSTF provide specialist advice, input and guidance to the secretary general of the higher education council and the Higher Education Council (HEC)
3. The SSTF will reflect as far as possible the views of employers, industry leaders, educationists and specific councils

Purpose

1. The SSTF recognises and supports the HEC in the delivery of its 10 year strategic plan and national research strategy
2. It advises the HEC on working with the sector and shares its experience and ideas
3. In doing so it will enable and encourage the HEC:
 - To develop strong, high quality and skilled graduates that will deliver economic benefits to each sector and contribute to a prosperous society
 - To develop research opportunities that will support productivity and growth of the sector within Bahrain and wider
 - To advise universities on developing new programmes that are in line with sector needs and to ensure that existing programmes curricula keep pace with the needs of the sector
 - To ensure all students are provided with up to date career guidance and career options relevant to each sector

Role

1. The SSTF will draw upon the experience, knowledge and skills of its members to:

- Identify and provide structured comment on opportunities, trends, policies and issues of short and long term strategic importance to the higher education sector
- Support the HEC by stimulating new ideas and to act as a sounding board on sector issues through providing up to date information on major developments locally and internationally
- Support the HEC in developing and managing standards through curriculum guidance and new programme development based on demand and the future needs of Bahrain to ensure that they are innovative and effective
- To advise on how to reduce skills gaps, shortages and improve productivity and innovation within the sector
- To support HEC improve sector career advice and career progression to students
- To promote research activity that is relevant to the sector through developing new collaborations
- To participate as appropriate in supporting the HEC delivery of projects

Membership

- The SSTF are formed by invitation from the general secretary of the HEC
- Members are invited as individuals rather than representatives of an organisation
- Members will be appointed for one year which is renewable
- The members of each SSTF will appoint a chair for one year which may be renewable depending on the views of members
- Secretary to each SSTF will be the office of the general secretary of the HEC
- The Secretary will keep members informed as to how their ideas and recommendations are impacting on the higher education sector

Meetings

The SSTF will meet formally every 2 months at times agreed by the members. Other informal meetings may be arranged as appropriate.



الأمانة العامة لمجلس التعليم العالي

General Secretariat of the Higher Education Council