

## **SUSTAINABLE TVET: THE DESCRIPTIVE STUDY ON THE BARRIERS TO DEVELOPING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AMONG TVET SKILL LEARNERS**

**U.P.N.S. Gunathunga and Dilini Ranasuriya**

*Department of Language Studies, University of Vocational Technology, Sri Lanka  
nilugunathunga@gmail.com*

**Abstract:** The education provided by the TVET (Technical and Vocational Education and Training ) sector in Sri Lanka does an excellent service to the country's economy and the development of a quality job market. TVET is established to serve quality education to the vocational sector to adhere to the current job market demands. Currently, the TVET has become the fulcrum of producing qualified candidates for the current world of work requirements hence the consideration of its sustainable development and growth is essential to create productive and proactive candidates for the technological world. Sri Lanka produces plenteous diploma/certificate holders mostly obtained NVQ 4 standards, in the vocational field per year from different TVET institutions. A considerable number of these educated field experts reach international companies. To work with foreign well-wishers and companies the qualified candidates must have a good command of English: if the knowledge of English is weaker the possibility of getting a job opportunity is deficient. Therefore, improving English expertise in the TVET sector is crucial to obtaining a quality education among vocational students. TVET graduates come from different backgrounds in the country and their basic diplomas and higher diplomas are being taught in their mother tongue and many face difficulties in following the higher education further as to become graduates. However, as diploma holders, the vocationally trained students must be proficient in English to abstain from giving up their career goals and acquiring higher educational qualifications. This study attempts to determine the obstacles that skill learners of the TVET sector must overcome to establish a sustainable TVET.

**Keywords:** Education, English, TVET