

VTC and ITE organise International Student Seminar Fostering youth exchange on global issues and inspiring innovative solutions



600 students from Hong Kong, Singapore and Shenzhen gather at the ITE–VTC International Student Seminar 2026 to explore new opportunities for future development together.

The rapid development of artificial intelligence (AI) and the growing emphasis on sustainability are bringing profound changes to society and industries. Organised jointly by the Vocational Training Council (VTC) and the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) of Singapore, the ITE–VTC International Student Seminar 2026 brought together young people from Hong Kong, Singapore and Shenzhen to explore pressing global issues, share innovative achievements and broaden their international perspectives through exchange and collaboration.

Since 2007, VTC and ITE have jointly hosted the biennial ISS on an alternating basis. Held in Singapore from 23 to 25 June, this year's Seminar themed “Youth Voices in a Changing World” attracted around 600 students. Against the backdrop of evolving global trends, the event encouraged students to draw on their professional expertise and creativity to explore the opportunities and challenges shaping society and industry.



The opening ceremony of the ITE–VTC International Student Seminar 2026 is held at the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) of Singapore. Officiating guests include Dr Janil PUTHUCHEARY, Singapore Senior Minister of State for Education and Sustainability and the Environment (fourth from left), together with The Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBM, GBS, JP, VTC Chairman (third from right), and Mr Andrew CHONG, ITE Chairman (third from left).

Bringing ideas together, addressing challenges

During the three-day Seminar, students from VTC, ITE and Shenzhen Polytechnic University engaged in discussions and project presentations centred on three key themes: Sustainability, AI and the Future World, and Inclusion and Global Citizenship.



The Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBM, GBS, JP, VTC Chairman, encourages students to exchange ideas, broaden their horizons and shape the future together at the Seminar.

Students from different places demonstrated how classroom knowledge could be transformed into practical solutions to real-world challenges. Among them was an interdisciplinary team comprising students from Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (IVE) Health and Life Sciences, Engineering, and Youth College (International Programme), which presented a Smart Fish Farming System that applies intelligent technologies to promote sustainable development. Another team of IVE students showcased ScentSafe, an innovative solution that combines AI and image analysis technologies to enhance driving safety. Meanwhile, a team from Youth College developed Hong Kong-style soft meals for the elderly and people with dysphagia, enabling them to rediscover the enjoyment of dining through improvements in food texture and presentation.

For students, the Seminar was not only a platform to showcase their achievements, but also a valuable learning journey. By engaging with peers from different cultural and academic backgrounds, students further strengthened their communication, teamwork and critical thinking skills, while gaining fresh perspectives on transforming fresh ideas into practical solutions with real-world impact.

Expanding horizons and preparing for tomorrow



Mr Andrew CHONG, ITE Chairman, encourages young people to transform creativity into practical solutions that address societal needs.



Mr Bosco NG, Founder and Director of WEDO GLOBAL, Hong Kong, shares with students his experience in organising community learning journeys and cultural workshops.

In addition to project presentations, the Seminar featured sharing sessions by experts, academics and industry leaders from Hong Kong and Singapore. Their insights helped participants gain a deeper understanding of emerging developments and the competencies required in an increasing dynamic workplace. An innovation exhibition was also held alongside the seminar, showcasing a diverse range of student projects that integrated technology, design and social service elements. Highlights included smart building management solutions, new media art creations and innovative game designs that promote intergenerational inclusion, reflecting students' interdisciplinary collaboration and hands-on capabilities.

As the world continues to evolve, young people are becoming an increasingly important force in shaping the future. VTC will continue to work closely with local and overseas partners to nurture talent equipped with professional knowledge, innovative thinking and a global outlook. Through providing more opportunities for exchange and practical learning, VTC seeks to empower the next generation to contribute meaningfully to society and support sustainable development.



Students showcase their innovative projects at the Seminar, demonstrating their ability to transform ideas into practical solutions for real-world challenges.

(Some photos are provided by ITE, Singapore.)