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Malaysia's technical and vocational training (TVET)1program is born out of a combination of ambition and necessity. The country has recorded impressive economic growth over several decades, bolstering ambitions that it should make the transition frommiddle- to high-income by transforming to a "knowledge (K)" economy. Vision 2020, announcedby then Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, was togive substance to this plan. The need to make this transformation was driven home by a deceleration of this growth after the Asian Financial Crisis at the turnof the century followed by the Global Financial Crisisa decade later and has galvanized the country's leaders to action to bolster its human capital. TVET can play an important role in Malaysia's transformation to a knowledge economy.

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