

## Technical, vocational

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up, he said. Qimiao Fan, World Bank country director for Bangladesh, said, "A more skilled workforce is crucial for Bangladesh to realise its aspiration of becoming an upper-middle income country. For this, the country needs to invest more in education, skills and training."

He said the additional financing would help improve the quality of technical and vocational education and training.

World Bank's total funding for STEP now stands at \$179 million while the Canadian government provided \$16.7 million in grants. The Bangladesh government also provided some funds for the project, scheduled to end in 2019.

Senior Secretary for Public Administration Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury and Education Secretary Md Sohorab Hossain also spoke.