

# Developing a responsive training and education system in partnership with AMEXCID



If education is to be delivered in a way that meets businesses' needs, then teachers need to understand why change is required, and have the tools to make that change.

## Background

Belize, on the eastern coast of Central America, is an emerging tourism destination. With attractions including a rich coral reef and ancient Mayan ruins, visitor numbers are increasing year-on-year.

However, the education system is poor and young people are leaving schools and colleges without the skills that the growing tourism industries so desperately need.

## People 1st skills

As part of a project with the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID), People 1st has helped to build a more responsive vocational education and training system in Belize.

We supported the Ministry of Education Youth and Sports of Belize by working with the National College of Professional Technical Education (CONALEP Mexico) to share our experience in technical education, employer engagement and professional development for teachers.

This included training teachers, developing learning materials, creating strategic association between the visitor economy and its education and training institutions, and improving the education system's ability to manage and sustain these changes.

## Outcomes and impact

Through the project, vocational education institutions in Belize have worked in partnership on a comprehensive training and development programme for their teachers.

The colleges are now actively involved with employers in their region and have identified new skills training opportunities.

## Belize

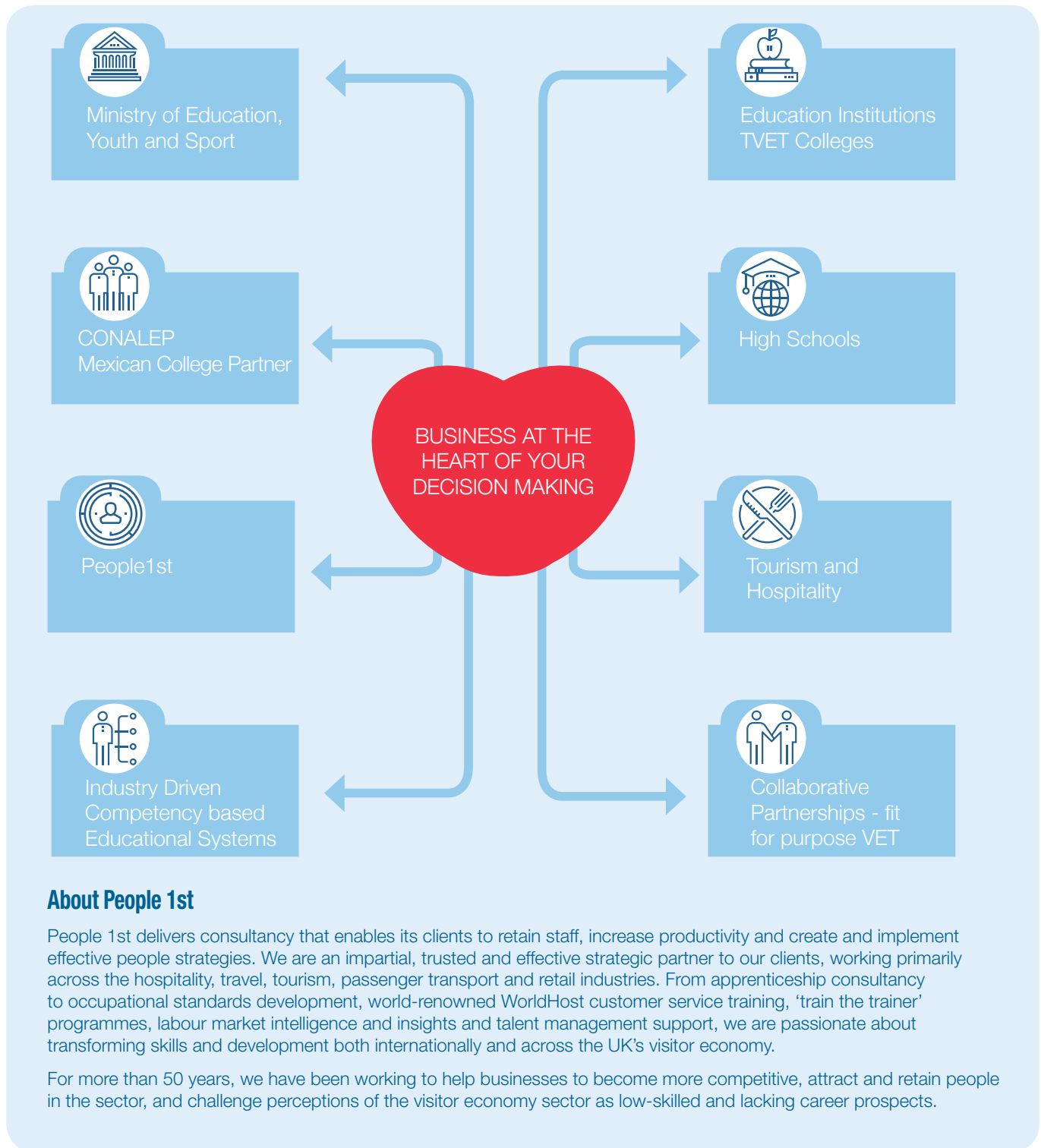
Client:  
AMEXCID

“If we are to add value to our tourism product and capture a larger share of the global market then we need to ensure that our tourism businesses are performing as well as our competitors. Matching the skills required by business will bring jobs, investment and prosperity. Our colleges are now listening and acting upon the needs of our local employers and sending out students with the appropriate skills and qualifications.”

Government of Belize



## Developing a Responsive Training and Education System



### About People 1st

People 1st delivers consultancy that enables its clients to retain staff, increase productivity and create and implement effective people strategies. We are an impartial, trusted and effective strategic partner to our clients, working primarily across the hospitality, travel, tourism, passenger transport and retail industries. From apprenticeship consultancy to occupational standards development, world-renowned WorldHost customer service training, "train the trainer" programmes, labour market intelligence and insights and talent management support, we are passionate about transforming skills and development both internationally and across the UK's visitor economy.

For more than 50 years, we have been working to help businesses to become more competitive, attract and retain people in the sector, and challenge perceptions of the visitor economy sector as low-skilled and lacking career prospects.

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