



National Strategies for Lifelong Learning in China

——Focus on Continuing Education

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Dec. 7, 2010 Hanoi



Three Strategic Goals of Education Reform & Development by 2020

- ❖ To basically realize modernization of education
- ❖ To basically bring a learning society into shape
- ❖ To turn China into a country rich in human resources.

Outline of National Plan for Education Reform and Development
(2010-2020)

Five Specific Goals

- ❖ Further Popularize education at all levels
- ❖ Delivering equal education to everyone
- ❖ Offering quality education in various ways
- ❖ **Building a consummate lifelong learning system**
- ❖ Establishing a full-fledged, vibrant education system

Major indicators for education development from 2009 to 2020

indicators	units	2009	2015	2020
Kindergarten attendance rate for 3-5 Children	%	50.9	60	70
Retention rate of Nine-year compulsory education	%	90.8	93.5	95.0
Attendance rate of Upper Secondary Education	%	79.2	87.0	90
Gross enrollment rate of HE	%	24.2	36	40
Average number of years of education among 20-59 population	year	9.5	10.5	11.2
of which: % of those received HE	%	9.9	15	20
Average number of years of education received by newly-added members of the workforce	year	12.4	13.3	13.5
of which: % of those received high school or higher education	%	67	87	90

Building a consummate LLL system

- ❖ To build up a lifelong learning system, making a smooth link between formal education, non-formal & informal education, Vocational education & general education, pre-job training and on-the-job training, so that everyone can learn what they want to learn, excel at what they learn, and put what they have learned into use.

Redefinition Continuing Education

- ❖ In the Outline, the continuing education was redefined as a comprehensive concept referring to all forms and types of education, designed for all members of society who have finished school education, adults in particular.
- ❖ Three main categories of Continuing Education in China are as follows: non-diploma directed vocational education, training and professional development, diploma directed continuing education at various level (post-secondary, post-tertiary education),community Education (various leaning activities for community residents)

Definition of continuing education UNESCO

- ❖ a comprehensive term referring to all forms and types of education pursued by those who have left formal education at any point and who entered employment and/or assumed adult responsibilities - however these may be defined in a particular society. Thus, continuing education might allow one person to complete a level of formal education, another to acquire knowledge and skills in a new field, another to refresh or update his knowledge in a particular field, another to improve his professional qualifications. Continuing education, while not necessarily restricted to programmes related to career or job considerations, is most often pursued with these in mind, as the equivalent French term *formation continue* indicates. 'Continuing education' may be organized within the formal education system, given within specific programmes organized outside this system, or provided on a non-formal basis.

How to promote continuing education (1)

-----institutional perspective

- ❖ To set up trans-departmental coordinating organizations to provide overall planning and guidance for further education.
- ❖ To enact legislation on of continuing education.
- ❖ To introduce incentive mechanisms of continuing education, to link continuing education to personnel management system involving performance evaluation, appointment, title recognition, and vocational registration, among others.
- ❖ To encourage individuals to participate in continuing education in various forms, and support employers provide conditions for employees to participate continuing education.
- ❖ To tighten up supervision and evaluation on continuing education.

How to promote continuing education (2) ----- perspective of resources development

- ❖ Develop and regulate market-oriented continuing education and training services.
- ❖ Encourage Schools, research institutes and enterprises to open their continuing education resources to the public.
- ❖ Improve community education networks in urban and rural areas, and replenish community education resources
- ❖ Develop IT-based distance education, build open public service platforms for distance education with satellites, television and the Internet as carriers, and offer learners with convenient, flexible and personalized learning opportunities. To transform radio-TV universities into new open universities.

How to promote continuing education (3) ----- perspective of learning outcome recognition

To build up “Flyovers” for Lifelong Learning, promoting horizontal and vertical connections between formal, non-formal & informal education to make multiple choices available and meet people’s diverse learning needs.

To construct an academic credits recognition, accumulation and transfer framework in continuing education, promoting mutual recognition and connection between different types of learning outcomes.

How to promote continuing education (4)

---- leadership and **Pilot projects**

- ❖ For promoting education reform above, a state leading team of education reform and education consultative committee have been established in China.
- ❖ Some pilot programmm such as construction of lifelong learning networks and service platforms, Open universities, Credit Bank system etc. have been started up.



Thank you!

Accelerating development in continuing education

- ❖ It is necessary to keep upgrading the concept on education, increasing financial input, and focusing on improving the nation's human resource capacity by vigorously developing non-degree further education, steadily expanding diploma-granting further education. The education for the aged population shall be emphasized on. The entire population shall be encouraged to cultivate a reading habit. Community education shall be carried out extensively in urban and rural areas, and all kinds of learning organizations shall be established at a faster rate. We will make ours basically a society in which every citizen is committed to learning and pursues lifelong learning.
- ❖ To lift the attendance rate of continuing education of the job-holders up to 50%.