

# DEVELOPMENT ORIENTATION AND MAJOR SOLUTIONS FOR VIETNAM EDUCATION POLICY ON TRAINING HUMANRESOURCES IN THE NEXT YEARS

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## ABSTRACT

*Over the past years, Education and Training (ET) sector has observed the constant implementation of Resolution No. 29-NQ/TW on fundamental and comprehensive reform of education and training (ET). Under the direction of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party and the State, coupling with joint effort made by the Central functional departments, ministries, branches, provinces and cities in association with the sense of responsibility of the teaching staffs and the ceaselessly support of a large number of people from all walks of life, ET sector has gained prominent achievements in various aspects. Nevertheless, there remain several shortcomings in some areas of the sector. Within the scope of this article, by highlighting the achievements after 05 years of comprehensive reform of education, the author summarizes the initial attainments and evaluates that success to pinpoint some drawbacks in executing the sectoral tasks as well as stating the missions for the future. It is of hopefulness that these contents would partly make contribution to the entire people's participation in the comprehensive reform of education and training, which dedicates to an increasingly prosperous nation.*

**Keywords:** Reform, Fundamental, Comprehensive, Education and Training, Shortcomings, Achievements, Standardize, Testing and Examination.

## GENERAL DIRECTION

On the basis of the results achieved in the school year 2016-2017, 2017-2018 by implementing 09 key task groups and 05 basic solutions and overcoming tremendous shortcomings, in the school year 2018-2019, the ET sector continues its concentration in enforcing Resolution No. 29-NQ/TW of the Party Central Committee, Resolution No. 44/NQ-CP of the Government on radical and comprehensive reform of education and training, Resolution No. 88/2014/QH13 of the National Assembly XIII, Resolution No. 51/2017/QH13 of the National Assembly XIV and Directive No. 16/CT-TTg dated 18 June 2018 of the Prime Minister on promoting renovation of programs and textbooks of general education, Resolutions of the Party, the National Assembly, the Government and the Prime Minister's direction; increasing the local awareness of implementation of Directive for school year 2019-2020 of the ET sector (The World Bank, 2020).

The second direction is to stabilize the sectoral reform in parallel with implementing a number of key tasks to improve the quality of education, order and discipline, and resolve pressing issues in public opinion.

Pre-school education is required to perfect the mechanisms and policies for establishing schools and classes in industrial and free-trade zones; promote measures to improve the

effectiveness and efficiency of state management on preschool education, mitigate children violence and address the shortage of teachers.

General education continues to prepare conditions for the implementation of new curricula and textbooks, especially for grade 1; improve the quality of assessment and testing process, especially the national high school graduating examination. Besides, it is obligatory to bolster moral education, lifestyles and life skills for students and reform the management mechanism in general schools.

Higher education continues to promote university autonomy, improve the quality of education in line with the context of the Industrial Revolution 4.0, which satisfy the social demand for the graduates to have jobs suitable to the training majors.

## **Key Tasks**

### **Review, Planning and Development of the Educational and Training Network Nationwide**

Organizing the review and planning of the network of general education establishments in the spirit of the Resolution No. 19-NQ/TW of the Party Central Committee on further renovating the organizational system and managing, improving the quality and efficiency of public service delivery agencies.

Developing and promulgating criteria and standards for schools and classrooms for localities to apply in the planning process; Developing mechanisms for coordinating the implementation of the planning between the Ministry of Education and Training and the provincial/municipal People's Committees as well as local departments and branches; the mechanism of inspection, supervision, reporting and evaluation of the implementation of education and training development planning.

Continuing to complete the master plan for the network of higher education and teacher training institutions; implementing according to the planning roadmap under Prime Minister's approval.

Developing a scheme on reorganization of pedagogical schools in order to raise the training, retraining and fostering teachers and educational administrators.

Studying, proposing and submitting to the Government for ratifying policies on development of preschools in industrial and free-trade zones; guiding localities in conducting thereof. The localities shall prioritize the scrutiny of planning and investment of resources and reserve adequate land fund for the construction of pre-schools and kindergartens in industrial and free-trade zones and residential areas.

### **Enhance the Quality of the Teachers and Education Administrators at all Levels**

Reviewing, adjusting or adopting norms on the number of employees at educational and training establishments according to the policy on streamlining of the Resolution No. 18-TW/NQ and Resolution No. 19-NQ/TW dated 25 October 2017 of the Central Government and implementing the new general education program (Ministry of education and training, 2017).

Localities review and rearrange the teachers, and have appropriate plans to overcome the teacher deficiency, especially in the "hot" growth areas in terms of student size.

Training teachers and administrators in enforcing new general education programs and textbooks, giving priority to the contingent of grade 1 teachers; deploying the system of training

and fostering of teachers via internet on a national scale. Training and developing the teachers working as consultancy and vocational guidance instructors in junior and senior high schools.

Guiding the localities and training establishments to appoint, examine, promote and grade salary under the criteria of professional titles in accordance with regulations; to rigorously gauge teachers and educational administrators according to the promulgated standards; to perform well the work of honoring and commendation as well as regimes and policies to create motivation and conditions for the contingent of teachers with professional interests.

Implementing the standards and assess the contingent of teachers and principals of the educational establishments according to the standards, thus identifying the capacity and demand for fostering of teachers and educational administrators meeting the requirements of the standard for the head of general education establishments and professional standards of teachers promulgated by the Ministry of Education and Training.

Enhancing the fostering and raising of sense of responsibility and ethics of the teachers and educational administrators; to rectify and strictly handle units and individuals who violate the moral ethics of teachers.

Implementing the scheme on raising the quality of lecturers and educational administrators after the Prime Minister's approval.

### **Renovate Preschool Education Programs: Promote Vocational Education and Orientation of Education in General Education**

Guiding pre-school education establishments in implementing preschool education programs after their correction; localities shall support the preschool education establishments to improve conditions for the implementation of the Program; implementing programs to support and educate young parents with knowledge and skills in caring for and educating their children; to build and deploy models of family-school-community coordination in child care and education; continue to provide professional support to teachers in private independent classes.

Evaluating, endorsing and guiding the provincial/municipal Education and Training Departments and general education institutions in conducting the new general education program; formulating and promulgating documents guiding the compilation of textbooks under the new general education curriculum and organize the training and fostering for participants in compiling and evaluating new textbooks; directing the compilation of a set of textbooks of all subjects in grades 1 to 12, with priority given to grade 1. At the same time, encouraging organizations and individuals to compose textbooks under the general education curriculum according to the new approved one.

Evaluating textbooks (including textbooks guided by the Ministry of Education and Training and other textbooks prepared by other organizations and individuals) in accordance with Circular No. 33/2017/TT-BGDT; approving and authorizing the use of textbooks based on the evaluation results of the National Council for evaluating text books; instructing general education establishments to select textbooks for use; guiding localities to organize the compilation of contents on the historical, cultural and socio-economic characteristics of localities (Ministry of education and training, 2017).

Localities shall work out plans and organize the training of the contingent of teachers and administrators of educational institutions in order to deploy the implementation of new general education educational programs and textbooks.

Deploying the action plan of the Prime Minister's Decision No. 522/QĐ-TTg dated 14 May 2018 on the Scheme on vocational education and orienting the distribution of pupils in general education (National Institute for Vocational Education and Training (NIVET), 2020).

Improving the effectiveness of education on political ideology, ethics, lifestyles and life skills for students; enhancing school security, safety, building a school culture and a healthy school environment, promoting democracy and enhancing school discipline.

### **Improve the Quality of Teaching Foreign Languages, Especially English at all Levels and Levels of Training**

Continuing to improve, promulgate and implement foreign language programs, textbooks and materials. For general education, priority is given to completing the curriculum and pilot materials for children who are familiar with English and the programs and textbooks of foreign languages in the new general education program. For post-secondary education, continue to complete, build language programs according to the standards and training sector. In addition, encourage the teaching of foreign languages integrated in other subjects and teach other subjects and majors in foreign languages at educational institutions with needs and conditions for implementation.

Developing and standardizing the contingent of foreign language teachers, especially the teachers of general education to meet the requirement of implementing the 10-year foreign language program. Training foreign language teachers in a combination of online and direct methods; Renovation of foreign language teacher training programs to meet the requirements of the teacher's professional standards and the framework of foreign language teachers. Fostering foreign language competence and pedagogical capacity for teachers teaching other subjects in foreign languages.

Formulating and implementing plans on fostering and developing foreign language skills for the contingent of cadres, civil servants and employees; especially for the staff of strategic level.

Continuing to renew the forms and methods of examinations, tests and assessments of foreign language skills of pupils and students according to the standards set forth right in the process and according to the results of each stage of education and training. Continuing to develop the test format according to the 6-level foreign language capability framework for Vietnam, prioritizing computer-aided exam and online exam format; Step by step to develop a foreign language exam bank. Directing, guiding, organizing examinations and granting foreign language certificates to ensure objectivity and accuracy.

Strengthening the conditions for teaching and learning foreign languages in the direction of applying IT, building a system of support for teaching and learning foreign languages online and on computers for grades and essential equipment for the implementation of teaching and learning foreign languages to meet general training objectives.

Boosting communication on teaching and learning foreign languages to provide timely information to the whole society, especially teachers, lecturers, students, administrators and educators. Develop guidelines for building and developing learning environment and using foreign languages, launching teacher movement to learn English with students. Strengthen teaching and learning foreign languages on the mass media.

Futhering the urge, guidance, inspection and supervision of teaching and learning foreign languages at all levels and training levels, ensuring full implementation, effective follow the schedule set objectives.

## **Promote the Application of Information Technology in Teaching, Learning and Educational Management**

Completing the database of the whole education sector, supplementing the component databases of pre-school and general education; develop a database on higher education; integrate the existing sectoral management information systems into the sectoral database and move towards a uniform sectoral use of a sectoral database for education management information systems by 2020 (Asian Development Bank, 2020).

Synchronization of management software in education and training departments, in schools, data linkage with sectoral database software; Enhance the use of electronic files (grades, school records, contact books); Deploy online enrollment solution with first class level.

Developing and putting into operation and exploiting effectively the sector's database, the online question bank used to renovate content, teaching methods, assessment and evaluation in schools and contribute to Vietnamese IT knowledge of digital quality materials on a regular basis.

Continuing to mobilize teachers to participate in the e-learning course and contribute to the online e-learning lecture; strongly deploying e-learning (blended learning) solutions in higher education; Applying e-learning models and intelligent classrooms in places where conditions permit, in order to raise the quality of teaching.

Continuing to accelerate the application of information technology to officials, teachers, lecturers, pupils and students; Deploying solutions to improve the quality of information technology training in tertiary education and development of information technology human resources to meet labor market requirements in the context of international integration and the Industrial Revolution 4.0.

## **Promote Autonomy and Accountability of Educational and Training Establishments**

Submitting to the Government a decree on management in pre-school and general education establishments. Coordinating with the Ministry of Home Affairs in guiding localities in decentralizing state management in the field of education and training.

Completing and proposing to the Government for promulgation a decree prescribing the mechanism of self-control for public higher education institutions and documents guiding the specific regulation on self-control for public higher education institutions. Formulate and promulgate the system of technical-economic norms, criteria and quality standards for pre-school and general education establishments (Siriopoulos & Kassapi, 2019),

Directing the National Economics University, Hanoi University of Technology, Economics University of Ho Chi Minh City to complete the pilot scheme for the implementation of a mechanism without a functional agency, on which the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) elaborates and submits to the Government for promulgation a Resolutions on the policy of implementing the pilot mechanism without leading agencies for universities.

## **International Integration in Education and Training**

Releasing the Circular guiding the implementation of Decree No. 86/2018/ND-CP on foreign cooperation and investment in the field of education and directing the organization of implementation; efficiently conducting signed international treaties and agreements.

Directing higher education institutions to actively expand international cooperation in scientific research, technology transfer, joint training, credit recognition, program linkage, equivalent degrees to accredited foreign universities.

### **Better the Facilities to Ensure the Quality of Education and Training Activities**

Organizing the review and assessment of the current facilities and teaching equipment of pre-school and general education establishments; accordingly, localities shall develop, repair and renovate, with the priority objectives of construction items: classrooms, libraries, toilets, clean water sections, canteens, rooms for boarding students, semi-boarding students and paying greater attention to disadvantaged, ethnic minority areas, border and island regions and supplementary teaching equipment.

Guiding the effective execution of the scheme on assurance of facilities for pre-school education and general education programs after the Prime Minister's approval. Reviewing, adjusting, supplementing and promulgating regulations on technical standards for school facilities, classrooms and teaching equipment in line with the new general education program and the actual conditions of the local enforcement.

### **Develop Human Resources, Especially High Quality Human Resources**

Developing modern university training programs to meet the demands of the labor market and international integration; digital transformation in education with the vision of sustainable development and orientation of reform and innovation; innovative approach to training approaches to the industrial revolution 4.0.

Implement the scheme of the Prime Minister on support for start-up students promote economic growth; compile a set of materials to provide knowledge and skills for students; formulate a contingent of cadres who provide consultancy and support for students starting their careers in universities, institutes, colleges and intermediate schools nationwide, developing new skills and tackling the pandemic Covid-19 on the World (Siriopoulos, 2020).

Promote the development of a number of higher education institutions, regional and international training disciplines and high-quality teacher training establishments. Study and promulgate effective mechanisms and policies to attract good students to study pedagogy.

### **Basic Solutions**

#### **Institutional Improvement on Education and Training**

Submitting to the National Assembly for approving the revised Education Law and the Law amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Law on Higher Education; issuing documents instructing the Law enforcement.

Reviewing the adopted mechanisms and policies; studying, amending, supplementing and perfecting policies and legislation on education and training, particularly the policies towards people in difficult, deep-lying, remote and ethnic minority areas, mountainous areas to ensure compliance with practical requirements.

Continuing the administrative reform according to the Prime Minister's Decision No. 225/QĐ-TTg dated 04 February 2016 on the State administrative reform plan for the period 2016-2020; Decision No. 2163/QĐBGDDT dated 28 June 2016 on State administrative reform

plan of the period 2016-2020 of MOET (National Institute for Vocational Education and Training, 2016; Asian Development Bank, 2020).

Continuing to renovate management; promote the implementation of self-control in education and training institutions.

Intensifying the inspection work, meeting the requirements of educational management reform. Concentrate on well implementing the Resolution No. 63/2018/QH14 of 15 June 2008 of the XIV National Assembly, focusing on reorganizing training cooperation, violation of the law on diplomas and certificates, the confirmation of eligibility for high school graduation examinations, the granting of foreign language certificates under the new framework, the recognition of training establishments up to national standards; strictly violating the moral acts of teachers and educational administrators, teachers, parents, pupils and students. Strongly implement the Inspectorate Strengthening Project to meet the requirements of fundamental and comprehensive renewal of education and training until 2020. Strengthen the coordination of provincial and ministerial inspectorate in education inspection. Serious and open handling of violations to impact the whole system (Asian Development Bank, 2020).

### **Improve the Leadership Capacity of Educational Administrators at all Levels**

Promulgating standards and criteria for managers at all levels and implement training programs and plans up to the level prescribed for managerial positions. Continue renovating the management mode and raising the managerial capacity in education and training establishments.

Conducting the assessment and classification of managers under the standards; organizing the appointment of educational administrators at all levels based on managerial and leadership capabilities and ensuring the satisfaction of the prescribed criteria; to further strengthen discipline and discipline for educational administrators.

Intensifying the inspection, examination and strict handling of law violations in education and training activities.

### **Enhance Investment Resources for Education and Training**

Ministry of Finance is mandatory to closely collaborate with Ministry of Planning and Investment in elaborating the principle of distribution and order of priority for allocation of funds as well as relevant documents to guide the implementation of the program on education for the mountainous, ethnic minorities and disadvantaged areas in the period of 2016-2020 in accordance with Decision No. 775/QĐ-TTg dated 27 June 2018 of the Prime Minister (The Word Bank, April 27, 2020).

It is required an intense cooperation with the Ministry of Planning and Investment in proposing the Government and National Assembly on 2018 funding for government bonds for 2017-2020.

Furthermore, central budget capital should be reconsidered to assist localities in making investment in material foundations and procurement of equipment. Priority shall be given to preschool, primary and minimum equipment according to the roadmap for renovating programs and textbooks; prioritize provinces and regions with slow economic development, especially socio-economic difficulties, provinces regularly affected by natural calamities, provinces in the midland and mountainous areas in the north, the Central Highlands and the Mekong River Delta, especially in areas with large ethnic minority population.

The scheme on assurance of facilities for preschool and general education programs shall be administered after they are approved by the Prime Minister.

Social resources are also mobilized, first of all for higher education, with an aim to encourage the development of non-public schools to meet the social demands for high-quality education in urban areas; for the highly socialized sector, the state budget only supports policy beneficiaries, ethnic minorities and promotes talents, equal access to state incentives for learners in public and non-public schools. Procedures for accessing and attracting ODA and preferential loans shall be promoted in line with the new financing trend. Attracting investment and broadening the mode of cooperation shall be conducted with training institutions with science and technology and education establishments through forms of cooperation in joint training, scientific research, technology transfer.

Reviewing and finalizing regulations on existing mechanisms and policies and supplement new regulations to ensure equal treatment and create a fair and transparent competition environment between public and private educational establishments, between the establishment of the local e-commerce and foreign elements to create attractive and promote the mobilization, creating the investment environment. Creating favorable environment, opportunities and conditions for the Vietnamese community of scientists, researchers and businessmen and enterprises both inside and outside the country; as well as foreign scientists and researchers as well as foreign businessmen and entrepreneurs working in Vietnam and abroad to contribute their efforts, intellect and money to the development of EET. Building linkages and cooperation between regions and localities in the mobilization in order to save and raise the efficiency of the use of mobilized resources. Enhancing the responsibility, initiative, creativity and flexibility of the establishment in the mobilization.

### **Intensify Educational Examination and Accreditation**

Strictly controlling the licensing, standards, operating conditions and activities for preschool education. Moreover, reviewing and finalizing the process, procedures and publicity of the recognition of diplomas, titles and titles of university lecturers.

Continuing to complete the national high school examination, obtaining the results to consider the recognition of high school graduation and serving as a basis for recruiting university education, enrollment for vocational education, overcoming the state of achievement in education, reducing pressure for students, families and society. Specifically: reviewing, seriously evaluating and timely handling the negative and shortcomings that occur in the national high school examinations in 2018 to draw experience in management, directing examinations; continuing to supplement the exam questions bank as a basis to develop exam questions better meet the purpose and requirements of the national high school exams; perfecting the software testing in the direction of increasing security, preventing the risk of cheating in the exam; improving the method of organizing examinations in the direction of concentrating on clusters and strengthening the state management function, supervision and inspection role of MOET and responsibilities for examination councils.

Promoting accreditation of educational and training institutions, training programs, and accreditation in accordance with regional and international standards.



## Promote Communication on Education and Training

Communication on the results of five years of implementation of the Party's Resolution No. 29-NQ/TW on fundamental and comprehensive renewal of education and training; the amendment of the Law on Education and the Law amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Law on Higher Education.

Communication on the development of new general education programs and textbooks and the preparation of quality assurance conditions for the implementation of new general education textbooks and programs in localities.

Promote communication about good examples in the ET sector: teachers, students' innovation, creativity and good results in teaching and learning.

## CONCLUSION

In the spirit of comprehensive reform of education and training, coupled with promoting the achievements gained in recent years and overcoming limitations and shortcomings in the execution of education policies, ET sector has devised specific directions and solutions to properly implement the Party's directions and guidelines as well as State policies on education. Given the unanimous efforts of teachers, educational administrators and an enormous number of pupils and students in accompany with the support of branches and citizenry, it is hopeful that in the coming time, ET sector will reap new successes and significantly contribute to training personnel in service of the national socio-economic development in the new context.

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