Current Thai Education Policies and Reform

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Current Thai Education Policies and Reform

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Outline

- Education policies
  - Persistent problems
  - Education reform mechanisms
  - Education reform roadmap
  - Higher education mega projects
Education policies

Government’s Policy on Education

- **Conduct education and learning reform** by attaching importance to both formal and alternative education
- Adjust the allocation of educational budget to meet the needs of learners and education institutions
- Encourage civil organizations, private sector, local administrative bodies, and the general public to participate in providing quality and accessible education and conducting education and learning reform
- Develop potential of people of all ages by promoting lifelong learning
- Promote vocational and community college education to produce skilled labor force
- Enhance teacher production and professional development system
- Support learning of foreign languages and international cultures, and creation of international work of art and culture

Education policies

Ministry of Education’s Policy

5 general policies
1. Education reform and development
2. Increase greater educational opportunities
3. Develop educational management system and programs of study
4. Promote and upgrade teachers’ status
5. Strengthen administrative system of government agencies at all levels

7 specific policies
1. Enhance quality of education in the southern border provinces
2. Prepare Thai citizens for entry into the ASEAN Community and post-2015 continuation
3. Enhance and support country’s competitiveness and sustainable development
4. Emphasize the production and development of high-quality teachers and education personnel
5. Develop and modernize ICT system for education
6. Enhance efficiency of the Ministry of Education’s performances
7. Support the National Education Plan and education reform
Higher education policies

11th Higher Education Development Plan (2012-2016)

- **Leadership in change management for quality education**
  Change of organization leading system to drive higher education holistically
- **Educator Professional**
  Capacity building of teachers to become professionals & encouraging professional experts to become teachers
- **Graduates with quality and social responsibility**
  Elevation of Graduates’ quality
- **Satang Utilization**
  Higher Education Financing Reform

- Enabling universities to produce and develop quality workforce into the labor market
- Strengthening higher education capacity in generating knowledge and innovation
- Fostering sustainable development of the communities
Persistent problems

Teachers
- Quality of teachers & teacher incentive system
- Poor educational quality & learning outcomes

Management
- Educational administrative structure
- Lack of school autonomy

Learning
- Quality of education and learners
- Curriculum, teaching process, measurement & assessment

Distribution of opportunities
- Centralization
- Lack of focus on development of local curriculum & institution's curriculum

Manpower production & development
- Inability of vocational & higher education to produce & develop capable & competitive manpower

Education reform mechanisms

Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand (Interim), B.E. 2557 (2014)

National Reform Council (NRC) established to conduct studies & provide recommendations for reform in 11 areas; - public health & environment - education - energy, etc.

MOE

Steering Committee for Education Reform established to work closely with National Legislative Council (NLC) and MOE to draft education reform framework as a part of the new Constitution

NRC

6 Subcommittees appointed to brainstorm, develop implementation guidelines & propose ideas for education reform
Education reform roadmap

Thai citizens - knowledgeable, capable, competitive, moral, ethical, disciplined, critical thinking, service mind, oriented toward public interests, proud of being Thai

Thai society - peaceful, harmonious, reinforcing national security & competitiveness

Teacher reform
- Increase & distribute equal educational opportunities & quality for all

Management reform

Learning reform
- Manpower production and development

Enhancing ICT for education

Short-term plan: National committee to be established/ public hearings to be conducted involving all sectors of society/ law and regulations to be adjusted to foster the reform/ educational personnel to be cultivated

Mid-long-term plan: Blueprint on education reform to be drafted/ new agencies & educational fund to be established to enhance education quality/ trial of pilot models & guidelines of education reform/ information & data base system for management to be developed/ monitoring & evaluation to be conducted

Presented by MOE to the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) on Social Psychology in July 2014

Higher education mega projects

World Class University Project
- Targeted goals:
  - Forming sustainable university consortia
  - strengthening collaboration between universities and industry
  - establishing real time and validated national HE database for quality control & benchmarking
  - creating Thai university ranking system
  - Thai HEIs to be ranked in world university rankings

Project on HE HRD to Cope with the Changing Global Context
- Provision of 16,000 doctoral & postdoctoral scholarships for the following purposes;
  - increasing the production of Ph.D. faculty
  - capacity building of university faculty members to become professional researchers
  - strengthening academic and research consortia in areas necessary for country's competitiveness
Higher education mega projects

Project on Standard Development of New Group of HEIs and Preparation for the ASEAN Community (5-year plan with estimated budget of 68 billion baht)

- Purpose: to allocate funding to enhance capacity of new group of HEIs including Rajabhat Universities and Rajamangala Universities of Technology
- Rajamangala Universities of Technology to focus on providing education in various fields of technology & operations while Rajabhat Universities emphasizing teacher production and community engagement

Thank You