

Presentation of Thailand
On
"Global Forum on Education:
The Challenges for Education
in a Global Economy"

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Introduction

The content of this paper focused on

- Lifelong Learning Policy of Thai government ,
- The role of Ministry of Labour on Human Resources Development .
- The benefit that gained from joining the ASEM Programme on Lifelong Learning for employability .

Definition of Lifelong Learning (LLL)

- According to National Education Act B.E. 2542 (1999) the Lifelong education means education resulting from integration of formal, non-formal, and informal education so as to create ability for continuous lifelong development of quality of life.

- Learning is part of life which takes place at all times
a n d i n a l l p l a c e s.

Information on Thai Population

According to the information of National Statistic Office on May, 2005.

- The total population is	65.30 Million persons
- Labour force	35.76 Million persons
- Employed persons	34.46 Million persons
- Unemployed persons	0.73 Million persons
- Seasonal unemployed person	0.57 Million persons

(Unemployment rate 2 percent)

- Working in Industries	8.20 Million persons
- Working in services	12.30 Million persons
- Working in agriculture	12.20 Million persons

Information on Thai Population

Educational background

- Primary level	29.70	Million persons
- Secondary level	13.30	Million persons
- Higher education	4.70	Million persons

Policy on Lifelong Learning (LLL)

The policy of education and training can be

c o n s i d e r e d f r o m t h e

- T h e C o n s t i t u t i o n .

- National Economic and Social Development Plan.

- The policies of the current government.

Policy on Lifelong Learning (LLL)

The Constitution ensures that

- All people will have both the rights and duties to receive education and training as well as academic freedom (sections 30, 42 and 69).
- The role of the private sector in the provision of education at all levels is also emphasized (section 43).

Policy on Lifelong Learning (LLL)

The National Economic and Social Development Plan No. 9 (B.E. 2545 – 2549) (2002 – 2006)

- Thai society should be the learning and wisdom society that give opportunity to all people to be thinkable, rational, creative, continuous learning, in order to be ready to face with the dynamic environment .

Policy on Lifelong Learning (LLL)

- To achieve this should focus on human development by educational reform and methodology for upgrading the skills and readiness of Thai people to have standardized skills being consistent with changed production structures. This would enable Thai people to obtain quality development and labour skill standards, as well as realize the importance of their development.

Policy on Lifelong Learning (LLL)

- The Government has primary responsibility for education, pre-employment training and training the unemployed and people with special needs.
- The social partners play a significant role in further training and particularly employers in work-place learning and training.
- Individuals are expected to make use of education, training and Lifelong Learning.

Human Resources Development in Thailand

Human Resources Development in Thailand is responsible by two main Ministries :

- Ministry of Education is responsible for the basic and higher education .

Human Resources Development in Thailand

- Ministry of Labour by the Department of Skill Development (DSD) is responsible for the development of workforce in the labour market since the age of 15 years old to acquire skills, knowledge to have high competence for employability. Also, is the core organization for issuing the National Skill Standards and Testing System as well as evaluation the working experiences of workforces and transfer to education credit for higher qualification.

Education System in Thailand

The education in Thailand is based on the 1997 Constitution and the 1999 National Education Act. They provide principle and challenging guidelines for the provision and development of Thai education in order to prepare all Thai people for a learning society in a knowledge-based economy .

Education System in Thailand

Education will be provided in three types:

- Formal, non-formal, and informal education.
- Formal education is divided into 2 levels: basic education and higher education, with 9 years compulsory education.
- Ministries, bureaus, departments, public enterprises, and other public agencies will authorize to provide specialized education, based on national education policy and standards as well as ministerial regulations.

Role of Ministry of Labour, Thailand

- Thailand was one of the founded members of the International Labour Organization (ILO) since 1919.
- ILO suggested Thai Government to provide practical training to the unemployed persons from rural area to acquire specific skills relevant to the demand of the labour market since 1967. So, we could solve the unemployment problem and shortage of skill workforce in various industries and establishments in the same time.

Role of Ministry of Labour, Thailand

- Since then, the development of the competence and skills of the workforce in the labour market is responsible by DSD Ministry of Labour.
- The system of training is the practical training; theory 20 percent, practices 80 percent.

Role of Ministry of Labour, Thailand

Courses of Training are

- Technical and Non-Technical Training,
- Services and Commerce.
- Soft Skills Training such as Leadership, Problem-solving communication, Decision-making, teamwork,

The levels of training are

- Basic skills training, Upgrading Training, Retraining for other occupation,

To facilitate the Life Long Learning/Training for employability.

Role of Ministry of Labour, Thailand

- The training is usually conducted in Institutes and establishments .
- Duration of training approximately 280 hours or 2 months to 10 months .
- Successful trainees will be classified as basic skilled labour .

Skill Development Promotion Act B.E. 2545 (A.D. 2002)

- Thai government considers that Human Resource is the main asset of Nation and should be continuously developed on par with the development of socio-economic and technology to be high quality resource.
- According to the OECD study shows that human capital investment in post-compulsory education significantly develops.

Skill Development Promotion Act B.E. 2545 (A.D. 2002)

There is a need to rethink and broaden the notion of lifelong education. Not only must it adapt to changes in the nature of work, but it must also constitute a continuous process of forming whole human beings – their knowledge and aptitudes, as well as the critical faculty and ability to act. It should enable people to develop awareness of themselves and their environment and encourage them to play their social role at work and in the community.

Skill Development Promotion Act B.E. 2545 (A.D. 2002)

The government has enacted the Skill Development Promotion Act B.E. 2545 (A.D.2002) to encourage the business operators, employers to play vital role on upgrading skills and knowledge of the workforce with tax deduction .

Skill Development Promotion Act B.E. 2545 (A.D. 2002)

Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Education are working together to set up system for transferring credit between skills and basic knowledge, as the concept of Lifelong Learning. So those who complete this programme will get higher certificate up to degree level.

This means that try to make education and training access to workforce for his/her better status or life, get higher income, for the employers will gain productivity from the higher qualification of employees.

Impact of Globalization

- Skills development has never been as important as it is in today's globalizing world.
- Technology dictates rapid changes to the way in which skills are acquired,
- New skills developed and existing skills upgraded.
- However, the rapid pace at which information technology is developing, as the driving force behind globalization, is making it difficult for many countries to maintain their knowledge and skill base, while at the same time keeping abreast of changes to knowledge, skills and work practices.

Impact of Globalization

- It is only through cooperation and sharing of responsibility and information on skills development at the national and regional level that we can be fully aware of the changing skill needs in the workplace. That is why Thailand actively participating in ASEM Lifelong Learning for employability .

The Benefit for Thailand

As one of a member joining ASEM Lifelong Learning for Employability Programme, the benefit that we have got are

- Broader of our vision on the issue of learning.
- Sharing good practices and adapt to our society.
- Cooperation to raise the quality of learning and training and bridging the gap between developed and developing countries.
- Lifelong Learning and training can be applied to eradicate the poverty by creating employment.

The Benefit for Thailand

- Joining research and development for issuing the right policies and measures to solve the challenging problems to our societies.
- Create understanding for the well beings of our human resources .
- We are not compete but helping for survival from the effect of globalization.



Thank you