

## **ESTABLISHING A SMART VOCATIONAL SCHOOL: PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS**

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### **ABSTRACT:**

Although the first endeavors to create a national qualification framework began 20 years ago, proposed executions were delayed as only educational institutions became in charge.

At the initiative of the head of our state, the National Skills Framework of the Republic of Uzbekistan has been developed in Uzbekistan in a short period of time. In the article, future activities of completely new educational institutions based on the Vocational Education System will be discussed and associated recommendations and conclusions will be provided on the current issues, their solutions and strategic goals of the system.

**Keywords:** Vocational competence, vocational school, qualification, competence, professional education, curriculum and dual system.

### **INTRODUCTION**

If we plan a year, we sow grain.

If we plan ten years, we plant a tree.

If we plan a lifetime, we teach, train and educate people.

(Chinese folk proverb)

Over the years, the absence of full compliance of vocational education programs in our country with the levels of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCE) adopted by UNESCO and inadequate introduction of the National Qualifications System in Uzbekistan have been an obstacle for trained personnel to have a right value in the labor market. As a result, our graduates have not been able to work in their specialties in foreign countries. In order to eliminate those deficiencies through reforming the existing vocational education system and establishing a completely new system of vocational education that

meets international standards, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan declared Decree No. ПФ-5812, namely "Additional measures to further development of vocational education system" in September 6, 2019.

According to the decree, a new network of educational institutions will be established, which is harmonized with the levels of the international standard classification of education. It will include primary, secondary and specialized vocational education, as well as differentiated educational programs.

Based on vocational education program, a smart vocational school has the following objectives:

- training qualified specialists for industries and sectors of the economy, taking into account the real needs for personnel in accordance with the requirements and proposals of employers, and meeting the needs of society in professions and specialties;
- preparing practically skilled personnel at working with modern information and communication technologies;
- developing comprehensive cooperation with local and foreign educational institutions, attracting qualified foreign specialists for joint implementation of modern innovative educational projects;
- introducing differentiated educational programs and credit-module system gradually, which is harmonized with international classification levels;
- as well as teaching vocational education, providing students with the necessary knowledge to start a business and methodological support for starting their own business in the future;
- ensuring the interaction between continuous professional education and manufacturing through the active use of innovative forms, technologies and developments in the educational process which makes learners capable of further reforming the country's economy, its sustainable growth and effective participation in modernization processes;
- enabling numerous options for individuals to choose among vocational education institutions and receive education in chosen profession or specialty, as well as to have access to vocational training and retraining on the basis of the principle of "lifelong learning";

- providing individual with professional education to meet their needs for intellectual, cultural and spiritual development, preparing active citizens and developing their responsibility and creative activity.

The following should be taken into account when formulating acceptance proposals based on the requirements of the labor market:

- identifying the needs of the labor market, taking into account the socio-economic development strategy of the district and the organization of needs-based professions in the updated environment.
- developing knowledge, skills and competencies in the field of vocational training in accordance with the requirements of vocational education.
- ensuring the interaction between continuous professional education and manufacturing, actively using innovative forms, technologies and developments in the educational process in order to train learners who will be capable of further reforming the country's economy, its sustainable growth and effective participation in modernization processes, which is all expedient to form a vocational school.

#### **Current problems in the system:**

- Insufficient development and implementation of standard regulations
- Lack of modern equipment and textbooks in specialties
- Deficiency of high-qualified teachers and masters in industrial education
- Need for kitchen and dormitory buildings restoration
- Low Internet speed
- Lack of legal protection
- Absence of effective cooperation with enterprises and employers.

Potential remedies of existing problems through establishing smart vocational schools:

- Certain mission of establishing smart vocational schools will be set;
- A strategic plan for long-term will be developed;
- Based on the results of SWOT analysis, the main directions of educational institutions' development are identified;
- Strategic goal of the vocational school is defined;

- An integrated strategy is selected;
- A roadmap for implementing changes will be developed;
- Capacity and potential of a smart vocational school is assessed;
- The smart vocational school will be digitized, the importance of digital technologies will be increased, and an innovative environment will be created in the educational process;
- effective cooperation with industrial enterprises and employers in the region will be established.

**Strategic purpose of the intelligent vocational school:**

- Introducing of innovative technologies in the educational process;
- Improving the ICT literacy of teachers;
- Creating favorable conditions;
- Formatting entrepreneurial activity;
- Training competitive junior specialists for labor market

**In the introduction of innovative technologies in education:**

- All smart classrooms will be provided with audio and visual equipment
- Conditions will be created for students to see their work in practice in a virtual process;
- Normative documents in cooperation with employers are prepared, educational processes using ICT (Information Communication Technology) is organized, maintenance of electronic journals is provided.

**Improving ICT literacy of teachers:**

- Including human resources in a single system;
- Converting execution works into E-execution system;
- Improving ICT literacy of employees;
- Regular training of pedagogical staff.

**Creating favorable conditions:**

- Installation of surveillance cameras to monitor buildings;
- Installation of modern measuring instruments in gas and electricity supply;
- Equipping smart classrooms;

- Renovation of dormitories, kitchens and toilets to modern standards;
- Establishment of software base.

#### **Training competitive specializations for current labor market:**

- Regular observation of the labor market;
- Organization of training in modern specialties;
- Establish cooperation with employers.

#### **Education in the spirit of intellectual patriotism:**

- Selection of the motto for the vocational school;
- Establishment of a psychological diagnostic center;
- Introduction of clubs on 5 initiatives.

#### **FUTURE (SMART) CLASSES WILL BE EQUIPPED:**

- ✓ The classrooms are designed to create modern education atmosphere for students, including the background and decoration of the room;
- ✓ There will be comfortable desks and chairs for sitting, and FLIP CHART boards for students to use in the classroom;
- ✓ The classroom will be equipped with current technologies: art SMART computers, air conditioners and tablets;
- ✓ The classroom is connected to the Internet for students to use, and the Internet is transmitted via a Wi-Fi hotspot;
- ✓ The classroom will be equipped with a sound camera, which will monitor the teaching process;
- ✓ The SMART computer in the classroom is directly connected to the library of the educational institution, which allows you to get and use the necessary literature.

#### **FOREIGN COOPERATION**

##### **(Organizing trainings and internships)**

- The acceptance plan is formed with the participation of employer. Trainings and manufacturing practices are organized in related companies;
- As well as equipment, the workshop of the educational institution will be designed with a visual animation board which will be used for visual videos on the topic.

## **CONCLUSION**

The transition from a vocational school to a smart school will gradually take place in an online format. In this case, the best practices of foreign countries will be used widely. Effective cooperation will be established with manufacturing enterprises. There will be a gradual transition to a dual education system.

Classrooms will be fully equipped. ICT literacy level of teachers will be improved and trainings for the use of modern pedagogical technologies are planned to be provided regularly. While studying students can gain will knowledge and competencies needed to start a business. Moreover, electronic assessment system will be created to assess students instead of rating books. Finally, opportunities will be created to raise extra-budgetary funds. To conclude, smart vocational schools can provide competitive personnel for today's domestic and foreign labor markets.

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