

Educational Planning

Name

Institution

Date

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Various administrations and other entities use planning as a method of resolution and to map out how goals will be achieved. This usually involves various aspects of initiatives such as time, resources, and frameworks for the implementation of strategies, particularly in the field of education. Educational planning is a means of gaining insight into policy, costs, and priorities of an educational system. This includes consideration of political and economic aspects of the educational system. Educational planning involves making the best use of a lack of resources allocated to education and the complications associated with this issue. This is important at various stages of education. Effective educational planning comprises three approaches: (1) social demand, (2) manpower requirement, and (3) cost benefit analysis. This essay focuses on highlighting these approaches as well as their importance to educational planning.

Social Demand Approach

First, the social demand approach requires that the government or educational stakeholders provide amenities to educational institutions for all students admitted. Proponents of the demand approach suggest that education is a service in high demand, which is the same as any other social service. A positive aspect of the demand approach is offering planners an estimated number of locations to deliver required scholastic amenities. In addition, the social demand approach is a significantly appropriate political instrument to cater to the general public (Abbott, 2005). This approach has limitations, however, because it has little control over factors such as education costs. Furthermore, this approach lacks provisions for a framework to meet the needs in the educational arena.

Manpower Requirement Approach

Second, the manpower requirement approach is for the purpose of forecasting an economy's manpower requirements. With this approach, the education system output is necessary to meet future manpower needs. Abbott (2005) proposes that manpower leaves big gaps and imbalances in the output pattern of the education industry, and this needs to be revamped. He also suggests that manpower gives stakeholders in the education industry useful guidance for how to keep labor force educational qualifications balanced, to mitigate future crises. Nevertheless, this approach unreliably forecasts manpower requirements.

Cost Benefit Analysis

Third, the cost benefit analysis approach proposes that each education level be seen as an investment in learners, while helping to improve the entire economy. In addition, employee wages in different fields of work results from employees' diversity in their productivity and educational levels. The cost benefit analysis approach illustrates where the education system should expand to maximize the earning aptitude of various products.

Conclusion

Choosing a specific approach to educational planning is determined by policy framework and decisions from government stakeholders. The purpose of educational planning is to continually stimulate economic progress to enhance national welfare. Effective educational planning is also significantly instrumental in a country's political and socio-economic development. In countries with adequate resource distribution to the education sector and sufficiently managed educational institutions, significant economic growth is apparent. A good example of a country that embodies this is the United States and also other developed nations.

Even though resource needs pose a challenge, there still has been substantial changes made across the country (Abbott, 2005).

Educational planning is, therefore, vital for any country or region, particularly in the areas of economic, social, and political development. Which approach is chosen for an educational system depends on resource availability, as well as the goals and policies of a given country or region. Whichever approach is used, it must be used effectively to foster high educational standards as those in developed countries such as the United States and Japan.

References

- Abbott, John. (2005). Understanding and Managing the Unknown: *The Nature of Uncertainty in Planning Journal of Planning Education and Research*. 24; 237 DOI:
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