Supporting Lifelong Learning and Education of Geomatics Professionals

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Topics:

1. Lifelong learning (LLL) defined and aims
2. Organizing lifelong learning
3. Making policy work
4. Conclusions
5. Q & A
1. Perspectives on lifelong learning

- **Lifelong learning (LLL)** is defined as all learning activity undertaken throughout life, with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and competencies within a personal, civil, social and/or employment related perspective (EC, 2002)

- **Aims** are to promote:
  1. production and employment (global competition);
  2. social justice/cohesion;
  3. individuals’ achievements;
  4. good citizenship.
2. Organizing lifelong learning

- Forms of LLL (formal, non-formal and informal, Table 1); in schools, learning organizations and communities, learning cities.
- 15 quality indicators of LLL (Table 2)
- Sustainable geomatics curriculum (Table 3); linking knowledge to employment and individuals’ self-esteem.
- LLL are blended of:
  (a) face-to-face or distance learning (Web-based);
  (b) social/situated learning (Lave & Wenger, 1991);
  (c) work place learning.
- Demands: business, computer (GIS), language
Fig: e-Learning Management Menu
(PolyU and SMILE Technologies Ltd.)

School: Folia
School Year: 2003/2004
Semester: 2003,2

Manage Subject
Assignment
Assessment

Manage Subject: SM1001 INTRODUCTION TO SMILE

Topic List

Teaching Group
101
Group: 101

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Fig: e-Learning Subject Menu (PolyU and SMILE Technologies Ltd.)
3. Making policy work

- Welfare model (Government funded)
- Market-oriented model (user-pays, self-financed)
- International trend adheres market model (Fig. 1).
- Balanced welfare and market-oriented model
  - Broad access to curriculum and CPD programs, local and overseas; mass university education.
  - Government sponsorship/subsidies to educational institutions and programs (e.g., tax rebate/deduction in HK).
Fig. 1: Change of policy from social control to lifelong learning (Griffin, 2002)

Modern (nation) state → Postmodern (global) government

Policy

Functional & critical analysis

Welfare

Education

Strategy

Strategy analysis

Markets & quasi-markets

Lifelong learning
4. Conclusions

- Lifelong learning and education is needed to promote production and employment, social cohesion, individuals’ achievement, and good citizenship.

- To support lifelong learning:
  1. Formal, non-formal and informal learning/education (Table 1) are organized to fulfill demands according to quality indicators (Table 2)
  2. Government policy of lifelong education should adopt a balanced welfare- and market-oriented model.
  3. Government should collaborate with private sector and industries including professional institutions in organizing learning activities, linking curriculum with employment and self-esteem of geomatics professionals.
5. Questions & Answers

Thank you.