

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Department of Land Surveying & Geo-Informatics

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' selfesteem.
- 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.)



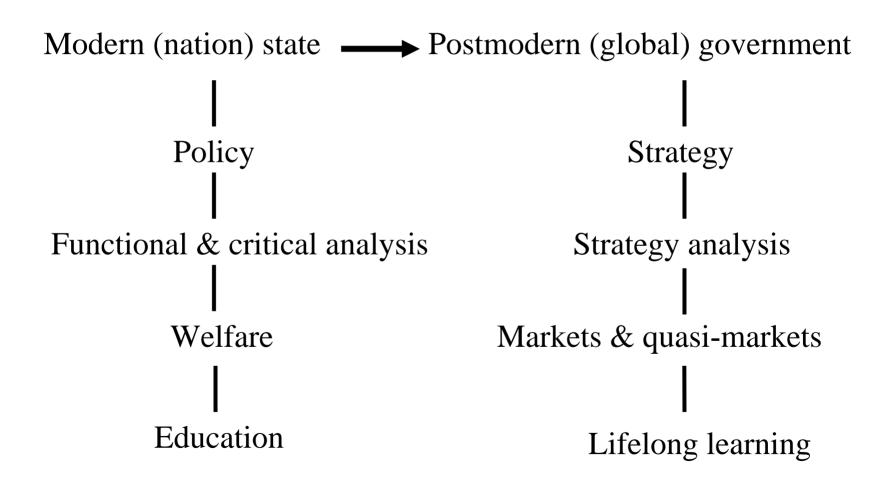
Fig: e-Learning Subject Menu (PolyU and SMILE Technologies Ltd.)



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)



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.