

## Building World-Class Universities in Thailand: Opportunities and Challenges

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Thailand requires world-class universities for the following reasons: 1) A number of prototype universities that converge, build and support intellectual or high capacity resources - those who have innovative ideas, creativity and strong cognitive ability. The universities will act as change agents, and will become a source of explicit knowledge, in depth researches and innovation in developing country. 2) Think tank for public, private and people sectors in critical areas of economic and social development. 3) To be a model, inspire and catalyst to the other universities in Thailand - to have a developed quality management education will lead to a higher level than the present. All these 3 reasons are significant in developing Thai social and economic ability competently and raise Thailand from middle-income country to high-income country.

The world-class universities have to contribute to become prototype universities that will have six roles: 1) access to knowledge, 2) gather knowledge continually, 3) accumulate knowledge, 4) produce knowledge, 5) integrate knowledge, 6) apply knowledge and 7) maintain knowledge.

The development towards becoming world-class universities should be carried out under the framework of three coordinated reformation: personnel, system and context.

**Personnel:** Directions are: 1) To increase performance of learners according to Araya Competency Model KSL 31220 and 2) To improve performance of management team towards professionalism.

**System:** Directions are: 1) Search and develop universities by their strengths, 2) Attract talented students and instructors around the world, 3) Develop excellence in research and innovation, 4) Apply international standard indicators to develop the universities, 5) Permit independent and openness to new forms of management, 6) A collaborative partnership of public and private sector organizations with world-class universities, 7) Development of multilingual institutions, 8) Creation of innovative funding and financial management, 9) Creation of cultural competition and cultural excellence.

**Context:** Directions are: Building a Unified Pluralistic Society and Intelligence Pollination.

Developing Thailand to have world-class universities is viable by planning strategically. It will be an opportunity for Thailand to progress in the development of higher education and to develop country for becoming a nation with high income economies.

**Keywords:** world-class universities, prototype universities, three coordinated reformation.

## **Thai and Global Educational Trends in the Next Decade of the 21st Century**

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This paper will compare Thailand's current educational goals, objectives, and rankings to those of countries throughout the world; posit ideas regarding future trends in global education; and then offer suggestions as to how international educational systems can incorporate today's universal educational philosophies to meet the challenges of a changing global society during the next decade. The paper will focus on the need for the world's schools to: overcome poverty; facilitate respect and support multicultural diversity; promote international peace and understanding; and implement a constructivist philosophy of learning so that students can become creative and innovative thinkers; technologically advanced researchers and scholars; cooperative, understanding communicators proficient in English and other languages; caring, supportive international partners; world and local community volunteers; and supporters of global health and financial stability. This in turn will lead to an enlightened global population of life-long learners.