

2015 INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT ON THE TEACHING PROFESSION COUNTRY UPDATE ON 2014 GOALS

HONG KONG

1) *Providing comprehensive support for the ethnic minority students in education*

- The government is committed to encouraging and supporting the integration of non-Chinese speaking (NCS) students, notably ethnic-minority students into the community, including facilitating their early adaptation to the local education system and mastery of the Chinese language.
- Announced in the 2014 Policy Address is a series of enhanced measures to step up the support for NCS students to help them overcome the difficulties of learning Chinese as a second language. The support measures include: enhancing learning and teaching of the Chinese language and teachers' professional development, providing school-based professional support, funding support, and other complementary support measures to schools admitting NCS students.

2) *Modernizing teaching and learning and learning environments through the use of information and communication technology*

- In line with the global trend of harnessing technology for more effective, interactive, and self-directed learning by students, the EDB launched an e-Textbook Market Development Scheme (EMADS) in 2012 for facilitating and encouraging the participation of potential and aspiring e-textbook developers to develop a diverse range of e-textbooks in line with the local curricula. A quality-vetting and assurance mechanism for e-textbooks with a view to drawing up progressively a full-fledged "Recommended e-Textbook List" has also been tried out.
- In 2014, the EDB proposed to implement the Fourth Strategy on IT in Education (ITE4). The stakeholders in general are supportive of the goal, general direction, and the proposed actions. In accordance with the consultation outcome, the measures have been fine-tuned and will be implemented by phases starting mid-2015, upon funding approval.

3) *Promoting career and technical education to provide diversity in students' career development*

- The government is committed to providing quality, flexible, and diversified study pathways with multiple entry and exit points for secondary school leavers. Vocational education and training play a pivotal role in broadening the learning opportunities for school leavers and in-service personnel, as well as nurturing the requisite human capital in support of HK's development.
- In the 2014 and 2015 Policy Addresses, a series of measures to help young people with life planning and strengthen vocational education has been announced. These measures include: strengthening life planning for secondary students; launching a Pilot Training and Support Scheme and an Industrial attachment program; and setting up a Task Force on Promotion of Vocational Education and Qualifications Framework (QF) Fund.