ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF ORGANIZING INNOVATIVE EDUCATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

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Introduction

In modern conditions, the promotion of innovative development of the economy is highly important, which also implies the organization of innovative education for the purpose of training qualified professional personnel. Innovative education is also an important factor in the development of civil society and a consequence of innovative pedagogical activeties that ensure the achievement of a new educational result, including its economic, managerial, social, environmental, health and other aspects. Innovative educational technologies are a regulated combination of actions, operations and procedures aimed at personal development, which technically ensure the obtaining of a diagnostic and predictable result in the process of professional education, as well as in the process of developing the individual style of interaction of students and teachers, common the unity of teaching forms and methods. The new educational standards introduce a new direction of assessment – to assess of personal achievement. This is due to the introduction of a humanistic paradigm of education and a person-centered approach to learning. In innovative education, health care technologies are of particular importance, the main task of which is health care and the analysis of its indicators.

Methodology

The theoretical and methodological basis for the research was the domestic and foreign author publications covering the issues of innovation education promotion, the published materials of the conferences, the legal acts of a normative nature regulating the functions and relationships of the considered fields, etc. The study used the methods of system-situational analysis, induction and deduction, comparative and factor analysis. In particular, through systemic and situational analysis, the possibilities of training qualified professional personnel through the organization of innovative education have been identified. With the help of induction and deduction methods, the impact of the innovative personality formed as a result of innovative education on the development of the socio-economic system, especially in terms of improving the functioning of the labor market, has been substantiated. Through comparative and factor analysis, the dynamics of the RA state budget expenditures in the education sector in 2010-2023 have been identified, as well as the main factors, influencing on the process of organizing innovative education.

Literature review

The issues of innovative development of the education sector have been considered in a number of works. In particular, the problems of using innovations in the education process are presented in the researches of Jimmy Casas, Todd Whitaker and Jeffrey Zoull [Casas et al., 2019, 10-150], where they analyze the personalization of professional learning, the promotion of educational culture, the design of educational spaces, the improvement of teaching and assessment approaches, the building of relationships with students, the positioning of libraries, the problems of promotion of technological transformations and development of professional and personal skills of teachers.

The issues of interaction between digital leadership and educational culture are explored in the research of Eric Sheninger [Sheninger, 2014, 10-250], where digital leadership is presented as a strategic way of thinking and behavior aimed at the formation and development of a meaningful, transparent and attractive school culture.

Dave Burgess's research [Burgess, 2012, 10-190] presents the practical educational approaches and innovative ideas, that can contribute to increasing student engagement, developing teacher creativity, transforming teaching and learning.

Scientific novelty

The article revealed the mechanisms of the development of education sector through the organization of innovative education. In particular, as ways of organizing innovative education, the use of innovative educational technologies, the increase in funding for the process of digital transformation of the education sector, the promotion of the creation and development of innovative educational infrastructures, the activation of interaction between science, business and the state, as well as the use of foreign leading experience in the organization of innovative education were proposed. Taking into account the effective approaches to organizing innovative education proposed by Jimmy Casas, Todd Whitaker, Jeffrey Zull, Eric Scheninger, and Dave Burgess, the need to strengthen the institutional foundations for organizing innovative education in the Republic of Armenia has been substantiated.

Analysis

It is obvious, that innovative education also contributes to the formation of an innovative personality. A modern man capable of hard work is defined in the world scientific literature as an "innovative personality". The concept of "innovative personality" was first introduced in 1962 by the scientist Everett Hagen - as a prerequisite for the strengthening of economic growth, the spread of entrepreneurship and the accumulation of capital [Hagen & Everett, 1963, 20-34]. Some typological features of the innovative personality can also be found in the works of the French sociologist M. Crozier, who notes, that the ability of people to show initiative in modern conditions becomes a more significant factor of development, than the use of material resources [Spiridonova, 1997, 10-200]. Howe-

ver, proposed by Alex Inkeles the analytical model of innovative personality is particularly noteworthy, the main components of which are [Inkeles, 1977, 139–200]:

- readiness for tests and other quality changes,
- recognizing and affirming pluralism - without fear of changing one's vision of the world,
- the orientation towards the clear focus on the present and the future,
- the ability to save one's own and others' time, accuracy, punctuality,
- self - confidence and ability to overcome any obstacles (political, economic, social, etc.),
- the ability to plan one's own actions to achieve - both career and other socially important goals,
- legal trust in the regulation and predictability of social life (including economic laws, trade rules, public policy),
- a sense of fairness in the distribution of material and other benefits, confidence in the appropriateness of the remuneration received for the skills and efforts invested,
- recognition of the value of education, science and information,
- respect for the feelings and dignity of others.

Analyzing the works devoted to the problems of the innovative personality, it can be noted, that the main quality of the innovative personality is the ability to quickly adapt to the developments of social life, both in terms of changing the conditions of social life and self-change.

Referring to the problems of organizing innovative education, we should also note, that the need for innovative educational activities is due to the following:

- through the radical renewal of the educational system, with the improvement of the educational policy,
- by searching for new organizational forms and learning technologies,
- by changing the attitude of teachers towards the assimilation and application of educational innovations, etc.

In the process of organizing innovative education, modern healthcare technologies are also highly important [Zakharyan, 2023, 585-591]. Currently, the use of health technologies in the field of education is inextricably linked to the daily monitoring of students' health status against the background of the spread of viral infections and diseases, ensuring a balanced diet, participating in sports groups, promoting a healthy lifestyle, ensuring the cleanliness of educational areas and observing the rules of personal hygiene, conducting outdoor classes whenever possible, as well as also with the demonstration of an individual psychological approach to each student in each specific situation [Zakharyan, 2023, 62-67].

Obviously the current stage of technological progress, which is accompanied by massive digitization [Yudina, 2017, 139–143.] and information [Lonsky, 2015, 29–35] processes, implies the implementation of global changes in all spheres of life of society members. The society, whose level of development is interconnected with technologies and work tools, is currently in the phase of adapting to new technological conditions. This process corresponds to the definition of the industrial revolution – as the restructuring of society under the influence of innovations in technology and techniques. The high rate of innovation of production significantly increases the role and importance of innovative technologies, as well as education and science – as the fields that produce these technologies [Zakharyan, 2022, 321-365].

It should also be noted, that the "Educational Programs Center" of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia will implement innovative and development programs in higher educational institutions within the framework of the credit program for additional funding for the improvement of education, contributing to the development of the teaching and learning environment, research capabilities [The Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of RA, 2022]. These programs will be implemented through the component "Support to the Development of the Competitive Fund for Innovations". The grants of the Competitive Fund for Innovations will be directed on a competitive basis to the implementation of innovation and development programs in universities, to the strengthening of their general capabilities. The provision of grants will simultaneously contribute to the improvement of the quality and efficiency of the educational activities of higher educational institutions, the development of the management system, the modernization of professional educational programs and teaching methods, the introduction of scientific research works into the educational process, as well as the development of relations with the labor market. Taking into account the challenges of the time, the new round of the Competitive Fund for Innovations organized within the framework of the "Additional Financing of the Education Improvement Program" will be in line with the 2021-2026 years program of the Government of the Republic of Armenia and will contribute to improving the quality of education in natural science, engineering, informatics, mathematics and geography.

Below the expenses of the RA state budget in the field of education is presented.

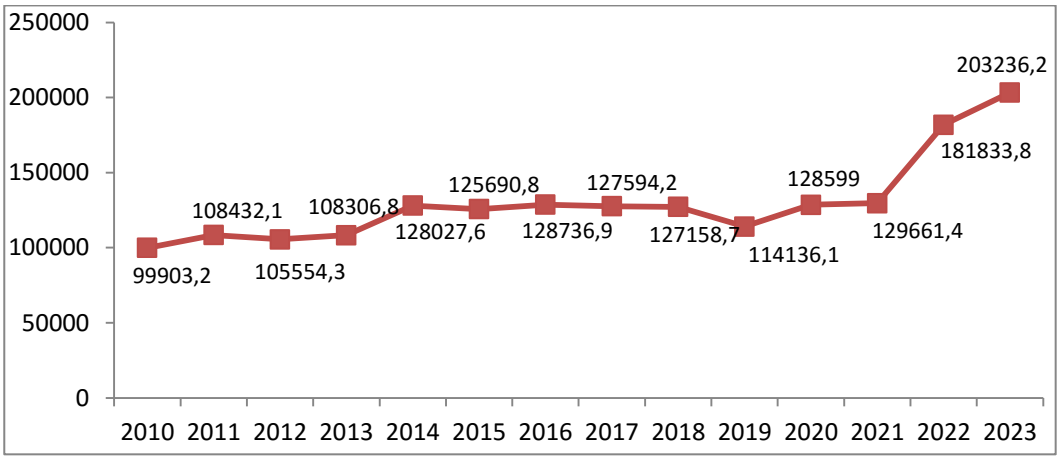

Chart 1. RA state budget expenditures in the field of education in 2010-2023. (million drams) [RA State Budget, 2010-2023]

The data in Chart 1 prove that compared to 2010, the state budget expenditures in the field of education in 2023 increased by 103333.0 million drams. However, it should be noted that in 2017-2019 there were some reductions in the state budget expenditures in the field of education, which, in our opinion, is due to the change in the demographic situation and migration. At the same time, we should also note that the funding of science in 2022 was increased by an unprecedented 82.8% compared to the previous year, making 25.1 billion drams, on the initiative of the RA government.

Currently, within the framework of the "Additional financing of the Education Improvement Program" loan program implemented with the co-financing of the World Bank and the support of the "Educational Programs Center", the "Educational Center for the Development and Research of Optical Microsystems" is being established at Yerevan State University [The Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of RA, 2024]. The scientific and educational center will be equipped with the material and technical base necessary for the micro processing of modern optical and optoelectronic devices, using them for the preparation of high-tech microsystems in the fields of bio-optics, information processing and telecommunications. In the scientific-educational center, using the latest equipment, optical microsystems will be developed in accordance with international standards, based on which new researches will be carried out, which will contribute to increasing the efficiency of education and researches. With its activities, the center will also promote interdisciplinary cooperation, as well as train high-tech professionals.

It is obvious, that the organization of innovative education and increasing the efficiency of financing the education sector will significantly improve the functioning of the labor market, generating various micro- and macroeconomic multiplier effects. The latter will lead to the activation of cooperation between the state and the private sector, which, in

turn, will expand the possibilities of financing the education sector. In addition, the probability of students finding a job in their specialty will also increase, which will improve their standard of living and, at the same time, will arouse a desire to continue their studies and deepen their professional knowledge.

Conclusion

In the Armenian reality, the role of the education system has always been emphasized, both as a factor determining the progress of development, and as an important means contributing to the improvement of the living standard of the population. Innovative education is an important addition to the general educational complex, due to the modern conditions of development.

Taking into account the current state of socio-economic development of the Republic of Armenia, we can offer the following ways of organizing innovative education:

- Application of innovative educational technologies,
- Increasing the financing of the process of digital transformation of the education sector,
- Stimulating the creation and development of innovative educational infrastructures,
- Activation of interaction between science, business and the state,
- Application of leading foreign experience in organizing innovative education.

Summarizing, it is necessary to note, that the organization of innovative education has an important strategic importance and can contribute both to the development of the educational system of RA, as well as to the provision of the labor market with qualified professional personnel and to the improvement of the standard of living of the members of the society.

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In the Republic of Armenia, the development of the education system is of great importance, since the latter is the most important means of developing business and improving the standard of living of the population. An innovative educational system involves the organization of modern and in-demand innovative education simultaneously at all educational levels. Therefore, it is necessary to take into account the national and social mentality, traditions, that have developed in the field of education, as well as the many years of teaching experience of famous specialists. Particular attention should be paid to the issues of digital transformation of the education sector and the use of health-saving technologies, as they contribute to more effective learning for students. The digital transformation of the education sector can significantly contribute to deepening the interaction between science, business and the state, and intensifying innovation and investment activeties, which follows from modern requirements of economic development. In this regard, it is especially important to study the possibilities of financing the education sector in the Republic of Armenia, which determines the relevance of the topic of our study.