

China Development Research Foundation



China

The China Development Research Foundation (CDRF) is a public foundation initiated by the Development Research Center of the State Council (DRC). Its mission is to advance good governance and public policy to promote economic development and social progress.

Our work within the framework Global Career Readiness Initiative

- CDRF established the "For the Future" program, which carries out a series of social experiment projects including:
 - "Occupation Guides the Future" training camp: this activity is designed to help students clarify their career goals, enhance soft skills, and build a strong foundation for future success.
 - "New Directions" training sessions: a platform built up for knowledge exchange and professional growth among vocational school leaders and senior educators. The program encourages participants to exchange ideas, reflect on real-world challenges, and co-develop new strategies for school improvement.
 - Curriculum development: the program collaborated with experts and instructors from pilot schools to develop green skills guidelines and course content for six industrial fields.
- The Initiative conducts experiments in changing the school management philosophy of secondary vocational principals, bringing in advanced vocational education knowledge and techniques, advocating a positive campus culture, reinforcing the power of vocational schools, and boosting the self-respect and self-confidence of secondary vocational school students. It will also conduct scientific and objective third-party monitoring and evaluation on the experiment process and results.



Partnerships & Alliances

- Vocational schools implementing CDRF's training programme.
- Peking University and Beijing Normal University, supporting research and evaluation.
- Domestic and international companies supporting industry-aligned training and employment pathways.
- Providing research and pilot recommendations for national and local government education bureaus for policy improvement.



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China Landscape

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Data - Transition From School To Work (China)

Indicators for youth between 15 - 24 years old

Unemployment
Youth
(ILO, 2023)

17.4%
male

14.0%
female

Current State of Career Readiness

- China's **Implementation Plan for the Reform of National Vocational Education** strengthens and modernises vocational training to meet labour market needs, improve quality, and expand skilled employment opportunities.
- Opinions of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council on Implementing the Employment-Priority Strategy prioritises job creation, enhances employment services, and supports stable, high-quality, full employment.

Challenges and Gaps

- There is currently a gap between the rapid development of new technologies and their slower adoption within industry, combined with the education system's slow pace of adaptation. This dual lag makes it challenging to prepare students with the relevant, up-to-date skills needed to meet evolving labour market demands.

Emerging Trends

- **Innovative teaching methods**, including the use of multimedia, VR/AR, and online courses to make teaching more intuitive and flexible.
- **Personalised learning** through big data analysis and development of digital resource libraries to enrich materials and optimise teaching content.

Recommendations

- Stronger and faster integration between industry and the vocational education system, with increased emphasis on teacher training to ensure relevant, up-to-date instruction.

Call to Action

- We encourage greater investment in developing high-quality career readiness curricula and in comprehensive teacher training to better prepare students for the demands of the modern workforce.