

It is time to change the vision of the educational process as rigid algorithm implementation of the curriculum. The university administration should promote the expression of creative activity of students, development of new educational and industrial platforms and mobile respond to changing production needs.

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EDUCATION IN ZAMBIA: AN OVERVIEW

The Republic of Zambia is a landlocked country with a total surface area of 752,614 square kilometres. It is situated on a high plateau in south-central Africa and takes its name from the Zambezi River [5]. Zambia has experienced rapid economic growth over the last decade as Africa's second largest copper producer after the DR Congo [6].

Furthermore, Zambia has one of the world's fastest growing populations with the UN projecting that its population of over 13 million (according to the 2010 census of population and housing) will triple by 2050 [6]. The 2010 census estimates that 45.4 per cent of the population are aged below 15 years. In other words, the country overall has a young population [7].

The Zambian education system has a 7-5-4 structure, namely 7 years at primary school, 2 and 3 years at junior and higher secondary school respectively, and 4 years at university for undergraduate degrees [3].

In Zambia, the academic year begins in January and ends in December, and is divided into three terms. The school day usually starts at 07:00 but finishes by lunchtime.

The official primary school entrance age is 7, although private schools are more flexible in their admissions and may allow children to begin school earlier.

English is the primary language of instruction in Zambian public schools. Children are also required to learn an additional local language, depending on their provincial district [2].

Primary education lasts through grades 1 to 7 and is divided into two sections: lower (grades 1-4) and middle (grades 5-7) basic education. Pupils are expected to complete primary education by the age of 14. Subjects taught at primary school include literacy, Zambian language(s), English language, numeracy, mathematics, environmental science, science, environment and home economics, social studies, technology studies, expressive arts, and physical development. The medium of instruction is mainly English, but the teacher may

use a local language to help those pupils who may experience problems in understanding English.

At the end of grade 7, pupils sit the examination prepared by the Examinations Council of Zambia (ECZ). Successful pupils are awarded the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) and, depending upon their marks, they gain access to secondary education.

Secondary education is divided into two cycles: junior secondary, or the upper stage of basic education, covering two years (grades 8 and 9); and the three-year senior secondary cycle (grades 10-12).

Compulsory subjects taught at the junior secondary level include English, mathematics, environmental science, history, geography and civics. The following subjects are optional: religious education, commercial subjects (i.e. office practice, typing, book-keeping), industrial arts (i.e. technical drawing, woodwork, metalwork), music, creative art, home economics and French.

At the senior secondary level, subjects such as English, mathematics, biology, physics, chemistry (physical science), English literature, geography, history, Zambian languages, commerce, principles of accounts, additional mathematics, additional science, industrial arts, arts, fashion and fabrics, food and nutrition, and religious education are taught.

It is worth noting that all subjects throughout the junior and secondary school levels are taught in English, except Zambian languages [1; 8].

Junior secondary ends with the pupils sitting their Junior Secondary School Leaving Examination (JSSLE), usually referred to as the Grade 9 exams. The Grade 9 or JSSLE is an examination that is administered to candidates in order for them to proceed to high school. Students, who pass the examination, progress to Grade 10. The Certificate obtained at this level is a pre-requisite for eligibility to register for examination at Grade 12. In other words, the JSSLE Certificate is a requirement for a candidate to undertake registration for Grade 12 examination [4].

At the end of grade 12, students sit the School Certificate Examination which is also used for selection for the university and colleges.

In Zambia, technical and vocational education and training is offered at the following qualifications levels: trade tests, crafts, technician (certificates), and diploma/technologists.

Tertiary education is offered in universities, specialized institutes or colleges. Technical institutes and colleges offer a variety of two-year certificate and three-year diploma programmes. At the university level, bachelor's degree programmes normally last four years. Clinical master's degree programmes (medicine and veterinary) are offered on a part-time basis with the minimum period of study of four and a maximum of eight years [8].

References

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Namibia

EDUCATION SYSTEM IN NAMIBIA

Джастус Понгені Хайкалі

Намібія

ОСВІТНЯ СИСТЕМА НАМІБІЇ

The Namibian Educational system is divided into three categories and each category prepares the learner with different responsibility for the next category till them each University level.

Education	School/Level	Grade From	Grade To	Age From	Age To	Years
Primary	Elementary Education	1	7	6	13	7
Secondary	Secondary Education	8	12/13	14	17	5/6
Tertiary	Higher Education					