

FOR THE JUSTICE OF DEVELOPMENT: CONCEPTS, STRATEGIS AND PRACTICES OF METEOROLOGICAL CONTINUING EDUCATION IN CHINA

It is a universal appeal of continuing education in different countries and regions to provide all of the social members with lifelong learning resources and opportunities to make them sustainably obtain the ability of adaption and development and ultimately to promote the common development of individuals and society. However, increasing the total amount of educational resources, advancing educational methods and techniques, and breaking time and space limitation by distance-education, smart phones and other social media, do not necessarily narrow the gap between learners in different countries and regions. There are three factors which have an effect on it: the local social and economic development level, the perception of being educated, the ability of assessing to educational resources and opportunities and making changes both in professional career and everyday-life. Furthermore, the development of information technology would be likely to widen the gap and aggravate the unbalance of continuing education in different counties and regions in the world. Actions should be taken in the future to ensure the justice of continuing education development, especially for the learners in less developed areas all over the world.

With a background of an emerging market economic, the unbalanced situation faced by the meteorological continuing education in China is very similar to that of the continuing education in the world. Chinese meteorological services and bureaus cover 31 provinces, 330 cities and 2170 counties, from the developed coastal areas to the less developed inland areas in China. And nowadays China Meteorological Administration has reached the number of employees to 112,832 across the whole country. On issues of the unbalance of continuing education in different areas and the justice of development, Chinese meteorological continuing education would provide some major insights grounded deeply in practices. These insights include providing learners with distinct continuing education opportunities and contents based on different demands, improving the overall quality of continuing education to promote fairness and justice, innovating the mechanism of allocation of educational resources at the grassroots level especially for the learners in less developed areas.

About shaping the future of continuing education, the experiences of Chinese meteorological continuing education make such viable vision statements as follows: It is not enough to claim the total amount of education resources and the advancement of education methods and techniques. We should pay much more attention to the social and economic systems in which continuing education systems embedded, as more as learners' working and living conditions. Different and targeted continuing education activities should be taken to provide learners with various development paths and to improve their working and living conditions effectively, which would eventually make a common progress of individuals and society.

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