



BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

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KEY CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

1. Significant changes in Education Structure – New National Education System for the 21st Century (SPN21)
2. Brunei Teacher Standard project
3. Implementation of e-Hijrah project

1. Significant changes in Education Structure – New National Education System for the 21st Century (SPN21)

The SPN21 aims to:

- Fulfill the needs and challenges of the social and economic development of the 21st Century
- Realise the Ministry of Education's vision and mission
- Develop 21st Century Skills
- Fulfill the Strategic Themes as outlined in the Ministry of Education's Strategic Plan 2007 – 2011

SPN21 was designed with the firm commitment of the Ministry of Education Brunei Darussalam to ensure that it will bring the best out of students in and out of the school system, and in the world of work. It is designed with the intention to fit the system to students and allows highly capable students to complete their secondary education in a shorter period of time (four years). This will benefit the nation in its effort to optimize human resource development.

Initiatives taken by the Department of Schools, Department of Inspectorate and Human Resource Department under the Ministry of Education Brunei Darussalam are:

1.1 Embarking Continuous Professional Development and clear career pathway for teaching staff.

The relevant authorities in the Ministry of Education especially the Department of School is taking necessary steps to uplift the performance of its teaching personnel,

that is, motivating teachers by providing training for teachers so that teachers may find themselves happy and enjoy their work in the new system of education (SPN21).

1.2 Organising School Leadership Programme for Principals (secondary schools) and Head Masters (primary schools) at Institute for Leadership, Innovation and Advancement, Universiti Brunei Darussalam

- The School Leadership Programme in Brunei Darussalam was first launched in March 2010 with the aim of developing visionary and effective leaders in schools towards achieving the inspiration of Brunei National Education System SPN 21 i.e. towards achieving an excellent teaching and learning environment that will support student learning and educational system. Our School Leadership Programme is an action learning based programme that aims to drive improvement in leadership and performance at many levels over a 4 to 6 month period. In order to drive improvement, participating school leaders need to implement transformational projects that would uplift students' achievement in their respective schools.
- School leaders along with their two teachers holding administrative positions are invited to join the programme. As individuals, they are exposed to best practices and leading thinkers to improve their personal leadership capability. As school teams, they learn tools and carry out activities that are designed to improve their alignment and effectiveness. School leaders and their teams work on real problems that exist in their school. Based on feedback, strategies and execution plans are continually defined.

2. Brunei Teacher Standard Project

The Brunei Teacher Standard (BTS) is formulated in response to His Majesty's 'titah' (speech) and to uphold the continuous efforts of the Ministry of Education in providing quality education to Brunei citizens. BTS is intended to ensure sustainability and its relevance at present and for future generations. In 2010, the Department of Schools Inspectorate, the Department of Schools and Human Resource Development Section have worked collaboratively and have enlisted the expertise from Universiti Brunei Darussalam to prepare a framework and instruments for BTS.

The Ministry of education has also sent three officials to discuss the proposal with a consultant from the United Kingdom to design a suitable package to be used in the implementation of BTS. At the moment, BTS is awaiting approval from the highest authority and once approved, it will be launched in stages and the Department of School Inspectorate will be the secretariat.

The objectives of BTS are to equip participants with the necessary skills relevant to their roles in order to achieve the strategic goals. It also aims at formulating a framework and standard in order to create a common language towards MOEs strategic plans. Furthermore, BTS is aimed at ensuring that participants understand the role of BTS in the context of education and teaching profession as a whole. The outcomes of the implementation of BTS will produce qualified assessors and all teachers in Brunei Darussalam will be benchmarked according to international standards.

STATUS OF OPEN DISTANCE EDUCATION OR E-LEARNING IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

- A new policy for Open and Distance Education for Brunei Darussalam has been endorsed by the Brunei Darussalam National Accreditation Council (BDNAC).
- The Ministry of Education Brunei Darussalam through the BDNAC has recognised the Open and Distance Learning mode of study.
- The main aim of this policy is to help working communities/adults who have no opportunities to further their studies as a full time student due to various circumstances.

IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES FOR 2012 - 2015

The e-Hijrah Three Strategic Pathways: **“Whole School ICT Development”**; **“i-Services”** and **“Foresight and Innovation”**

The three Strategic Pathways of change as mentioned above must occur in the culture and infrastructure of both schools and the Ministry of Education Brunei Darussalam in order to achieved the following e-Hijrah Goals:

- i. Providing a Next-Generation, Reliable and Secure Network for All Government Schools and the Ministry of Education
- ii. Providing Dedicated, Real time, and On-Site Support Services for School and Ministry of Education Computing Equipment
- iii. Enable the Ministry of Education to Access Management Information for Real-time, Evidence Based Decision Making & Support for District Managers, Schools and Communities
- iv. Deeply Integrate ICT into Every Aspect of SPN21 & Future Curriculum, in Every Subject Area
- v. Enable Authentic & Engaging Learning through 21st Pedagogies.

- vi. Uniquely Blend Malay Islamic Monarchy (MIB) concept and Next-Generation ICT Skills and Competencies within the Curriculum
- vii. Produce ICT Confident and Capable Global Citizens grounded in Bruneian Values and Beliefs.