

and incentivizes the operation of community colleges with an inspection, guidance, and reviewing mechanism of the subsidies in place to ensure the effectiveness and steady development of community colleges.

B Lifelong Learning for Senior Citizens

By the year 2025, the number of people aged 65 years or above will account for 20.7% of the population, making Taiwan a “hyper-ageing society.” To ensure a learning system is in place for senior citizens, the MOE has helped local institutions set up 369 senior learning centers nationwide. The services provide courses adapted to aging. The programs link local characteristics and contribute services. In addition to learning centers, 87 universities open their campuses to senior citizens, who enjoy access to the schools’ resources and the opportunity to learn alongside youth. The MOE also subsidizes “leaders of self-directed senior citizens learning groups” that it trains to organize autonomous and self-service learning, with 243 such groups regularly bringing senior citizens in remote areas or rural-urban fringes and their family members a degree of education, helping to nurture a lifelong learning society.

C Family Education

The Family Education Act and stage 3 of the Mid-Range Plan for Promoting Family Education (2022-2026) attempt to increase professional manpower, strengthen resource integration, bolster social protection coverage, and improve the knowledge and skills of family education, the



four major policy goals. All levels of government will coordinate in order to enforce the measures, strengthen family education practices, and realize the preventive function of family education.

D Innovative Social Education Institutions and Libraries

1 “Phase II Plan of Intelligent Learning Service for All – Technological Innovation Service Plan of National Social Education Institutions (2021-2024)” is the basis for the sub-projects the “intelligent museum” and the “intelligent library.” The sub-projects aim to connect 10 social education institutes under the MOE with intelligent technologies so that they can work together as “intelligent museums” and “intelligent libraries” to integrate and share resources among national educational centers around Taiwan. To continue with the objectives and results of Phase I Plan, Phase II will apply the latest information technology to upgrade the services provided. Resources will be integrated on educloud so that users will enjoy easier access to information and customized services.

- 2 “The Plan of Optimizing Environment and Services of National Social Education Institutions (2021-2024)”: Upgrading buildings and ensuring public safety; maintaining a comfortable environment and friendly services; optimizing infrastructure and improving professional image; applying technology in new services and establishing a learning environment for people of all ages.
- 3 Science museums under the MOE will serve as future national bases of intelligent learning. The five museums under the MOE held the first “Taiwan Science Festival” in 2020 by integrating public and private resources for popular science education. The purpose is to open up the possibilities of science education, to promote scientific thinking in people’s daily lives, and to improve scientific literacy.
- 4 To promote sustainable development of libraries and provide a high-quality learning environment, draw up the “Implementation Directions for National Central Library and Public Libraries to Improve Reading Quality

with subsidy by MOE.” The “Southern Branch of the National Central Library and National Repository Library Construction Project (2018-2025)” and the “Plan to Construct a Cooperative and Shared Library System (2019-2026)” are also part of the greater plan for library improvement.

E Informal Education and Open Universities

There are two open universities in Taiwan: National Open University and Open University of Kaohsiung. Enrollment is exam-free. Citizens aged 18 years or above can enroll in open universities as non-degree students. When they gain 40 credits, they can transform into full-time students, and there is no limit on the length of their study. When they gain 128 credits, they will be awarded a bachelor’s degree. An associate degree is awarded with 80 credits earned. There were 23,715 students in open universities in SY2022 (14,680 at the National Open University

