

education, the MOE implemented the Medium-Term Development Plan for International Education in Primary and Secondary Schools in August 2023. In response to the trends in international education and to streamline organizational structures in line with administrative simplification, the plan involved integrating interdisciplinary resources. It was jointly implemented by the central government, local authorities, and primary and secondary schools nationwide, aiming to move towards the vision of “connecting internationally and linking globally.” The plan outlined four strategies and nine action plans, including enhancing the cultivation of international education talents, promoting international education curriculum, facilitating international exchange and cooperation, and strengthening the support mechanism for international education. The implementation period is from 2023 to 2028, with an initial investment of NT\$140 million in the first year, increasing gradually each year. The plan targets all primary and secondary schools nationwide, with the two main development focuses being deepening curriculum initiatives and expanding international exchanges. The key implementation priorities are to demonstrate national values, respect cultural diversity and international understanding, enhance international mobility, and fulfill global citizenship responsibilities.

## 2 Four Strategies

- A. Enhance the Capability of International Education Talents:** Continuously conduct training and capacity building for international education talents, and establish a professional counseling network for international education.
- B. Promote International Education Curriculum:** Popularize and deepen international education curriculum, and

expand the promotion of international education teaching resources.

- C. Facilitate International Exchange and Cooperation:** Enhance exchanges between domestic and foreign schools, and facilitate alliances between domestic and foreign schools.
- D. Strengthen the Support Mechanism for International Education:** Integrate the organizations promoting international education and establish internationalized campuses.

- 3** To strengthen international education exchanges at primary and secondary schools, the “Primary and Secondary School International Educational Exchange Alliance” have been formulated. This alliance will be led by the education minister as the chair, with two vice-chairs. The deputy minister of the MOE and the director general of the K-12 Education Administration of the MOE will serve as vice-chairs, and a chief executive and a deputy chief executive will be appointed. They will coordinate international education exchanges and promote related matters such as international education exchange programs. Additionally, 11 regional offices have been established based on the number of primary and secondary schools in each municipality or county. Each regional office has one director, who is principal of a senior high school within the region, appointed by the chair. Through the Primary and Secondary School International Education Exchange Alliance, the aim is to enhance exchanges between domestic primary and secondary schools and foreign schools, as well as to facilitate alliances between domestic and foreign schools, thereby steadily promoting international education exchanges in primary and secondary schools. ■

# Education Expenditures



The government has demonstrated the importance it attaches to educational development. The president announced on January 6, 2016, that some of the amended articles in the “Compilation and Administration of Education Expenditures Act,” which increased the percentage of funds allotted to education expenditures from 22.5% to 23% of the national budget, will be shared by the central government and local governments according to the law.

In the 1951 fiscal year, the education budget for all educational levels was NT\$213 million, which accounted for 1.73% of GDP; in the 2023 fiscal year, the figure has since reached NT\$1,003.09 billion, or 4.26% of GDP. The

budget for private educational institutions has risen from the 1961 fiscal year, when private institutions accounted for less than 10% of the total education budget. In fiscal year 2023, funding for private institutions reached 20.76% of the education budget. Public schools meanwhile enjoyed 79.24% of the budget. Looking at the breakdown of each education level of school, in SY2022, the total education budget was NT\$755.21 billion, of which preschool education accounted for 8.75%, primary, and junior high school education for 41.87%, senior high school education for 14.64%, higher education for 33.96% (junior colleges 0.71%, universities and colleges 33.25%), and 0.79% went to other institutions. ■