



# Meeting the Explosion of Higher Education in the Transforming Countries: Impact & Opportunities

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### **Increasing Demand for Higher Education**

#### Universities

 $\rightarrow$  Key institutions in processes of social change and development

→ Production of highly skilled labor and research output to meet perceived economic needs

→Tertiary graduation rates: Country's capacity to equip future workers with advanced and specialized knowledge and skills

#### Quality higher education and training:

In OECD countries individuals have strong incentives to obtain a tertiary qualification:

- higher salaries
- better employment prospects
- Crucial for economies that want to move up the value chain beyond simple production processes and products
- In developing countries, higher education is recognized as a key force for modernization and development

 $\rightarrow$  an increase in the demand for its access<sup>3</sup>

## **Current Stand in Higher Education Boom**

- **The number of people entering higher education has soared.** 
  - Percentage of adults worldwide with tertiary education

→ From 19 % in 2000 to 29 % in 2010

> Number of students around the globe in higher education

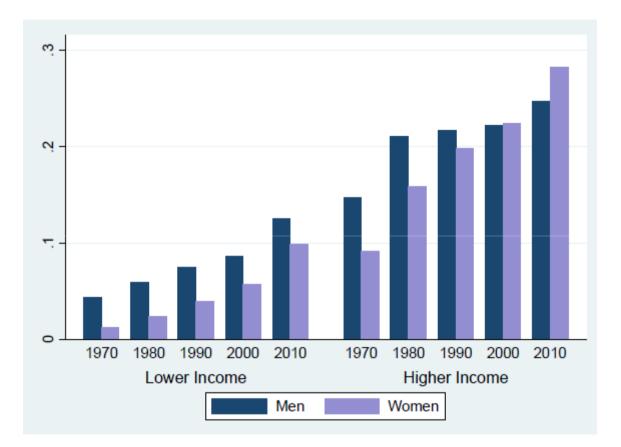
 $\rightarrow$  From 178 million in 2010 to 262 million by 2025<sup>\*2</sup>

- The source of that growth will change the dynamics of global higher education
- □ Two countries will be responsible for much of the increase in numbers<sup>\*3</sup>
  - ▶ China → an enrollment rate: 26 %
  - > India  $\rightarrow$  an enrollment rate: 18 %

In both countries, the population exceeds 1 billion

 Having already withstood the global economic crisis demand for university education is likely to hold strong<sup>\*4</sup>

### **Current Stand in Higher Education Boom**



#### Fraction of 30- to 34-Year-Olds with College Education, Countries Above Median Per Capita GDP and Below Per Capita GDP, by Sex

Garry S. Becker, William H. J. Hubbard, and Kevin M. Murphy: Explaining The Worldwide Boom in Higher Education of Women

### **Challenges that come along...**

- Students arriving at the admissions office are also changing
  - → More diverse: Age, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, understanding of technology, and nationality
- A different variety of demands: Racial sensitivity, night classes, child care
- Cultural differences
- Overwhelming numbers beyond the intake capacity
  - → Limited resources of library, furniture, computer laboratory, lecture rooms
  - $\rightarrow$  affects quality delivery
- Higher education is becoming increasingly competitive in terms of students, staff and resources
- Increasing demand for access to higher education by the masses
  - $\rightarrow$  From being the service of elite to a service open to the masses

## How to respond the demand

- Meeting the growing appetite for higher education:
  - **Private provision** is expanding
  - In past 20 years, provision across most of Latin America has flipped from being predominantly public to mostly private, which is now repeated in Asia
- Countries with ambitious enrolment targets:
  - Private education will inevitably make up much of the provision
    - $\rightarrow$  Speed of growth needed
- Concerns about the quality of private education
  - Examples of excellent non-profit institutions: India and South Korea
  - Growth in private provision
    - → An increase in the number of for-profit, "demand-absorbing" institutions

## Are there institutions enough to respond it? What is the remedy?

**Distance education**: One way to meet the escalating demand for higher education

**Hybrid models:** 308,000-student University of Phoenix's online campus

→ Degree programs through both online platforms and traditional campuses

□ Harvard University and the MIT are introducing massive open online courses

 $\rightarrow$  an effort to provide free, quality education to the masses

- □ The nationally funded and failed UK eUniversity in 2000
  - The Open University found, that you have to have some face-to-face contact
  - **The hybrid model** 
    - more potential
    - more expensive and difficult to implement

## What is the remedy?

#### **Transnational higher education:**

- Education delivered by foreign countries or their agencies
  - Online programs, franchises, courses given at University centers, correspondence courses
  - often of dubious quality
- Poor and developing countries are the major consumers of transnational higher education

### **Transnational Education**

- Education experts have pointed out that unregulated transnational education is in most cases
  - Low quality
  - Insensitive to recipients' national development priorities and social needs
  - Adverse impact on national regulatory authorities
  - subjects domestic higher education institutions to unfair competition
- **Transnational higher education providers** 
  - Usually reduce the minimum entry requirements to attract consumers
  - Do not invest adequately in receiving countries
  - High tuition

## Universities in Developing Countries

- □ Higher Education:
  - At the individual level  $\rightarrow$  Means of getting knowledge, skills and qualifications to get jobs
- **Students' choice of program is influenced by** 
  - fees structure –what parents can afford
  - **based** on their performance in relation to Universities' cut–off points
  - peer influence and parent's choice
  - prestige and public image of the program
- Therefore is not guided or influenced by the socio-economic needs of the country
- For improving the quality of higher education in developing countries:
  - → Appropriate policies and home-bred professionals are necessary

## **Universities in Developing Countries**

- Enormous hikes in spending on research and development and government drives to build world-class research universities in transforming countries
- The number of scientific papers being produced across the world is rapidly increasing, particularly in developing countries.
- China aims to increase spending from 1.8 per cent of gross domestic (\$179 billion) product to 2.5 per cent by 2020, → would put China on a par with the US.
- □ South Korea aimed to raise its figure to 5 per cent by the end of 2012

- As universities in developing countries improve and institutions get better at retaining their skilled academics,
- it may be the turn of Western institutions to confront the challenge drying-up stream of academic and student, talent

→ Fewer Brazilian postgrads heading for the US and more staying in Latin America

- Worldwide, the number of researchers within the population is increasing
  - **u** put research investment high on the agenda

## Universities in Developing Countries

- Although developing countries are yet to match the established scientific nations in terms of quality
  - but at least as measured through the number of citations by other researchers this is likely to change
- The number of internationally co-authored papers which on the measure of citation data are, on average, better quality has more than doubled since 1990
- More than a third of all research papers are the direct result of international collaboration.
- Collaborating with institutions in countries with young populations and booming research and development budgets may be one way for Western universities to maintain their top positions.

- Qatar, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates and China have all promoted internationalisation in national policy,
- $\rightarrow$  including inviting prestigious foreign universities to establish local campuses.
  - For students in the host country, this form of education is likely to be more accessible and cheaper than travelling to the UK or the US, while I allowing them to benefit from an institution's high "brand value"
- To date, foreign campuses have been the preserve of mainly US, European and Australian universities but it's only a matter of time!

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