

Cooperation in the field of vocational education and training: research on cooperation between learning places in the area of hotel management in Indonesia

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In Indonesia, Vocational High School (VHS), or generally known as *Sekolah Menengah Kejuruan* (SMK), is a formal vocational education program which aims to educate and to prepare well-qualified graduates who are capable of attending to all aspects of workspace in accordance with their competences. Furthermore, they are expected to serve as a competent person in business and industry for facing global competition (Depdiknas, 2003). The requirements for the qualifications and skills of employees will be higher than at present because the companies will use new technologies and smart media (Birkelbach et al., 2010). The changes in these qualification requirements of Industry can bring out a not demand oriented of the existing vocational education (Rauner & Grollmann, 2018). That is why the government of Indonesia had tried several times to restructure the education system in order to achieve the objectives of VHS. Too often changes in education policy, regulations, and curriculum also cause the low quality of vocational education and training because the vocational schools are not ready with the new curriculum. Another problems of VHS that lead to low quality of vocational education and training are lack of quality of “in-school training” as well as “in-company training”, the inadequacy of teacher training, the curriculum includes more general subjects which allow for more theories than practice, and insufficient cooperation between school and company. lack of qualified teachers and trainers also cause the rise of low qualified graduation. Related to this problem Tsimoschanka (2014) recommended a so-called learning places (school and company) cooperation program. Concerning vocational training, “In-company training” also plays a very important role. Learning in the workplace is always in the foreground of vocational training. Changes in technology and changing work concepts in companies call for cooperation between vocational schools and companies.

This research focuses on the cooperation between learning places (Vocational High School and Company) in the area of Hotel Management in Indonesia. The main aim of this research is to examine the cooperation activities of selection schools and hotels in four Provinces namely Maluku, Papua, Yogyakarta, Ost Java. To be closely examined and analysed are design of vocational training and education, implementation, financing, organizational structures and personnel development.

Hypothesis of this study are: 1) The national educational regulation promotes the implementation of the cooperation between learning places in vocational training and education heavily. 2) There is a difference of the Involving in Designing, implementation, Financing, efficient organizational structures and personnel development within the scope of the cooperation between learning places in the area of hotel management in Maluku, Papua, Yogyakarta and East Java.

Both qualitative and quantitative research methodology was employed in this study. Content Analysis was used to prove the Hypothesis 1 about the cooperation of learning places in the Education Law and Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia, while Quantitative questionnaire

was used to find out whether the industry involved in Vocational Education and Training in the 4 Province.

Furthermore, to compare, especially to find out whether there was a difference between the four provinces in the activities of cooperation between industry and vocational schools on each aspect mentioned above, Kruskal Wallis test was used, while the Mann Whitney test was used to compare two provinces. Welch Test was used to find out the difference in the overall aspects of industry participation for vocational education between the four provinces and the Tukey Test was used to compare two provinces. All tests were carried out with a significant level of alpha 5%.

The result showed that there was a significant difference between the activities of cooperation between Industry and Vocational High Schools in Maluku, Papua, East Java and Yogyakarta in terms of planning, implementation, finance and organizational structure and human resource development. The content analysis showed that there are only general formulation of the objectives and characteristics of the cooperation between learning places in education law and regulation, while the clear statements about it emerge in the national framework curriculum.

Based on the results of the research, a feasible concept for cooperation between learning places for Vocational school in Indonesia was developed. While it is conceded that the model developed cannot be implemented by the vocational school and industry in total from beginning, it is recommended that some of the inherent suggestion at micro level be taken up immediately.

References

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