

# Research on the Action Logic and Practice Path of Higher Vocational Education Enabling the “One Million Project”

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**Abstract:** The purpose of this paper is to discuss the logic and practice path of higher vocational education in empowering the “One Million Project” and its contribution to local economic development. Through the literature review and the construction of theoretical framework, this paper analyzes the interactive relationship between higher vocational education and regional economic development, and based on the case study of Heyuan Vocational and Technical College, the paper discusses the specific practice of higher vocational education in the areas of technical service, cultural service, talent service and people's livelihood service. It is found that higher vocational education effectively enhances the endogenous power and overall competitiveness of the local economy through the integration of industry and education and school-enterprise cooperation. At the same time, this paper also evaluates the effectiveness of the “One Million Project” empowered by higher vocational education and puts forward corresponding policy recommendations. Although the study has achieved certain results, there are limitations, and future research needs to further explore the role of higher vocational education in promoting the balanced development of the regional economy, as well as its potential for solving social problems and improving people's well-being.

**Keywords:** Higher vocational education; one million project; higher vocational education; integration of industry and education; regional economic development; service innovation.

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Research Background

The “One Hundred Million Project” is an important strategic initiative in China to promote coordinated regional development and realize common prosperity. The project aims to promote the high-quality development of 100 strong counties, 1,000 strong towns, and 10,000 strong villages, to promote the integrated development of urban and rural areas, to narrow the regional development gap, and to enhance the endogenous power of the county economy. In the current economic and social development, the importance of this project is becoming more and more prominent, which is not only related to the balanced development of the regional economy, but also a key factor in realizing social stability and harmony. Especially in the new normal economic situation, through the “one million project” can effectively promote industrial transformation and upgrading, enhance the overall competitiveness of the regional economy, and lay a solid foundation for the realization of the goal of comprehensively building a modern socialist country.

### 1.2. Research significance

As an important base for cultivating highly skilled talents, higher vocational education plays a crucial role in the “One Million Project”. Through close integration with local industries, higher vocational education can provide talent support and technical support for regional economic development. By adjusting the professional settings,

optimizing the curriculum system, strengthening practical teaching and other measures, higher vocational colleges and universities can better meet the demand for high-skilled talents in the upgrading of local industries. In addition, higher vocational education can also promote the optimization of local industrial structure and the transformation of economic growth mode through technological research and development and transformation of achievements, thus positively promoting the regional economic development.

### 1.3. Research Objectives and Problems

This study aims to solve the following problems: How can higher vocational education better serve the “One Million Project” by adjusting the education mode and content? In practice, how can higher vocational education and local industries realize in-depth integration to promote the high-quality development of regional economy? The goal of this study is to propose a set of systematic action logic and practice path for higher vocational education to empower the “One Million Project”, so as to provide reference and guidance for policy makers and educational practitioners. Through in-depth analysis of the relationship between higher vocational education and regional economic development, this study will explore the mechanism of the role of higher vocational education in promoting regional economic development, and how to realize the synergistic development of higher vocational education and regional economy through educational reform and innovation.

## 2. Literature Review

### 2.1. Research Status

Scholars at home and abroad have conducted extensive research on the relationship between vocational education and regional economic development. Gary Becker (Becker, 1964) proposed that education is an important way to enhance the human capital of individuals, through which individuals can acquire knowledge and skills, thus increasing their labor productivity and economic value. James Coleman's (Coleman, 1988) social capital theory emphasizes that social capital is the resources and support that an individual or an organization obtains through social networks and relationships, and the integration of industry and education builds a benign social capital network through university-enterprise cooperation, which is conducive to enhancing the trust and cooperation between colleges and universities and enterprises, and promotes the sharing and complementation of resources.

In China, research on vocational education and regional economic development has also made remarkable progress. Studies have shown that vocational education can adjust the professional settings and cultivation direction according to the economic demand and industrial structure of the region, match the education supply with the demand of the labor market, improve the employability and competitiveness of the regional labor force, and promote the flow of talents and the development of the regional economy (Li Chunping, 2024). For example, Heilongjiang Vocational College has effectively enhanced the endogenous power and overall competitiveness of the local economy through the integration of industry and education and school-enterprise cooperation (Zhang Bocong, 2024).

As an important strategy to promote coordinated regional development in China, the policy and practice of the "One Hundred Million Project" has received academic attention. The project aims to promote the integrated development of urban and rural areas and narrow the regional development gap by promoting the high-quality development of 100 strong counties, 1,000 strong towns, and 10,000 strong villages (Hu Wei, 2024). The Guangdong Provincial Party Committee, guided by Xi Jinping's Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics in the New Era, is vigorously implementing the "High-Quality Development Project of Hundred Counties, Thousand Towns, and Ten Thousand Villages," striving to promote the practice of Chinese-style modernization in Guangdong (Xiang Rui et al., 2024).

### 2.2. Research Review

Existing studies have revealed the important role of vocational education in regional economic development from the theoretical and practical levels. However, the current research still has some shortcomings, which are mainly reflected in the following aspects:

1. Limitations of research perspective: existing research mainly explores the relationship between vocational education and regional economic development from the macro level, and lacks in-depth analysis of specific practice paths and operation modes, especially the fewer cases of application of higher vocational education in specific regional economic development.

2. Inadequacy of empirical research: Although existing studies have revealed the positive influence of vocational education on regional economic development through

quantitative analysis, there are still some limitations in the acquisition of data and the application of analytical methods in specific empirical studies, resulting in the universality and reliability of the research results to be improved.

3. Lack of policy recommendations: Existing studies mostly focus on theoretical discussions and phenomenon descriptions, and lack targeted policy recommendations, especially on how to promote the deep integration of higher vocational education and regional economy through policy guidance and mechanism innovation, the research is relatively weak.

Based on the above analysis, the full necessity of this study is:

1. Filling the research gaps: through the systematic analysis of the specific practical paths of the "One Million Project" empowered by higher vocational education, this study fills the deficiencies of the existing studies in the operational level and practical paths, and provides theoretical guidance and practical references on how higher vocational education can better serve the regional economic development.

2. Enhance the depth of research: Through case studies and empirical analyses, we will explore the mechanism of in-depth integration between higher vocational education and local industries, and reveal the specific roles and realization paths of higher vocational education in promoting the high-quality development of regional economy, so as to enhance the depth and breadth of the research.

3. Provide policy suggestions: Based on the results of the study, targeted policy suggestions will be put forward to provide decision-making references for the government, educational institutions and enterprises in promoting the in-depth integration of higher vocational education with the regional economy, so as to promote higher vocational education to better serve the "One Hundred Million Project", and to realize the coordinated development of the regional economy and common prosperity.

This study will help deepen the understanding of the relationship between higher vocational education and regional economic development, promote the application of higher vocational education in regional economic development, and provide powerful support for realizing the goal of the "One Million Project".

## 3. Theoretical framework

### 3.1. Theoretical foundation of higher vocational education and regional economic development

The relationship between higher vocational education and regional economic development can be understood from two perspectives: human capital theory and endogenous growth theory. Human capital theory holds that education is an important way to enhance individual human capital, through which individuals can acquire knowledge and skills, thus increasing their labor productivity and economic value. Higher vocational education, as an important base for cultivating high-skilled personnel, enables the labor force to have higher skill levels by providing professional skill training and knowledge updating, thus promoting the growth of the regional economy.

Endogenous growth theory, on the other hand, emphasizes the central role of knowledge, technology and human capital

in economic growth. The theory argues that economic growth is determined by factors internal to the economic system rather than external forces. Higher vocational education becomes the core driver of innovative activities in the regional economy by cultivating talents with innovative spirit and entrepreneurial ability, who can bring in new business models, products and services and promote the optimization and upgrading of economic structure.

### **3.2. Theoretical Model of Industry-Education Integration**

The theoretical model of industry-education integration can be constructed from the dimensions of coupled economics and synergy theory. The theory of coupled economics emphasizes that the whole economic system is an interrelated whole, and there is a deep interactive relationship between vocational education and regional economic development. The specific mechanism of this relationship can be analyzed through coupled economics to reveal the coupled relationship of vocational education to regional economy, and further found through empirical analysis that vocational education inputs have a significant positive relationship with regional economic growth.

Synergy theory, on the other hand, emphasizes the cooperation and synergy between different subjects, and the integration of industry and education, as a kind of education model involving multiple subjects, involves multiple subjects such as government, enterprises, universities and industry associations, and improves the quality of talent cultivation through synergistic cooperation. The synergistic effect of the integration of industry and education can be realized through the construction of a “community” of collaborative education, forming a mechanism of collaborative education for talent cultivation, including the organization and operation mechanism, innovation-driven mechanism, resource building and sharing mechanism and support and guarantee mechanism.

### **3.3. Theoretical logic of “One Million Project” empowered by higher vocational education**

1. Demand-matching logic: by adjusting the professional settings and cultivation direction, higher vocational education matches the education supply with the demand of local industries, improves the employability and competitiveness of the regional labor force, and promotes the flow of talents and the development of regional economy.

2. Innovation-driven logic: the highly skilled and innovative talents cultivated by higher vocational education can promote the technological innovation and management innovation of regional enterprises and enhance the production efficiency, thus promoting the growth of regional economy.

3. structure optimization logic: higher vocational education can adjust the allocation of educational resources according to the regional economic demand, promote the optimization and upgrading of industrial structure, and promote the strategic adjustment of economic structure.

4. Social capital logic: through school-enterprise cooperation, higher vocational education builds a social capital network, enhances trust and cooperation between universities and enterprises, promotes resource sharing and complementation, and improves the overall competitiveness of the regional economy.

5. Logic of sustainable development: through cultivating talents with the concept of sustainable development, higher vocational education promotes environmental protection and green development, and realizes the harmonious symbiosis between economic growth and ecological environment.

## **4. Action Logic of Higher Vocational Education Enabling the “One Hundred Million Project”.**

### **4.1. Role positioning of higher vocational education in the “One Million Project”.**

As a cradle for cultivating highly skilled talents, higher vocational education plays a crucial role in the “One Million Project”. Firstly, higher vocational education is a talent pool for regional economic development, providing human resources and intellectual support for the “One Million Project” by cultivating professionals closely integrated with local industries. Secondly, higher vocational education is a bridge for technological innovation and knowledge dissemination, and through close cooperation with enterprises, it transforms the latest scientific research results into actual productivity and promotes the upgrading and transformation of local industries. In addition, higher vocational education is also a provider of social services, through vocational training, technology promotion and cultural heritage and other activities, to comprehensively improve the overall level of regional economic and social development.

In the “One Hundred Million Project”, higher vocational education needs to closely integrate with the local reality, give full play to its advantages in talent training, technology research and development, social services, etc., and provide all-round support for regional economic development. Higher vocational colleges and universities should become the source of local industrial development, and through school-enterprise cooperation and industry-teaching integration, promote the organic convergence of the education chain, talent chain and industrial chain and innovation chain.

### **4.2. The internal mechanism of higher vocational education empowering the “One Million Project”.**

The internal mechanism of higher vocational education empowering the “One Million Project” is mainly reflected in the following aspects:

1. Talent cultivation mechanism: by adjusting the professional settings and curriculum system, higher vocational education cultivates high-skilled talents in line with the needs of local industries, improves the matching degree of the labor market, and promotes employment and entrepreneurship.

2. technological innovation mechanism: through cooperative research and development with enterprises, higher vocational colleges and universities transform scientific research results into actual productivity, and promote the technological progress and innovation ability of local industries.

3. social service mechanism: higher vocational education meets the needs of local economic and social development and enhances the endogenous power of regional development by providing vocational training, technical counseling and other services.

4. cultural inheritance mechanism: as an important carrier of local cultural inheritance, higher vocational colleges and universities promote the inheritance and development of local culture by cultivating professionals with local cultural characteristics.

5. Sustainable development mechanism: higher vocational education focuses on cultivating students' concept of sustainable development, and promotes the green development of regional economy through green education and ecological education.

### **4.3. Logic of docking between higher vocational education and local industrial demand**

The docking logic of higher vocational education and local industrial demand is based on the principle of matching supply and demand, which is realized through the following steps:

1. Industrial demand analysis: higher vocational colleges and universities need to gain a deep understanding of the development status and future trends of local industries, and identify the key needs and potential challenges of the industries.

2. Dynamic adjustment of majors: According to the results of industrial demand analysis, higher vocational colleges and universities should adjust their professional settings in a timely manner, develop new majors closely related to the development of local industries, and update and optimize the existing majors.

3. Curriculum and teaching reform: Higher vocational colleges and universities should cooperate with enterprises to jointly develop curriculum content, introduce actual cases and projects, and enhance students' practical ability and innovative spirit.

4. Reinforcement of practical teaching: Through school-enterprise cooperation, students are provided with internship and practical training opportunities, so that they can learn and grow in a real working environment and improve their vocational skills and employment competitiveness.

5. Combination of industry-university-research and application: Higher vocational colleges and universities should cooperate with enterprises, research institutes and other parties to promote the transformation and application of scientific research results and enhance the technological innovation ability of local industries.

6. Continuous tracking and feedback: establish an effective feedback mechanism to continuously track and evaluate the effect of talent cultivation in higher vocational education, and continuously adjust and optimize the educational content and methods according to the development changes of local industries.

## **5. Practical Path of Higher Vocational Education Empowering “One Million Project”**

The practical path of higher vocational education in the “One Million Project” is multi-dimensional and multi-level, involving talent cultivation, technological innovation, social service and other aspects. The following are the specific practice paths:

### **5.1. Practical mode of integration of production and education: school-enterprise cooperation, work-learning integration, etc.**

The integration of industry and education is an important mode for higher vocational education to serve the regional economic development. Through school-enterprise cooperation, higher vocational colleges and universities are able to respond to market demand in a timely manner, adjust and optimize professional settings and curriculum systems. For example, Heilongjiang Vocational College, as a national “double-high” institution, closely combines with the economic development of its region, and proposes the strategy of government-led, shared and multi-dimensional linkage to enhance the social service capacity of higher vocational colleges. In addition, Guangzhou Urban Construction Vocational College and Conghua Jiekou Street Youth League Committee jointly built the “One Million Project” commando workstation, oriented to the needs of villages and towns, and actively serve the local development and rural revitalization strategy, demonstrating a new mode of cooperation between the school and the government.

The combination of engineering and learning is to combine theoretical knowledge with practical skills to enhance students' practical ability. Through various forms such as work-learning alternation and shift labor, students are able to learn and grow in a real working environment and improve their vocational skills and employment competitiveness.

### **5.2. Case Study of Higher Vocational Education Serving Local Economic Development.**

By serving local economic development, higher vocational colleges and universities can not only improve their own schooling level, but also provide talents and technical support for the local economy. For example, Guangdong University of Technology highlights the characteristic advantages of “technology + teacher training”, carries out twinning assistance and school-local cooperation with counties, injects kinetic energy into the development of eastern Guangdong, western Guangdong and northern Guangdong, and helps the “One Million Project” to be implemented. The practice team organized by Guangzhou South China College of Commerce and Trade went deep into the countryside to carry out technology-enabled rural revitalization activities, and through on-site research and personal experience, used the live broadcasting platform to broaden the sales of local agricultural products, which effectively assisted in rural revitalization.

### **5.3. Innovative Practices of Higher Vocational Education in the “One Hundred Million Project”.**

The innovative practice of higher vocational education in the “one million project” is reflected in many aspects. Firstly, through innovative education models, such as the “1+X+Y” certificate integration model, in which “Y” stands for vocational competence, higher vocational colleges and universities have formed a certificate integration system of vocational quality, vocational skills and vocational competence step by step to improve the comprehensive ability of students. Secondly, through in-depth cooperation with the

government and enterprises, higher vocational colleges and universities jointly develop curricula and teaching materials and carry out professional construction, so as to realize the close connection between education content and market demand. In addition, through the establishment of industrial colleges and training bases, higher vocational colleges and universities promote the organic connection between the education chain, talent chain and industrial chain and innovation chain, so as to provide solid talent and intellectual support for the “One Million Project”.

## 6. Case Study

This case study takes Heyuan Institute of Vocational Technology as an example to deeply analyze how higher vocational education can deeply implement the decision-making and deployment of the “One Million Project” through technical service, cultural service, talent service, livelihood service and other links.

### 6.1. Technical services

Heyuan Institute of Vocational Technology actively responds to the “One Million Project”, establishes the cooperation mechanism of “production, learning and research” with enterprises, and provides technical support for the high-quality development of industries. The college has constructed “double precision” high-level professional groups, closely aligned with the “1+3” industrial clusters in Heyuan City, optimized the structure of professional settings, and created a number of high-level professional groups of provincial higher vocational colleges and universities. At the same time, the college forges a high-level dual-teacher team, implements the “talent school” strategy, introduces high-level, high-skilled personnel externally, and internally improves the teaching level and practical ability of in-service teachers. In addition, the college builds a “government, industry, enterprise and school” education ecology, leads the formation of Heyuan Vocational Education Group, and carries out the “top internship”, “order training”, “modern apprenticeship” and “modern apprenticeship”. Modern Apprenticeship”, ‘Science and Technology Specialist’ and other modes of cooperation, driving small and medium-sized enterprises to participate in the integration of industry and education, and creating a platform for the deep integration of schools and enterprises.

### 6.2. Cultural Service

Heyuan Institute of Vocational Technology strengthens the mechanism of cultural service and revitalizes the cultural vitality of villages. The college explores the mode of “science and technology specialists + non-heritage innovation and entrepreneurship team”, sets up a professional team to take the initiative to dock with the traditional culture inheritors, and provides support for the non-heritage enterprises and inheritors in the areas of cultural and creative design, craft improvement, technical training, etc. The college also strengthens the construction of cultural bases, focusing on the development of the cultural industry. The college also strengthens the construction of cultural bases, focusing on the cultivation and construction of the Hakka Culture College, the Collaborative Innovation Center for Tourism Planning and Service, the Dialect Culture Inheritance and Innovation Center and other platforms, to deeply excavate and pass on the characteristics of local culture. In addition, the college strengthens the construction of communication platforms,

takes the initiative to organize high-level cultural forums and seminars, and promotes the creative transformation and innovative development of Hakka culture.

### 6.3. Talent Service

Heyuan Institute of Vocational Technology strengthens the talent support mechanism and builds and utilizes the expert think tank. The college participates in the establishment and main operation of the city's “one million project” expert think tank materialized institutions, to provide intellectual support for the implementation of the “one million project”. The institute improves the construction of institutional mechanism and sets up the “One Million Project” Research Institute and Think Tank Expert Committee, which participate in the consulting and argumentation work of the municipal party committee and municipal government, counties (districts), and relevant departments around the training of rural talents, planning of rural projects, research on rural issues, construction of rural industries, and setting up of service platforms, etc. The institute also strengthens the investigation and research, and organizes the experts to conduct research. The college also strengthens investigation and research, organizes experts to go to typical towns and villages in the city to carry out research, and actively provides advice and suggestions to effectively serve as a good advisor and assistant to the party committee and government.

### 6.4. Livelihood services

Heyuan Institute of Vocational Technology around the village talent to enhance the level of livelihood services, the successive implementation of scientific and technological specialists program, renewed program, dream program, wings program, etc., multi-pronged approach to create a brand of livelihood services. The College has implemented the Science and Technology Special Agent Program in depth, and constructed a whole-process management mechanism to ensure that the work of the Science and Technology Special Agent is carried out in an orderly and efficient manner. The college has also implemented the “Continuing Voyage Program”, focusing on key groups such as enterprise workers, rural transfer labor force, laid-off workers, rural teachers, rural cadres and other key groups, and using the “on-campus intensive training + expert sinking” approach to carry out various types of technical skills training for the city. In addition, the college implemented the “Dream Plan”, joint provincial and municipal Youth League Committee, focusing on villages (communities), enterprises and institutions of the young people, such as tuition reductions and exemptions, door-to-door education, online and offline combination of continuing education, higher vocational enrollment expansion. The College also implements the “Youth Pre-employment Training Program”, actively carries out the special action of the secretary and principal to visit enterprises to expand jobs and promote employment, takes the initiative to contact and actively docking with the Heyuan National Hi-tech Zone, the Municipal Bureau of Human Resources and Social Security, the Municipal Women's Federation, etc., to carefully improve the quality of the number of jobs and promote high-quality employment.

## **7. Evaluation of the Effectiveness of the “One Million Project” for the Empowerment of Higher Vocational Education**

### **7.1. Construction of evaluation index system**

The construction of the index system for evaluating the effectiveness of the “One Million Project” is multi-dimensional, involving talent cultivation, social service, technology research and development, employment quality and other aspects. According to the Statistical Indicator System for Monitoring and Evaluation of China's Education (2020 Edition) issued by the Ministry of Education, taking into account the characteristics of higher vocational education, the assessment indicator system can include the following key dimensions:

1. talent cultivation quality: including indicators such as the acquisition rate of vocational qualification certificates of graduates, awards in skill competitions, and employment rate.

2. social service capacity: involving the contribution of higher vocational institutions to local economic development in terms of technical services, talent training and cultural inheritance.

3. technology R&D and innovation: including indicators such as the number of patent applications, the number of scientific research projects, and the rate of transformation of scientific and technological achievements.

4. Degree of industry-education integration: measured by indicators such as the number of university-enterprise cooperation projects, the construction of industrial colleges, and the mode of order class training.

5. education quality and student satisfaction: assessed through indicators such as student satisfaction survey, teaching quality evaluation, and educational achievement awards.

### **7.2. Analysis of the Effectiveness of Higher Vocational Education in Enabling the “One Million Project”**

According to relevant research, there exists a complex coupling relationship between higher vocational education and regional economic development, in which the supply and demand of skilled human capital is the main way of interaction between higher vocational education and economic development. Empirical analysis shows that the contribution rate of higher vocational education to Dongguan's economic growth is 7.94%, of which the contribution rate of Dongguan's local higher vocational education to economic growth is 0.72%. This shows that higher vocational education plays a significant role in promoting local economic development.

### **7.3. Quantitative and qualitative assessment of the contribution of higher vocational education to local economic development:**

From a quantitative perspective, higher vocational education has generated direct and indirect economic benefits to the local economy by providing skilled personnel, promoting technological innovation and industrial upgrading, and enhancing the employment rate in the labor market. For example, the study of Dongguan Institute of Vocational

Technology shows that the contribution of higher vocational education to economic growth can be measured by an improved production function model.

From a qualitative point of view, higher vocational education has enhanced the close connection between education and local industries through the integration of industry and education and school-enterprise cooperation, improved the relevance and practicability of education, and provided talents and technical support for the development of the local economy. For example, Qingyuan Hi-tech Zone has enhanced the level of school education through educational assistance, giving full play to the resource advantages of the district and forming a demonstration-driven effect.

## **8. Problems and Challenges**

### **8.1. Major Problems Faced by Higher Vocational Education in Empowering the “One Million Project”**

In the process of empowering higher vocational education in the “One Million Project”, the first challenge is the insufficient depth and breadth of school-enterprise cooperation. At present, many cooperation programs remain at the surface level, lacking in-depth integration and long-term cooperation mechanisms, which limits the close integration of education content with industrial needs. Secondly, the institutional mechanism for the integration of industry and education is not yet sound, and there is a lack of effective policy guidance and incentives, which leads to insufficient motivation of enterprises and schools in cooperation and makes it difficult to form a stable cooperative relationship. In addition, there is a disconnect between talent cultivation and industrial demand, and the curriculum and teaching content of higher vocational colleges and universities fail to respond to market changes in a timely manner, resulting in a mismatch between the skills of graduates and the needs of enterprises. Insufficient scientific research service capacity is also an important issue. Higher vocational colleges and universities have limited capacity in transforming scientific research results, making it difficult for them to provide strong technical support for local industries. Finally, the mismatch between cultural services and the needs of rural development, the service capacity of higher vocational colleges and universities in cultural heritage and innovation needs to be improved to better meet the needs of cultural development in rural revitalization.

### **8.2. Challenges and Countermeasures in the Practice of Industry-Education Integration**

In the specific practice of industry-education integration, the challenges faced by higher vocational education are mainly focused on the cooperation mode, policy incentives, talent cultivation programs, scientific research service capacity and cultural service capacity. In order to cope with these challenges, higher vocational colleges and universities need to take a series of countermeasures. First, they need to innovate school-enterprise cooperation modes, such as establishing industrial colleges and implementing modern apprenticeship systems, in order to enhance the depth and effectiveness of cooperation. Second, the government should provide more policy support and incentives, such as financial subsidies and tax concessions, in order to increase the enthusiasm of enterprises to participate in the integration of

industry and education. At the same time, higher vocational colleges and universities should adjust their talent training programs according to industrial demand, strengthen the docking with industry, and improve the relevance and adaptability of talent training. In terms of scientific research services, higher vocational colleges and universities should strengthen the construction of scientific research platforms and teams, improve the conversion rate of scientific research results, and provide technical support for industrial development. In addition, higher vocational colleges and universities should also strengthen their cultural heritage and innovation service capacity to provide cultural support and intellectual services for rural revitalization. Through these measures, higher vocational education can better serve the “One Hundred Million Project” and provide solid talents and intellectual support for the high-quality development of local economy.

## **9. Policy Recommendations**

### **9.1. Policy Recommendations for Promoting the Deep Integration of Higher Vocational Education and the “One Million Project”:**

In order to promote the in-depth integration of higher vocational education and the “One Million Project”, it is necessary to provide support and guidance from the policy level. First of all, the government should formulate specific policies and measures to encourage higher vocational colleges and universities to establish long-term cooperative relationships with local governments and enterprises, to jointly plan and implement education programs, and to ensure that the content of education is closely aligned with the needs of local industries. For example, it can incentivize active participation of both schools and enterprises by establishing demonstration bases for the integration of industry and education, and providing financial support and policy concessions.

Second, the government should strengthen its investment in higher vocational education, especially in technology research and development and talent training. It can support higher vocational colleges and universities to carry out technology R&D and talent training programs related to local industries by setting up special funds to enhance the service capacity of higher vocational education. At the same time, the government should also encourage enterprises to participate in the curriculum design and teaching process of higher vocational education, provide internship and practical training opportunities, and enhance the practical ability of students.

In addition, the government should promote the establishment of a long-term mechanism for school-enterprise cooperation, such as formulating guiding documents for school-enterprise cooperation, clarifying the objectives, contents, forms and evaluation mechanisms of cooperation, and ensuring the continuity and effectiveness of cooperation. The government can also provide a communication platform for school-enterprise cooperation by organizing activities such as industry-teaching integration forums and school-enterprise docking meetings, and promote information sharing and resource integration.

### **9.2. Strategies for strengthening higher vocational education to serve local economic development:**

The strategy of higher vocational education to serve local economic development should be carried out in many ways. First of all, higher vocational colleges and universities should take the initiative to adapt to the needs of local economic development, adjust and optimize the professional structure, strengthen the construction of professions closely related to local industries, and cultivate high-skilled talents in line with the needs of local development. At the same time, higher vocational colleges and universities should strengthen the cooperation with local enterprises, and provide technical support and talent supply for local enterprises through joint research and development, technical service and talent training.

Secondly, higher vocational colleges and universities should strengthen communication and cooperation with local governments, participate in local economic planning and decision-making consultation, and provide intellectual support for local economic development. Higher vocational colleges and universities can utilize their scientific research and talent advantages to provide local governments with services such as policy suggestions, development planning and project evaluation.

In addition, higher vocational colleges and universities should strengthen international cooperation and exchanges, introduce international advanced education concepts and practical experience, and improve their education quality and international competitiveness. Through international cooperation programs, teacher and student exchanges, and academic seminars, higher vocational colleges and universities can broaden their horizons, absorb advanced foreign educational experiences and technologies, and improve their ability to serve local economic development.

Finally, higher vocational colleges and universities should strengthen the reform of internal management system to improve the quality of education and service efficiency. Through the reform of educational content, teaching methods and evaluation system, the relevance and effectiveness of education can be improved. At the same time, higher vocational colleges and universities should also strengthen the construction of faculty, improve the professional level and teaching ability of teachers, and provide a guarantee for the provision of high-quality education services.

## **10. Conclusion**

### **10.1. Research Summary**

This study analyzes the role of higher vocational education in the empowerment of the “One Million Project”, the logic of action, the path of practice and the evaluation of effectiveness. Through the methods of literature review, theoretical framework construction, case study and effectiveness evaluation, this study reveals the important role of higher vocational education in promoting local economic development, especially in talent cultivation, technical service, cultural inheritance and improvement of people's livelihood. It is found that higher vocational education can effectively enhance the endogenous power of the regional economy, promote the optimization and upgrading of the industrial structure, and enhance the overall competitiveness

of the local economy through the deep integration with local industries.

## 10.2. Theoretical and practical significance of the study

From the theoretical level, this study enriches the theoretical system of the interaction between higher vocational education and regional economic development, especially in the specific context of the “One Million Project”, which provides a new perspective for understanding the regional economic service function of higher vocational education. The action logic and practice path proposed by the study provide theoretical guidance and practical reference for higher vocational education to serve local economic development.

From the practical level, the study provides strategic suggestions for the in-depth cooperation between higher vocational colleges and local governments and enterprises, which helps to promote higher vocational education to better serve the high-quality development of the local economy. Meanwhile, the effectiveness evaluation of the study provides policy makers with decision-making references, which helps optimize the allocation of educational resources and improve the service efficiency and quality of higher vocational education.

## 10.3. Limitations of the study and future research directions

Although this study provides a comprehensive analysis of the “One Million Project” for the empowerment of higher vocational education, there are some limitations. First, due to the limitations of the data and cases, the findings may not be fully generalizable to all regions and contexts. Second, the study focuses mainly on the positive impacts of higher education and does not sufficiently explore the possible challenges and risks. Finally, the study needs to be strengthened in terms of quantitative analysis, especially in assessing the specific contribution of higher vocational education to local economic development.

Future research can be expanded in the following directions: first, in-depth exploration of the long-term mechanism for the deep integration of higher vocational education and local industries, including policy support, cooperation mode and benefit distribution; second, research on the role of higher vocational education in promoting the balanced development of the regional economy, especially in the application of less-developed regions; third, strengthening quantitative research and using big data to analyze the direct and indirect effects of higher vocational education on the local economy; fourth, focusing on the direct and indirect effects of higher vocational education on the local economy; and fourth, focusing on the quantitative analysis of higher vocational education on the local economy, impact and indirect effect; fourth, focusing on the role of higher vocational education in promoting social inclusiveness and sustainable development, and exploring its potential in solving social problems and enhancing people's well-being. Through the depth of these research directions, more comprehensive and in-depth theoretical and practical support can be provided for the reform and development of higher vocational education.

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