

# Study on the Social Service Function and Practical Path of Guangdong Vocational Education City in Qingyuan City's "One Hundred Million Project"

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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to study the social service function and practice path of Guangdong Vocational Education City (VEC) in the "One Million Project" of Qingyuan City. By means of literature review and case study analysis, it explores the practice and effectiveness of the VTC in the sharing of educational resources, integration of industry and education, talent cultivation, scientific research and innovation, cultural inheritance and social governance, etc. The study finds that the VTC has played an important role in promoting the social service function of Qingyuan City in the "One Million Project". The study finds that VTCs have played an important role in promoting local economic development, facilitating industrial upgrading, and upgrading the quality of education, but they also face challenges in resource allocation, cooperation mechanisms, and talent cultivation models. This paper puts forward a series of countermeasures and suggestions, including strengthening policy support, innovating cooperation mechanism, and reforming talent cultivation mode, in order to enhance the social service function of VTC. At the same time, this paper also points out the limitations of the study and makes suggestions for future research directions.

## KEYWORDS

One Million Project; Guangdong Vocational Education City; Social Service Function; Industry-Education Integration; Talent Cultivation

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Research Background

The background of the establishment of Guangdong Vocational Education City can be traced back to 2011, when the Guangdong Provincial Government agreed to plan and build a provincial-level vocational and technical education demonstration base in Qingyuan City of Guangdong Province, which was later upgraded to Guangdong Vocational Education City. This initiative is an important step taken by the Guangdong Provincial Party Committee and Provincial Government to implement the spirit of General Secretary Xi Jinping's important speech to Guangdong, to promote the integration

of Guangzhou and Qingdao, and to actively explore the cracking of the urban-rural dichotomy. Located in Qingyuan, Guangdong Province, with a planned land area of 50 square kilometers, the Vocational Education City aims to become a national model for reform and innovation in vocational education, and to be at the forefront of the country in terms of the scale of schooling, specialties, and training methods. At present, 11 schools with 108,000 students are located in the city, and it is expected that 24 colleges and universities will be located in the city by the end of the 14th Five-Year Plan period, and the number of students will reach about 250,000.

Guangdong Vocational Education City plays an important role in Qingyuan's "One Million Project". The "One Hundred Million Project" is a major strategy to promote high-quality development in Guangdong Province, aiming to strengthen the comprehensive strength of counties and comprehensively promote rural revitalization. As an important implementation site of the "One Million Project", Qingyuan City, through the construction of the Vocational Education City, not only provides talent support for local economic development, but also promotes the upgrading of local industries and optimization of the economic structure through the sharing of educational resources and the integration of production and education.

## **1.2. Significance of the Study**

Studying the social service function and practice path of Guangdong VTC in Qingyuan's "One Hundred Million Project" is of great significance in promoting local economic and social development. First of all, by cultivating highly skilled personnel, VTC directly serves the development of local industries and improves the matching efficiency and quality of the labor market. Secondly, the in-depth integration of the educational resources of VTC with local industries promotes scientific research innovation and technology transfer, and accelerates the industrialization of scientific and technological achievements. In addition, by providing training services and carrying out community education, the VTC has enhanced the vocational skills and cultural quality of local residents and promoted social harmony and stability.

## **1.3. Research Objectives and Issues**

The main objective of this study is to analyze the social service function of the VTC in Qingyuan City in the "One Million Project", and to explore its practical path in promoting local economic and social development and the integration of education and industry. The research questions focus on the following aspects: How can the VTC improve the quality and efficiency of education services through the sharing and optimal allocation of education resources? What effective measures have been taken by the VTC to promote the integration of industry and education and school-enterprise cooperation? What role has the VTC played in promoting local industrial upgrading and optimizing economic structure? The expected outcome is to put forward a set of systematic policy recommendations to provide theoretical support and practical guidance for the social service function of VTCs in Guangdong Province in the "One Hundred Million Project".

# **2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

## **2.1. Current Research Situation**

At the international level, the vocational education and training (VET) system in Germany is famous for its "dual system" model, which combines schooling and internships to provide students with direct job-related skills training (Li Chunping, 2024). Australia also has a well-developed vocational education and training system, and its government ensures that vocational education is closely linked to industry needs by providing financial support and a regulatory framework (Bocong Zhang, 2024).

In China, vocational education has been developing rapidly, and the government has put forward the development direction of promoting the integration of vocational and popular education and the integration of industry and education in the report of the 20th Party Congress. However, the recognition of vocational education in China at the social level still needs to be improved, and there are problems such as insufficient fit between vocational education and industrial development, and low match with talent demand (Zhang Bocong, 2024). In order to solve these problems, China's government is taking measures, such as optimizing professional settings, strengthening school-enterprise cooperation, and elevating the social status of vocational education, in order to promote the close integration of vocational education with economic and social development (Hu Wei, 2024).

The theoretical basis of social service function emphasizes that educational institutions are not only a place to impart knowledge, but also assume the important function of serving the society. The concept of institutional function proposed by Jessie Taft highlights the functions and roles of social service institutions in providing services, and emphasizes that educational institutions should adjust the content and methods of education according to the needs of the society (She Lantian et al., 2024).

Case studies of practice paths show that there are many successful cases of vocational education practice at home and abroad. For example, the typical cases of industry-education integration in vocational education released by the National Development and Reform Commission and the measures taken by Qingyuan City in promoting the “One Hundred Million Project” provide practical paths for the social service function of vocational education (Xiang Rui et al., 2024).

## **2.2. Research Review**

When exploring the social service function of vocational education, existing literature generally focuses on its role in talent cultivation, scientific research and innovation, and cultural inheritance. However, there is a lack of in-depth analysis of the specific practical paths and effectiveness of the Guangdong Vocational Education City in Qingyuan City's “One Million Project”. In particular, how to effectively integrate the resources of VTCs to serve the local economic and social development in terms of resource allocation, cooperation mechanism, and talent cultivation mode is still an issue worth exploring.

In addition, existing studies have yet to provide sufficient theoretical and practical support for the role of VTCs in promoting local industrial upgrading and economic structure optimization, as well as the potential for regional cooperation in the context of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. The exploration of these issues is crucial to understanding the role of VTCs in local economic and social development and is the starting point of this study.

## **2.3. Sufficient Necessity of This Dissertation Study**

This study aims to fill the gaps in existing research and analyze in depth the social service function and practice path of VTC in Qingyuan City in the “One Million Project”. Through the literature review, it can be found that

- (1) Resource allocation problems: there is a lack of effective resource sharing and optimal allocation mechanism among schools in the VTC, which leads to waste of resources and inefficient use of resources (Zhao Baoguo et al., 2024).
- (2) Inadequate cooperation mechanism: the lack of a synergistic operation mechanism among the main bodies within the VTC affects the efficiency and effectiveness of educational resource sharing (Zhang Yafei et al., 2024).
- (3) insufficient depth and breadth of industry-education integration: school-enterprise cooperation is in form, unable to truly realize resource sharing and complementary advantages (Hu Wei, 2024).

(4) Disconnect between talent cultivation and market demand: VTC fails to closely match market demand in talent cultivation, resulting in a mismatch between talent cultivation and social demand (Xu Juan, 2024).

(5) The potential of cooperation between Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao has not been fully tapped: in the context of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, the educational cooperation between VTC and Hong Kong and Macao have yet to be strengthened (HD Feng, 2024).

Therefore, this study will put forward corresponding countermeasures and suggestions by deeply analyzing the social service functions and practice paths of VTCs in Guangdong Province, so as to enhance the service capacity of VTCs and make greater contributions to local economic and social development. Through these studies, this thesis aims to provide theoretical support and practical guidance for the social service function of VTCs in Guangdong Province in the “One Hundred Million Project”, as well as to provide reference for the development of vocational education in other regions.

### **3. BASIC SITUATION OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING CITY IN GUANGDONG PROVINCE**

#### **3.1. Planning and Construction of Guangdong Vocational Education City**

The planning and construction of Guangdong Vocational Education City began in 2011, when the Guangdong Provincial Government agreed to plan and build a provincial vocational and technical education demonstration base in Qingyuan City, which was later upgraded to Guangdong Vocational Education City. This project is an important initiative of the Guangdong Provincial Party Committee and Provincial Government to promote the integration and construction of Guangzhou and Qingdao, as well as a positive exploration to crack the urban-rural dichotomy. With a planned land area of 50 square kilometers, the Vocational Education City aims to become a national model for vocational education reform and innovation, and to be at the forefront of the country in terms of the scale of schooling, specialties and training methods. By the end of the 14th Five-Year Plan period, 24 colleges and universities are planned to be stationed in the city, and the number of college students will reach 250,000 or so. At present, 11 schools have been settled in the provincial vocational education city, with 108,000 students enrolled. The construction of the Vocational Education City not only includes educational facilities, but also covers the Olympic Sports Center, Hutuling Mountain Park, special towns, industrial service support, etc. It is expected that the future resident population will reach 550,000-600,000 people.

#### **3.2. Settlement of Institutions and Specialties**

Up to now, Guangdong Vocational Education City has settled in a number of higher vocational institutions, including Guangdong Nanhua Vocational College of Commerce and Industry, Qingyuan Vocational College of Technology, Guangdong Lingnan Vocational College of Technology, Guangdong Bijie Vocational College and so on. In addition, the construction of the Qingyuan Campus of Guangdong Financial College, the first general undergraduate college in Qingyuan, has also been officially launched. It is expected that by 2025, the number of institutions in the VTC will reach 24, covering secondary, higher vocational, undergraduate and research institutes in arts, science, engineering and commerce, covering hundreds of practical specialties to meet the demand for skilled talents from the industries in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. The professional settings of these institutions are closely aligned with industrial upgrading, such as professional clusters in the direction of intelligent manufacturing, new materials, big data, big health, modernized agriculture, modern economy and trade, modern tourism and new teacher training.

### **3.3. Social Service Function of the Vocational Education City**

VTC in Guangdong Province has remarkable social service functions in education, science and technology, and culture. In terms of education, the VTC directly serves the development of local industries by cultivating highly-skilled talents and improving the matching efficiency and quality of the labor market. In terms of science and technology, the deep integration of the VTC's educational resources with local industries promotes scientific research innovation and technology transfer, and accelerates the industrialization of scientific and technological achievements. In terms of culture, the VTC has upgraded the vocational skills and cultural quality of local residents and promoted social harmony and stability through the provision of training services and community education. In addition, the VTC will become a platform for the introduction of high-level talents in Qingyuan in the future. The stationing of new institutions will bring in a new group of faculty, become a base for the transformation of scientific research achievements of universities and provide a carrier for the integration of industry, academia and research, and stimulate the development of the local economy. Qingyuan will take the advantage of Guangdong Vocational Education City in cultivating highly skilled talents to actively serve the Greater Bay Area, accelerate the integration into the Greater Bay Area, and make “Qingyuan's contribution” to promote the development of the Greater Bay Area.

## **4. THE ROLE OF GUANGDONG VOCATIONAL EDUCATION CITY IN THE “ONE MILLION PROJECT”**

### **4.1. Overview of the “One Million Project”**

The “One Hundred Million Project” is a major strategy implemented by Guangdong Province to promote the coordinated development of urban and rural areas, aiming to promote the integrated development of urban and rural areas and narrow the regional development gap by strengthening the development of counties, towns and villages. Qingyuan City, as an important implementation site of the “One Hundred Million Project”, aims to comprehensively enhance the comprehensive strength of counties, comprehensively promote rural revitalization through the promotion of the project, and continuously exert efforts to reduce the development gap with the Pearl River Delta region and the urban-rural regional development gap in the city, and turn the short boards of the development of counties, towns and villages into potential boards of the high-quality development of Qingyuan. Potential board.

### **4.2. The status and role of the Vocational Education City in the “One Million Project”.**

Vocational education cities in Guangdong Province play a crucial role in the “One Million Project”. As an important carrier of vocational education, the VTC directly serves the development of local industries by cultivating high-skilled talents and improving the matching efficiency and quality of the labor market. The in-depth integration of the educational resources of VTC with local industries promotes scientific research innovation and technology transfer, and accelerates the industrialization of scientific and technological achievements. In addition, through the provision of training services and community education, the VTC has enhanced the vocational skills and cultural quality of local residents, and promoted social harmony and stability.

The construction of the Vocational Education City not only includes educational facilities, but also covers the Olympic Sports Center, Hutouling Mountain Park, a special town, and industrial service support, etc. It is expected that the future resident population will reach 550,000-600,000 people. The construction of the Vocational Education City will bring more than 250,000 students from 24 colleges and universities to Qingyuan, becoming an important force to promote local economic and social development.

### **4.3. Interaction Between VTC and Local Economic and Social Development**

VTC in Guangdong Province has formed a benign interaction with local economic and social development through talent cultivation, scientific research and innovation. Colleges and universities in the VTC have cooperated deeply with enterprises to jointly carry out technology research and development and talent cultivation, which has promoted the upgrading of local industries and the optimization of economic structure. For example, Guangdong Engineering Vocational and Technical College has cooperated with enterprises to carry out technology research and development, which has improved the technical level and market competitiveness of enterprises.

The VTC also promotes school-enterprise cooperation through platforms such as the Industry-Education Integration Research Institute, building a community of destiny with in-depth integration of industry and education, and cooperation between schools and enterprises as a whole, so as to serve the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and the construction of the National Pilot Area for Integrated Development of Urban and Rural Areas. This interactive relationship not only enhances the education quality and service capacity of the VTC, but also provides strong talent and technical support for local economic and social development.

In addition, the construction of the VTC has driven the economic development of the surrounding areas, promoted employment, raised the income level of the residents, and injected new vitality into the local economic and social development. Through these initiatives, Guangdong Vocational Education City has played a key role in the “One Hundred Million Project” and made positive contributions to the high-quality development of Qingyuan City and even Guangdong Province.

## **5. PRACTICAL PATH OF SOCIAL SERVICE FUNCTION OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION CITY IN GUANGDONG PROVINCE**

### **5.1. Sharing of Educational Resources**

The VTC of Guangdong Province has a certain practical foundation for sharing educational resources. With the settlement of many universities, the rapid pooling of teachers and student resources has provided conditions for the sharing of educational resources. Differences between universities in terms of schooling levels, characteristics, and disciplines provide complementarities for resource sharing. In addition, the diversification of the main body of educational service provision and the modernization of the way of supplying educational services have also facilitated the sharing of resources. However, the sharing of educational resources has not yet been fully implemented, there is a lack of initiative in resource sharing among schools, the degree of digitization and informatization is out of step with the times, and the sharing system is not sound. In order to improve these problems, it is suggested that the VTC Affairs Center should take the lead in forming a “Vocational Education Alliance”, setting up a “VTC Teacher Development Center” under the VTC Affairs Center, and perfecting the design of the system for sharing educational resources and planning for its long-term and sustainable operation.

### **5.2. Integration of Industry and Education and Cooperation Between Schools and Enterprises**

The Guangdong VTC has achieved remarkable results in promoting the integration of production and education and school-enterprise cooperation. Through the construction of industrial colleges, such as Huawei ICT College and BYD College of Applied Technology, the city has realized in-depth cooperation between schools and enterprises, jointly developed professional and curriculum standards, jointly built high-level teaching teams, jointly formulated industry standards and other “nine common”, creating a mutually beneficial and win-win community of destiny for schools and enterprises. In addition, the establishment of the data sharing platform for the integration of

production and education in Guangdong Vocational Education City has provided information exchange and resource sharing services for the cooperation between schools and enterprises, and promoted the in-depth development of the integration of production and education. The practice of school-enterprise cooperation shows that the adaptability of vocational education and the quality of talent cultivation can be effectively enhanced through joint cultivation of talents, joint development of curricula, and joint technology research and development .

### **5.3. Scientific and Technological Services and Innovation Drive**

Guangdong Vocational Education City supports the upgrading of local industries through scientific and technological services and innovation drive. Vocational colleges have cooperated with enterprises to carry out technology research and development and talent training, which has promoted the upgrading of local industries and the optimization of economic structure. For example, Zou Huadong, Associate Professor of Qingyuan Institute of Vocational Technology's School of Electromechanical and Automotive Engineering, has set up a team of professional teachers to work with students to make projects into enterprises and serve the regional economic development. Through the integration of industry and education, schools and enterprises jointly overcome technical problems, promote the industrialization of scientific and technological achievements, and provide strong technical support and talent guarantee for local economic development.

### **5.4. Cultural Inheritance and Social Governance**

VTC in Guangdong Province also plays an important role in cultural heritage and social governance. The construction of VTC not only improves the local education level, but also promotes the dissemination and exchange of social culture. Through various cultural activities and community services, the universities in the VTC provide local residents with rich cultural life and learning opportunities, enhancing community cohesion and cultural identity. At the same time, colleges and universities in VTCs have also actively participated in social governance, upgrading the vocational skills and cultural qualities of local residents through the provision of training services and the development of community education, thus promoting social harmony and stability.

## **6. CASE STUDIES**

In this paper, Guangdong Engineering Vocational and Technical College and Guangdong Science and Trade Vocational College will be selected as case studies to analyze their specific practices and effectiveness in social service functions.

### **6.1. Guangdong Engineering Vocational and Technical College**

Guangdong Engineering Vocational and Technical College is a full-time general college mainly specialized in engineering, and its Public Service College was established in 2019, which is committed to cultivating high-quality technical and skilled talents in modern service industry. The college offers majors such as Tourism English, Leisure Service and Management, Application of Intelligent Tourism Technology, Modern Secretarial, Social Work, and Tourism Management, etc. It has also established long-term cooperative relationships with well-known enterprises such as Guangdong Changlong Group Co. Ltd. and Zhuhai Changlong Investment and Development Co. Ltd. and built off-campus training bases to provide students with good conditions for internship and practical training.

In terms of social service functions, Guangdong Engineering Vocational and Technical College has strengthened its interaction with the local economy and society through the integration of industry and education and school-enterprise cooperation. The teaching team of the college has participated

in the preparation of the national planning textbooks for vocational education in the 14th Five-Year Plan, and the students have won many awards in various vocational skills competitions, such as the second prize of the 17th “Challenge Cup” Extracurricular Scholarly and Technological Works of College Students in Guangdong Province, the first prize of the Guangdong Chinese Information Processing Competition, and so on. Students have won many awards in various vocational skills competitions. In addition, the college also pays attention to international cooperation, and cooperates with Nelson Marlborough College of Technology in New Zealand to organize the major of Architectural Engineering Technology to cultivate international high-skilled talents.

## **6.2. Guangdong Science and Trade Vocational College**

Guangdong Science and Trade Vocational College is a public full-time higher vocational college. The school features agricultural science and engineering technology, and focuses on cultivating application-oriented and technical-skilled talents. The school's practice in social service functions is manifested in the following aspects:

(1) Sharing of educational resources: Guangdong Science and Trade Vocational College has promoted the sharing and optimal allocation of educational resources through the construction of a data-sharing platform for industry-education integration. The school has also actively explored the “one-stop” student community comprehensive management mode, and constructed the “1+3+N” working mode, which has enhanced the sense of achievement and happiness of teachers and students.

(2) Industry-teaching integration and school-enterprise cooperation: The school has cooperated deeply with enterprises to carry out technology research and development and talent training, which has promoted the upgrading of local industries and optimization of economic structure. For example, the school cooperates with Guangzhou Huanya Cosmetic Technology Co., Ltd. to jointly carry out technology research and development, which enhances the technical level and market competitiveness of the enterprise.

(3) Scientific and technological services and innovation drive: The faculty team of Guangdong University of Science and Technology has achieved remarkable results in scientific research, such as publishing 66 SCI papers in journals such as *Angew. Joule*, *Small*, and *JMCA*, and obtaining many invention patents. These achievements not only enhance the scientific research level of the university, but also provide technical support for local economic development.

(4) Cultural heritage and social governance: Through various cultural activities and community services, the university has improved the vocational skills and cultural quality of local residents and promoted social harmony and stability. For example, the school has been selected as one of the “First Batch of National Demonstration Bases for Cultivating New Vocational Farmers” by the Ministry of Agriculture, playing an important role in rural revitalization and cultivating new vocational farmers.

Through the above case studies, we can see the specific practices and achievements of Guangdong Engineering Vocational and Technical College and Guangdong Science and Trade Vocational College in their social service functions, which have made positive contributions to the local economic and social development through the sharing of educational resources, integration of industry and education, scientific and technological services and cultural inheritance.

## **7. PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES**

The problems and challenges in the fulfillment of social service functions of VTCs in Guangdong Province mainly include the following aspects:

### **7.1. Resource Allocation**

There are some problems in resource allocation in the VTC of Guangdong Province. Due to the relatively independent management among schools, there is duplication of construction, resulting in low utilization of resources. For example, the construction of each school on its own without unified planning may lead to a waste of educational resources. In addition, the awareness of sharing educational resources is still relatively weak, and some schools would rather have idle resources than sharing symbiosis, which restricts the intensive use and optimal allocation of resources.

### **7.2. Policy Support**

Although the Guangdong Provincial Government has given certain policy support to the construction of Vocational Education City, it still faces some challenges in the process of concrete implementation. For example, the implementation of the policy needs more refinement and specificity to ensure that the policy can really promote the development of the VET city. At the same time, the continuity and stability of policies are also important factors for the development of VTC, which requires the government to continuously provide a stable policy environment.

### **7.3. Cooperation Mechanism**

In terms of cooperation mechanisms, there is a lack of effective synergistic operation mechanisms among schools in VTCs in Guangdong Province. Although they are geographically neighboring, they involve multiple levels and departments in terms of management mode and subject matter, resulting in poor channels for collaborative operation mechanisms. This affects the efficiency and effectiveness of educational resource sharing and limits the VTC's ability to fulfill its social service function.

### **7.4. Integration of Industry and Education**

The integration of industry and education is the key to the development of VTCs, but there are problems of insufficient depth and breadth in actual operation. Some enterprises have insufficient motivation and input to participate in vocational education, resulting in school-enterprise cooperation being a mere formality and failing to truly realize resource sharing and complementary advantages. In addition, the mode and mechanism of industry-education integration need to be further innovated to adapt to the ever-changing industrial demand and educational development.

### **7.5. Docking of Talent Cultivation with Market Demand**

The VTC needs to be more closely aligned with market demand in terms of talent cultivation. Although the institutions in the VTC have made certain efforts in specialization and curriculum development, there is still a disconnect with market demand. This requires institutions in the VTC to make timely adjustments to their education content and teaching methods to better meet the needs of the society and the market.

### **7.6. Integration and Connectivity between Industry and Education in Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao**

Against the background of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, the VTC in Guangdong Province needs to further strengthen its education cooperation with Hong Kong and Macao. Although there are already a number of collaborative projects and programmes, they have yet to be deepened in areas such as qualifications framework alignment and mutual recognition of course credits. This requires institutions and relevant departments in the VTC to strengthen cooperation and jointly promote the development of industry-education integration among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao.

To summarize, the problems and challenges faced by VTCs in Guangdong Province in the performance of their social service functions need to be solved through efforts in various aspects, such as policy guidance, mechanism innovation, resource sharing and integration of industry and education. Through these measures, the social service capacity of VTCs can be further enhanced to make greater contributions to local economic and social development.

## **8. COUNTERMEASURES AND SUGGESTIONS**

### **8.1. Policy Support**

The government should play a more active role in guiding and promoting the development of VTC by formulating and implementing a series of support policies. This includes providing incentives such as tax breaks, financial subsidies and preferential land use for school-enterprise cooperation projects. In addition, the government should ensure the continuity and stability of policies to provide a predictable development environment for VTCs. The government can also support educational and scientific research projects as well as the construction of internship and training bases in VTCs by setting up special funds or increasing the existing education budget.

### **8.2. Innovation in Cooperation Mechanism**

In order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of cooperation, an innovative cooperation mechanism is needed. This can be achieved through the establishment of a multi-party collaborative platform that promotes communication and cooperation among the government, schools, enterprises and communities. In addition, the establishment of long-term and stable cooperative relationships between schools and enterprises should be encouraged and supported, for example, through the joint development of curricula, joint technological research and development and the joint establishment of internship and training bases. New modes of cooperation, such as industry-university-research alliances and school-enterprise communities, should also be explored and popularized in order to promote the close integration of educational resources and industrial needs.

### **8.3. Reform of Talent Cultivation Mode**

Institutions within the VTC should work closely with enterprises to jointly develop and implement talent training programs to ensure a close integration of educational content with the needs of enterprises. This may involve the adjustment of curriculum, the innovation of teaching methods and the strengthening of practical teaching. At the same time, the modern apprenticeship system should be promoted so that students can learn and master skills in a real working environment. In addition, international cooperation should be strengthened to introduce international advanced vocational education concepts and teaching modes to enhance the internationalization of talent cultivation.

### **8.4. Scientific Research and Technological Innovation**

The VTC should strengthen the construction of technology research and development centers, support schools and enterprises to build joint R&D platforms, and promote the transformation and application of scientific and technological achievements. This can not only enhance the scientific and technological innovation ability of VTC, but also provide support for the technological innovation of enterprises. At the same time, it should improve the mechanism of transforming scientific research achievements, encourage teachers and students to participate in scientific research projects, and improve the practicality and market value of scientific research achievements.

## **8.5. Social Service and Cultural Inheritance**

Institutions in the VTC should actively participate in social services and cultural heritage activities, and support community development by providing training, counseling and other services. At the same time, they should make use of the educational resources of the VTC to carry out traditional cultural education and inheritance activities, so as to enhance students' cultural self-confidence and sense of social responsibility.

## **8.6. Cooperation and Exchanges among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao**

In the context of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, the VTC should strengthen cooperation in vocational education with Hong Kong and Macao. This includes promoting mutual recognition of academic and vocational qualifications, facilitating mobility of talents and sharing of educational resources. It should also cooperate with vocational institutions in Hong Kong and Macao to build internship and training bases, so as to provide students with a broader platform for learning and development.

# **9. CONCLUSION**

## **9.1. Major Findings**

(1) The important role of vocational education cities in the “One Million Project”: As an important carrier of vocational education, Guangdong Province Vocational Education City plays a crucial role in the “One Million Project”. It not only provides talent support for local economic development, but also promotes the upgrading of local industries and the optimization of economic structure through the sharing of educational resources and the integration of industry and education. The construction of Vocational Education City accelerates scientific research innovation and technology transfer, improves the vocational skills and cultural quality of local residents, and promotes social harmony and stability.

(2) Practice and challenges of educational resource sharing: The practice of sharing educational resources within VTCs shows that optimal allocation and efficient use of resources can be achieved through inter-school cooperation. However, due to the insufficiency of management system and awareness of resource sharing, resource sharing still faces some challenges, such as duplicated construction and low utilization of resources.

(3) Effectiveness and Problems of Industry-Education Integration: Vocational education cities have achieved remarkable results in promoting industry-education integration and school-enterprise cooperation, but at the same time there are problems of insufficient depth and breadth. Some enterprises do not have enough motivation and input to participate in vocational education, which leads to school-enterprise cooperation in form and fails to realize resource sharing and complementary advantages.

(4) Docking between talent training and market demand: VTC needs to more closely match market demand in talent training. Although the institutions in the VTC have made certain efforts in the development of specialties and curricula, there is still a phenomenon of disconnection with the market demand.

(5) Potential and Challenges of Cooperation between Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao: In the context of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, the VTC in Guangdong Province needs to further strengthen its education cooperation with Hong Kong and Macao. Although there are already some cooperation projects and plans, there is still room for deepening in the areas of qualifications framework alignment and mutual recognition of course credits.

## 9.2. Limitations of the Study

This study is mainly based on the analysis of existing literature and policy documents, and lacks field research and in-depth case studies, which may not be able to fully reflect the actual operation of the social service functions of the VTC. In addition, due to the limitations of data and information, there may be some uncertainty in the prediction of the future development trend of VTC.

## 9.3. Direction of Future Research

Future research can further explore the following directions in depth:

- (1) Field research: conduct field research on institutions and enterprises in the VTC to collect first-hand data to more accurately assess the social service functions of the VTC.
- (2) Case studies: analyze several specific successful cases in depth and explore the key factors of their success, so as to provide reference experiences for other institutions.
- (3) Long-term tracking study: To conduct a long-term tracking study on the social service functions of the VTC in order to observe the changes and development trends over time.
- (4) Comparative study: to compare the VTC in Guangdong Province with those in other regions and analyze their respective strengths and weaknesses in order to promote mutual learning and improvement.
- (5) Policy evaluation research: Evaluate existing policies, analyze their effects and impacts, and provide decision-making support for policy makers.

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- (2) 2024 Discipline Co-construction Project of Philosophy and Social Science Planning of Guangdong Province, “Research on the Path and Countermeasures of Sports Consumption Upgrading Empowered by Digital Economy” (Project No: GD24XTY02)
- (3) 2024 Foshan City Social Science Planning Project Co-construction Project: “Sports + Tourism” Industry Integration Development: Research on the New Power of Foshan City's Economic Development with High Quality” (Project No: 2024-GJ094)
- (4) 2024 Qingyuan City Philosophy and Social Science Planning Project Youth Project: “Sports + Tourism” Industry Integration Development: Study on the New Power of Qingyuan City's Economic High-Quality Development” (Project No: QYSK2024151)
- (5) Study on the Social Service Function and Practical Path of Guangdong Vocational Education City in the “One Million Project” of Qingyuan City, a Youth Project of Qingyuan City Philosophy and Social Science Planning, 2024 (Project No: QYSK2024142)

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