

## **Paper 52 – Pecha Kucha**

### **An assessment of the current higher education system in Libya**

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#### **Abstract**

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Education in all its forms plays a crucial role in addressing the critical challenges of economic and social improvement. This Pecha Kucha focuses on a review of the existing states of the higher education system in Libya, which is facing new challenges. There has been increased interest in attending universities, and the number of student attending universities has increase considerably from a total of 33 students in 1956 to 279,150 students in 2006-2007. It is expected that this figure will reach more than half a million students by 2025. The Libyan government has responded to this challenge and has started investing heavily in the reconstruction of its education system. Due to public awareness of the importance of higher education, therefore, the state has undertaken new policies including restructuring universities to expand and improve infrastructure which is opening the way for study missions abroad to modern education systems in developed countries and to integrate the international community. At the same time, Libya has been taking advantage of modern programmes in various disciplines. This recent situation may be attributed to a number of different factors, for instance poor working conditions, low job satisfaction etc. As a result of the growing number of university students, and the pressure on the public budget, Libya's higher education policy has allowed local public administrations and the private sector to establish university colleges and higher education institutes. Unfortunately, despite all the efforts made by each jurisdiction, higher education still faces many difficulties. Added to this, the loss of qualified and capable professionals has become more of a critical issue in Libya.

**Key words:** Government policy, Higher education, Libya.