

TEACHER CAREER STRUCTURE REFORMS IN UZBEKISTAN: THE CURRENT CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM TOP-PERFORMING EDUCATION SYSTEMS

Introduction. Making a teaching profession an attractive career choice is the key to improve the quality of education. The quality of education cannot exceed the quality of teachers. Empirical evidence shows that teachers are the most important variable explaining the variation in student learning (Rivkin, Hanushek, and Kain, 2005; Blazar and Kraft, 2017), as the loss of motivated teachers in teaching profession is a disruptive process leading to decrease in school performance with a negative effect on quality of education. However, the status of the profession has been declined across the world over the last few decades (World Bank, 2018). Staffing classrooms of schools with highly motivated and qualified teachers has become the greatest challenge for Uzbek Government too. There have been several reforms in teacher career structures over the last five years in Uzbekistan to increase the status and motivation of teachers.

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