Ali Yousifi, Mohsen Noghani Dokhtbahrani, Ahmad Farzaneh “Mismatch between academic education and alumni’s occupation”  Ferdowsi University of Mashhad

The great demand for academic education in Iranian society led to a wide spreading, atypical and unplanned supply of education. Statistics shows that millions of youngsters are studying in higher education institutions though there is necessarily no kind of match between the courses they study and available jobs. In other words, one of Iranian social problems is the mismatch between academic education and professions. In order to illustrate the epidemical aspect of mismatch between educational institutions and economical institutions, i.e. mismatch between academic education and alumni’s jobs, we choose the graduate student of Ferdowsi University between the years 2003 to 2013. Data was gathered through online questionnaire filled by 445 of alumni. We use both subjective and objective processes to measure the mismatch. Horizontal mismatch (the mismatch in knowledge and the mismatch in skills) and vertical mismatch (overeducation) was measured in micro level. Results shows that: (1) the mismatch is high in all its kinds, (2) overeducation is the greatest kind of mismatch in contrast with other kinds, (3) subjective mismatch is more than objective mismatch which means that alumni’s judgment about the mismatch between theirs studies and their professions is more than what was measured by researcher through objective scales, (4) the mismatch between demanded knowledge for the job and instructed courses is more than overall mismatch between job’s title and field of study’s title, (5) the mismatch between demanded skills for job and instructed skills is more than the mismatch between demanded knowledge for job and instructed courses.