

The supply of skills from FET Colleges in South Africa: Thoughts for SASTA



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History

- System of technical colleges and apprenticeships
- Generally effective in supplying artisans
- Provided a post-secondary route outside of higher education



Apprenticeship and Trade Tests

- In 1985 over 26000 people did a trade test in engineering (+-13000 passed)
- In 1996 only 5000 wrote (+-3000 passed)
- In 2006 8500 wrote (+-3000 passed)



Reform in South Africa

- Reform of the TVET system as massive and significant as in the schooling sector
- Entirely 'new' system built on the legacy of the old technical colleges



Higher Education	Universities	Universities of Technology	Private Providers	HEQC
	NSC NCV			Umalusi
Further Education and Training	Grades 10-12 in Schools	FET Colleges	Workplace	
	GEC ABET Certificates			
General Education and Training	Schools Grade R - 9	ABET Levels 1 - 4		





Reform in South Africa

- Institutional landscape reform
 - 153 colleges merged into 50 multi-site FET Colleges
 - Recapitalisation R1,8 billion
 - Size – 350 000 students, 7000 lecturers to increase to over a 1 million



Reform in South Africa

- FET Act 2006
 - Changes governance structures
 - Makes lecturers employees of the College
 - Places the onus on colleges to manage and raise funds
- Curriculum reform
 - Introduction of NCV levels 2,3,4
 - New general subjects (mathematics, language, Life Orientation)
 - Focus on employability and general entrepreneurial skills rather than workplace
 - Discontinuation of the N1-N6
- New Lecturer Qualification requirements



Enrolments



- 2001
 - 356 049 students
 - 7 228 educators
- 2006
 - 361 186 students
 - 7 096 educators
- 2007
 - 320 269 students
 - 5 987 educators
- Planned enrolment – over 1 million
- Who are the new learners?
 - 15-17 year olds
- Where are the new teachers and what do they do?



The latest Reform

- Incorporated into the Department of Higher Education and Training
 - Removes role of provinces
 - Brings SETAs into the same ministry
 - Focuses on post-school
 - N-courses back
 - Apprenticeships back
- Colleges looking for new role
 - Opportunities for creating new partnerships



Where to?

- What relationships exist with colleges?
- Are skills needs being clearly articulated?
- Are work-based placements being welcomed?
- Are apprenticeships and learnerships being taken up?
- Is SETA money being accessed and used?



Thank you!