



Vocational Skills Training Post Covid-19 : Challenges and Opportunities

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Vocational Education and Training (VET): A continuum of **socially and economically necessary** and desirable technical knowledge, skills and competencies required to orient and prepare people for work from low skill to high skill, involving an appropriately varied mix of humane, scientific and technological learning (DHET 2013)

Workplace Learning: The acquisition of knowledge or skills by formal or informal means that occurs in the **workplace**. It includes both formal on-the-job **training** and informal workplace learning. (OECD – 2010)

Skills Development: to develop the **skills** of the South African workforce- to improve the quality of life of workers, their prospects of work and labour mobility; to improve productivity in the workplace and the competitiveness of employers; to **promote self-employment**; and improve the delivery of **social services** - (SDA No 97 - 1998)

Entering the Tunnel – “The Past”



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Enrolled in Grade 1 - 2008 - 1 090 254 (DoE 2008)

Reached Grade 12 - 2019 - 505 303 wrote - 409804 passed
(186 058 – achieved a bachelor's pass, 144 762 secured a diploma pass and 78 984 a higher certificate) (DBE – 2020)

584 951 - exited the system between Gr 1 and Gr 12 + 95499 who did not pass. Where did 680540 young people go? – ACET, TVET, HE?

Through the Tunnel – “The Pandemic”



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Challenges

- Current Covid-19 - 611 450 infections; 516 494 recoveries & 13 159 deaths (*DOH*)
- March 2020 Unempl. stats = 30.1% but 59.1% youth unemployment (*statssa.gov.za*)
- 5 Month lockdown – and the shift to online teaching
- Quadruple threat of GBV, poverty, inequality and racism has been exacerbated
- Around 3 million South Africans are projected to lose their jobs – eg banking & retail
- Sustainability for institutions - Reduced funding and income
- VST Access for students – Reduced access to resources and funding

Exiting the Tunnel – “The Possibilities”



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Opportunities

- Students - V, E and S Entrepreneurship
 - Institutions – 4 P’s – Perception, Programmes, Pricing, Partnerships
- Influential trends that will shape the jobs of the future include: global **integration**; technological **innovation**; an ageing (*and younger*) **population**; **collaboration** and cross disciplinarity; increased participation of **women** in the labour force; continued **economic shift** to Asia (*Africa*), scarcity of **natural resources**; **migration**. (C Pampa – 2015)



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Thank you

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