



LITERACY CAMPAIGN
SOUTH AFRICA

KHA RI GUDE MASS LITERACY CAMPAIGN
PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
TUESDAY, 19 AUGUST 2008

Kha ri gude
A re ithuteng Asifunde
Masifunde Let us learn
A re ithuteng
Masifunde
A re ithuteng



English

Afrikaans

isiXhosa

isiZulu

Sesotho sa Leboa

Sesotho

Setswana

isiNdebele

Siswati

Tshivenda

Xitsonga

Sign

Bra



education

Department:
Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Introduction



- The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, **declares education as a right, including adult basic education**. However, many adults are still illiterate as they were denied this right in the past.
- It was for this reason that on 03 February 2006 the Minister of Education established a **Ministerial Committee on Literacy** (MLC), which was required to *inter alia* **to develop a strategic plan for a mass literacy campaign in South Africa**.
- On 22 August 2007 Cabinet approved the **operational plan of the Mass Literacy Campaign** to enable 4,7 million unschooled or functionally illiterate adults to achieve a level of basic literacy.
- Cabinet noted that **80 000 volunteer educators would be engaged in 2009, 2010 and 2011 to reach 4,7 million unschooled adults by 2012, at a total cost of R6,1 billion**. The timetable and targets are provided in the next slide.
- Cabinet agreed that an Inter-Ministerial Committee, chaired by the Minister of Education, **will oversee the implementation**; and that Campaign be **launched by the Minister of Education**. Cabinet approval provided the Minister of Education to determine **an organisational structure and delivery modalities** for the mass literacy campaign.



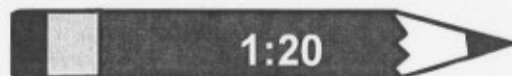
The Implementation Tiers & Ratios



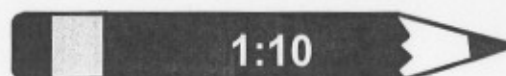
Coordinators at
provincial level

Supervisors at
district level

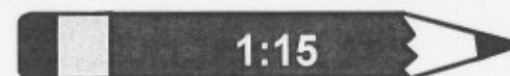
Volunteer educators at
teaching & learning sites



Coordinator :
supervisors



Supervisor : volunteer
educators



Volunteer educator :
learners



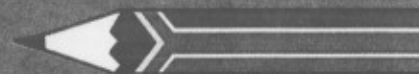
Some Achievements to date



- The Campaign was *launched on 28 February 2008*, and *classes began on 14 April 2008*.
- The ***Kha Ri Gude Unit*** was established as an “arms length” Unit to enable it to respond timeously to the imperatives of Campaign implementation.
- The organogram of the Unit provides for the ***Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operations Officer, four Directors and five multi-tasked administrative support staff***.
- The *Kha Ri Gude Unit* is supported by an ***external administrative agency*** (SAB&T) appointed through an open tender to assist with ***procurement as well as data, financial, project and human resource management***.



Some Achievements to date



- The development of **administrative & management tools** such as forms, registers, educators' reports, and monthly reporting templates;
- The **databases** for registering all learners and linking them with their respective volunteer educators, supervisors and coordinators are developed and are being populated;
- **Statistical and demographic profiles of learners and volunteers** are updated on a weekly basis to provide statistical reports and trends;
- **Interaction** with the Council of Education Ministers, HEDCOM, provincial EXCOs and senior management, national departments, UNESCO, the Commonwealth of Learning, and SAQA, as well as communities of trust; and
- The formation of **District Literacy Units** comprising relevant stakeholders including chiefs, members of the disability sector, women's organisations, NGOs, CBOs, etc.



Key Principles, Impact and Benefits



- The direct and potential benefits and impact of the Campaign on the poor and vulnerable communities include but are not limited to the following
 - Support of **official language policy**;
 - **Poverty alleviation** through payment of stipends;
 - **Stimulation of local economic activity**– delivery of learning materials & catering during training workshops;
 - Provision of “**free education**”;
 - Provision of **world-class volunteer and learner materials**;
 - **Social / community cohesion**;
 - **Synergy** between *Kha Ri Gude* and social development;
 - Addressing **xenophobia**;
 - Enabling **access** for learners with special needs; and
 - Targeting the so-called **vulnerable groups** – women, youth, the aged and the disabled.



Some Systemic Challenges



- First, the infamous statement that “**R6,1 billion was approved with the approval of operational plan**”. What most people missed to do, was to interpret the R6,1 billion as a budget allocation over the duration of the Campaign itself.
- Second, funds made available in the current triennium – MTEF, as it is called – are not adequate:
 - The operational plan approved by Cabinet on 22 August 2007 anticipated **a per capita expenditure of R1 269**, which for the 2008 target of 300 000 learners required a **R381 million budget allocation**.
 - However, **R350 million was allocated for the 2008/09 financial year**, resulting in an immediate **shortfall of R31 million**.
 - The **CPIX (cost price index) of 11,6%** advertised on Thursday, 30 July 2008 will definitely put a further strain onto the funding made available for the Campaign.

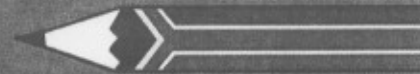


Some Operational Challenges



- These are plenty, but we will confine ourselves to those which appeared to have been the Achilles Heel for the pilot phase of the Campaign:
 - **correct numbers and identities** of learners and volunteers, and the **legitimacy / illegitimacy** of the learning sites in terms of the ratios;
 - **reporting systems and procedures** as well as **accounting lines** appear not be understood by our volunteers;
 - there appears to be lack of proper understanding of the **roles and responsibilities** among the three tiers volunteers;
 - **incorrect orders**, resulting in material shortages and excesses;
 - **claiming system** – for stipends and for services rendered; and
 - level of **abuse and threats** leveled against supervisors, coordinators, SAB&T and officials.
- In cooperation with our volunteers, and the external administrative service provider, we have found sustainable solutions to these operational challenges.

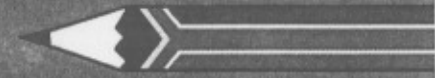




- At the ratio of **1 supervisor to 10 educators, 8 100 supervisors will be recruited and trained.** Each supervisor will be paid **a stipend of R2 300 per month.**
- At the ratio of **1 coordinator to 20 supervisors, 405 coordinators will be recruited and trained.** Each coordinator will be paid **a stipend of R5 000 per month.**
- It is therefore envisaged that in **2009 approximately 81 000 Kha Ri Gude classes will be running all over the country** – wherever illiterate learners are, and at the times most suitable for the learners and volunteer educators. These classes will be offered in any of the **11 official South African languages, as well as in Braille for the blind, and sign language for the deaf.**



Conclusion



- The *Kha Ri Gude* Mass Literacy Campaign has taken off and has enthused masses of illiterate South Africans. All South Africans should gear themselves up for a successful mass roll-out in 2009.
- The *Kha Ri Gude* Mass Literacy Campaign is intended to correct one of the degrading ills of the past. It is South Africa's solution to eradicate illiteracy among South Africans.
- Government departments, the private sector as well as national (SAQA) and international organisations (such as the Commonwealth of Learning and UNESCO), have expressed varying levels of interest in the *Kha Ri Gude* Mass Literacy Campaign.
- The relevance and impact of the Campaign can be seen from the visibly excited adult South Africans, who attest that before they joined the Campaign, they could not write their names, count their monies, read their Bibles – and are now empowered and liberated to do so. ***The Kha Ri Gude Mass Literacy Campaign is indeed a silent revolution!!***

