

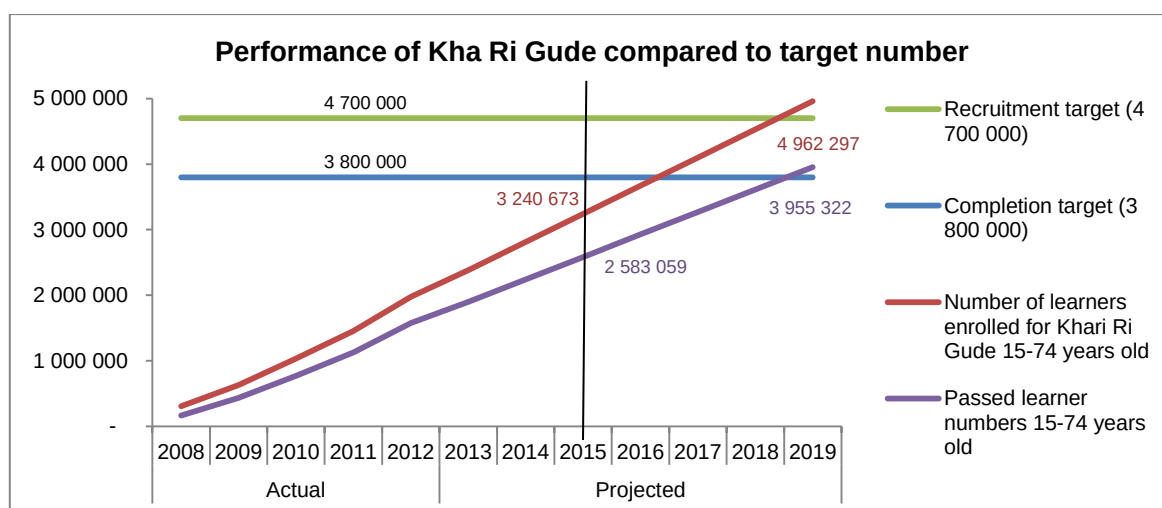
1. Kha Ri Gude target not to be met by 2015

Requirement

In terms of the Ministerial Committee on Literacy's Report, dated 19 June 2006, the main objective of Kha Ri Gude (KRG) is to fulfil the Education for All commitment of halving the illiteracy rate of South Africa by 2015. The general target for the literacy campaign was 4,7 million unschooled adults. However, realistic targets were acknowledged to be far less, and were calculated at 3,8 million. The realistic target was informed by an overall calculation of 7,6 million illiterate and semi illiterate adults (aged between 15 years and 74 years) after removing the uneducable adults.

Audit finding

Whilst a substantial amount was invested in KRG and 63% of the campaign had been completed by 2012, **only 41% of the KRG target had been achieved by then.** This amounts to 1,57 million of the 3,8 million learners targeted to complete KRG. Considering this backlog and the average dropout rate of 21%, even with an excellent average pass rate of 99%, the planned enrolments will only reach the 2015 target in 2019.



Root cause

- Management information which informs decision making was inaccurate, incomplete and not reliable and contributed to the slow progress in reaching the target in 2015. **The numbers reported as part of the success of the campaign are significantly overstated and the campaign's contribution to reducing illiteracy is less than reported.**

- The following additional factors will also hamper the achievement of the 2015 target:
 - National Treasury reduced the KRG budget for 2014-15 to 2016-17. This will result in approximately 135 373 less learners to be enrolled over the remaining period will based on the MTEF allocations and targets.
 - As the pool of illiterate adults decreases, it could become more difficult to reach them. This would require a change in the strategy/approach of KRG and could lead to higher learner cost towards the end of the campaign. The increased expense will ultimately result fewer learners being enrolled.

Impact

The campaign will not reach its target of reaching 4,7 million illiterate adults and enabling at least 3,8 million adults to become literate and numerate by 2015.

Recommendations

1. The department should:
 - recalculate a realistic number of Kha Ri Gude learners that completed the campaign to date, taking all the identified weaknesses into account
 - review the target numbers for the remaining period of the campaign and adjust accordingly
 - take appropriate steps to act on achieving the new target
 - draft an implementation plan with realistic, clearly defined targets after the necessary adjustments have been made. Objectives should be linked to specific time frames and responsibilities. The implementation plan should take the prioritisation of provinces with high levels of illiteracy into account.
2. The department should implement proper monitoring and review controls, for example:
 - implement and maintain a register on reported problems. The register should clearly identify the issue, the action to be taken as well as the responsible person and a due date. This will ensure that all problems identified by monitors are timely and sufficiently addressed
3. The department should secure funding for the remaining period of the campaign in conjunction with National Treasury and should implement measures to ensure that the 2015 target will be achieved at the required level of quality.