

1. PURPOSE OF POLICY

- Do you believe it is necessary to have the policy on community colleges and if so why?
- Is this policy a government priority? Is the rationale for it being a priority clear?
- Is this policy development widely supported in the DHET or is it only a Minister's enthusiasm?
(Ask questions relating to the respondents' specific role in the policy process)

2. LINKAGES

- Does the policy have coherent links to existing policies, strategies and provision?

Such as: Lifelong learning?
National Development Plan?
ABET policy (of 1997)?
The New Growth Path?
Kha Ri Gude

3. GOVERNANCE

- How should a new community college system to be governed?
- How should staff be employed?
- What challenges do you envisage in terms of governance of community colleges?
- There were problems with shifting the functions of the FET Colleges. What were the major stumbling blocks in this process?
- What challenges do you foresee with the shifting of the function?

4. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COMMUNITY COLLEGES (optional)

- The White paper and the early draft of the community college policy envisaged both public and private community colleges but the October draft only speaks of public ones. Why is this?’
- Given the possible lack of adequate start up finance, is it sensible not to incorporate private colleges more substantially in planning?
- What will happen to Private Adult learning Centres that were registered with the provincial education departments?

5. PARTNERSHIPS

- What partners could be involved in the construction of the Community College sub-sector?
- The White Paper envisaged the community colleges being linked to a whole network of learning centres (and the Task team report envisaged the Kha Ri Gude infrastructure of learning groups as part of this network). What has happened to these ideas?

6. TARGETS

- Who do you see as the main target groups?
- Are the White Paper targets for the growth in youth and adult education/community college numbers feasible? (By 2030 the goal is to have enrolments of 1.6 million in public universities, 2.5 million in TVET colleges, and 1.0 million in community colleges)

7. PROGRAMMES

- What do you see as the ideal programme mix?
- How will programmes be developed?
- Who is currently working on programme development? (Ask about SAIVCET)
- What capacity is there to do so?
- What provision will there be for learners with special needs?
- Will university adult education capacity be resuscitated in time?
- The White Paper on post-school education and training states that the DHET will establish a Skills Planning Unit which will work with universities and other research institutions to develop an institutional mechanism for skills planning. The Unit will also identify current and future demand as accurately as possible. Are there any indications of the establishment of such a Unit at DHET?

8. MODES OF DELIVERY

- How could one make use of alternative modes of delivery in the development of the Community College sector? (See Section 5 again.)
- What kind of enabling infrastructure would be necessary?

9. DATA (optional)

- Where is the current data, who has it, who processes it and how is it used?
- Is there research capacity to verify and evaluate it?
- What templates are there to assist in the data capture, dissemination and comparison process?
- Do you have any data on infrastructure?
- What challenges are currently experienced in collecting EMIS for the Community College sector?
- What needs to be in place in order to overcome these challenges?
- What can be learnt from other sub-sectors' EMIS?
- What data is required to monitor the Community College sector (e.g. on target groups)?

10. SETTING UP OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- Who should be responsible for developing the regulations and operating systems for new pilot model community colleges?

11. FINANCE

- Where will the money come from and how does it get to youth and adult education in community colleges?
- Ideally, what percentage of the total national Education budget should be spent on community colleges/community learning centres?

12. ASSESSMENT

- What assessment plans have been made?
- What challenges are currently faced with assessment in the Community College sector and how would we overcome them?

13. STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- What plans are there for staff development?
- Given the likelihood of seriously underprepared students, how prepared are the educators to teach them appropriately?
- Have there been discussions with universities on this?
- Have staff had ICT training?
- Are existing national and provincial adult education directorate staff, who have hitherto only managed (and not very well) the PALCs in each province, the best people to generate a totally new system of community colleges (particularly as they appear not to want to work in them but to stay in “head office”)?

14. INFRASTRUCTURE

- What critical infrastructure is needed for the community college sector?
- Is there an infrastructure plan?