

Cabinet Committee Presentation
15 August 2007

Operational Plan for the Mass Literacy Campaign



education

Department:
Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



The target

To reach 4.7 million adult illiterates by the end of 2012

- To meet Dakar 2000 promise to reduce illiteracy by at least 50% by 2015
- To have UNESCO declare South Africa a territory free of illiteracy



What the campaign is about

- A single integrated mass campaign aimed at reaching all illiterates, wherever they are
- Supported by the full range of government departments and initiatives; with ...
- All sectors participating – religious bodies, business organisations, and non-governmental organisations

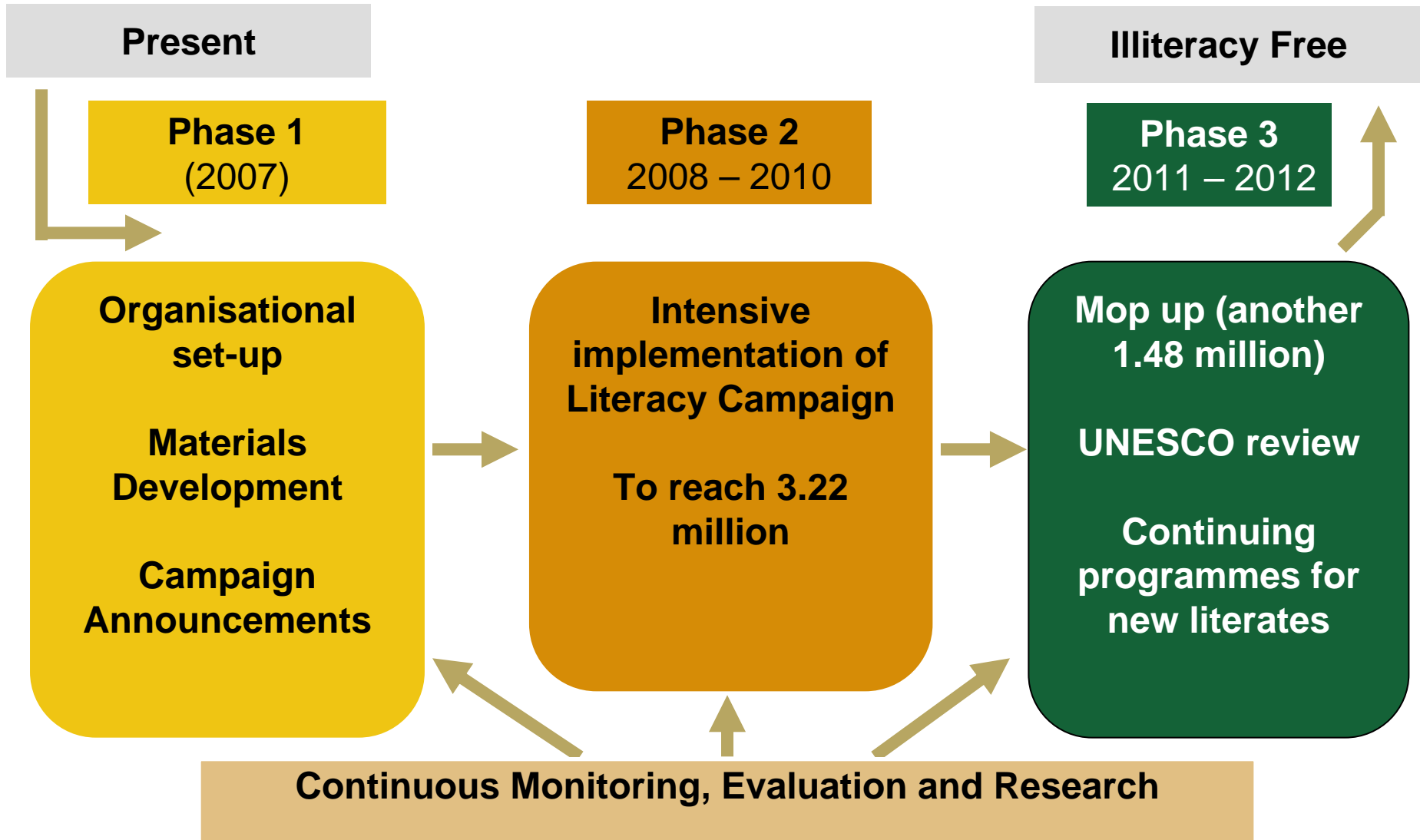


A literacy campaign linked to national and international policies and initiatives

- The Dakar EFA goals
- The Millennium Development Goals (MDG)
- The Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative - South Africa (AsgiSA)
- The Joint Initiative on Priority Skills Acquisition (JIPSA)
- The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP)
- National Youth Service
- The social grant programme
- The FIFA 2010 World Football Cup
- The Community Development Workers programme (CDW)



Plan phases in the eradication of illiteracy



Elements of the Plan

- Rationale and operational principles
- Learning outcomes to be achieved (in all languages)
- Detailed strategy on structures and processes for:
 - Governance, organisational matters and financial management
 - Curriculum, materials, advocacy and educator training
 - Monitoring, evaluation and research
- Gear up requirements including proposal for IMC
- Targeting of learners, including access to the disabled and women
- Ensure youth participation in implementation and as beneficiaries
- Mobilisation of other partners and civil society



Organisational structures

Principles

- Overseen by Inter-Ministerial Committee
- Firmly located within the public service as defined in the Public Service Act
- Sufficiently autonomous from departmental line functions to allow for speedy and flexible implementation
- Focused exclusively on the campaign
- Possible mechanisms
 - Section 21 Company (like NSFAS)
 - Easy to establish; requires Cabinet approval; relatively autonomous
 - Use of NGO through tender
 - Feasible; could attract NGO consortium or private company; would require tight control of contracted agencies
 - HE institution
 - Has been used before but capacity to deliver would need to be determined given scale and nature of plan



Campaign timetable

Year	Number learners	Purpose
2007	None	Gear up
2008	1,200,000	An intensive three year campaign
2009	1,220,000	
2010	1,200,000	
2011	720,000	Winding down
2012	360,000	Mop up

This timetable will enable the campaign to achieve its goals within the period identified for the United Nations Decade of Literacy.



Proposed budget by years

Year	Rands (millions)			
	Proposed in Report			Allocated
	Fixed costs	Variable costs	Total (with inflation)	
2007	72	17	89	20
2008	72	1,390	1,536	350
2009	54	1,350	1,545	480
2010	54	1,324	1,585	
2011	45	775	984	
2012	43	282	406	
Total	340	5,135	6,145	850

Preparatory phase (Phase 1)

Step	Details	Progress
1	Appoint preparatory team	Done
2	Develop implementation plan	Done
3	Establish Inter-Ministerial Committee	Done
4	Start materials development process (including Braille)	Writing teams appointed and developing materials
5	Identify implementation sites	Scheduled for Sept/Oct
6	Print and distribute materials	Scheduled for end 2007
7	Recruit volunteers	Scheduled for end 2007 and early 2008
8	Mobilisation of key departmental and civil society resources and partnerships	Started and ongoing
9	Start training, monitoring, evaluation and research processes for mid 2008 launch	Scheduled for Feb 2008



Service to and by youth

- Youth to play a prime role in the campaign as volunteers, in specially organised youth literacy brigades, in learnerships, and, in the mobilization of illiterate youth, as learners.
- Through stipends, unemployed youth serving as tutors will receive a small income.



Youth opportunities via the campaign

- As volunteers
- As part of National Youth Service
- Through ABET practitioner learnerships
- Encouraged to enter formal teacher training after the campaign
- Trainees in community development programmes



Recommendation

It is recommended that Cabinet

- Approves the strategic plan for the Mass-based Literacy Campaign
- Advises on the mechanisms to be adopted for housing the campaign
- Mandates the Minister of Education to implement the plan, based on available resources



Forward to an illiteracy free South Africa

Khari gude – Masifunde
Thank you

