



higher education
& training
Department:
Higher Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Funding Framework Review and National Macro Infrastructure Plan

SAAIR HEMIS Institute
5 August 2015

1

Background – as reported in May 2014

- Minister released the Report of the Ministerial Committee on the Review of the Funding of Universities in February 2014.
- Department established a Technical Team (TT) and Reference Group (RG) to further model the recommendations in the Report and the financial implications thereof, draft a revised funding framework for further consultation.
- Other policy changes that were not part of the review and not recognised in the system will also be considered.
- Members consist of external members in the sector and internal senior managers in the Department.
- Over next few months until end of year, TT and RG will undertake its tasks.

2

Reminder of some of the recommendations in the report

- Basic architecture of block and earmarked grants should remain the same.
- Introduction of a HDI Development Grant.
- Government should increase the funding for higher education, to be more in line with international levels of expenditure.
- Slight changes to CESM categories and weightings used for the Teaching Input Unit.
- Research development funding should be top sliced (Minister Determines) within the research output block grant and allocated as an earmarked portion of the MTEF. The percentage that is top-sliced should remain stable for a period of three years.

Reminder of some of the recommendations in the report

- Funding allocated to foundation programme provision would have to increase considerably to support larger numbers of under-prepared students entering the system and should be embedded in the enrolment planning process.
- Committee proposes that an umbrella, earmarked *University Development Grant* be allocated that includes funding for teaching development, research development and the development of the new generation of academics due to areas of overlap.

Progress with the Funding Framework Review

- The TT and RG have considered all recommendations and additional modelling that has been done.
- A draft New Funding Framework has been drafted with final changes to be made.
- The Draft New Funding Framework for public comment needs to be approved by the Minister for gazetting by end of September 2015.
- Comments will be received and changes considered where necessary.
- 2016/17 New Funding Framework should be finalised and published for implementation in 2019.

National Macro Infrastructure Plan

- In 2014 Universities submitted maintenance and disability audits/plans and campus master plans.
- A working group have made an initial assessment of these plans.
- A draft framework for the National Macro Infrastructure Plan has been developed.
- The Plan will be developed over the next few months and finalised by end of March 2016. Will be a 'living document'.
- Will include policies/ plans/ information/ guidelines on the following, amongst other matters:
 - Current status of infrastructure, strategic direction, white paper, NDP, maintenance, campus master plans and enrolment plans, disability, financial modelling, new universities, student housing, health and safety ...etc.

