

Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology

2016 CIMC NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM, 18 – 20 OCTOBER

HOLIDAY INN, PORT MORESBY

Sub theme:

Long and Medium Term National Human
Development Plans and Programs

***“Embracing the effects of the TFF Policy at
Higher Education and Moving Forward”***

Presentation Outline

1. Strategic Intent – Why Higher Education;
2. Problem Statement;
3. Positive Impact of the Tuition Fee Free (TFF) Policy;
4. Achievements of DHERST;
5. Going Forward; and
6. Conclusion

1. Strategic Intent: Why Higher Education?

- ▶ The Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (DHERST) is PNG's lead agency promoting intellectual advancement of our people and building research capability using our very own resources thereby harnessing the nation's competitive advantage to secure our place in the global community.

- ▶ **OUR VISION**

To lead the Papua New Guinean higher and technical education sector in producing world class skills and expertise and innovative research for economic growth and nation building.

- ▶ **OUR MISSION**

To provide best policy direction and support systems to enhance the quality, access and relevance of higher and technical education and research for Papua New Guinea by 2017.

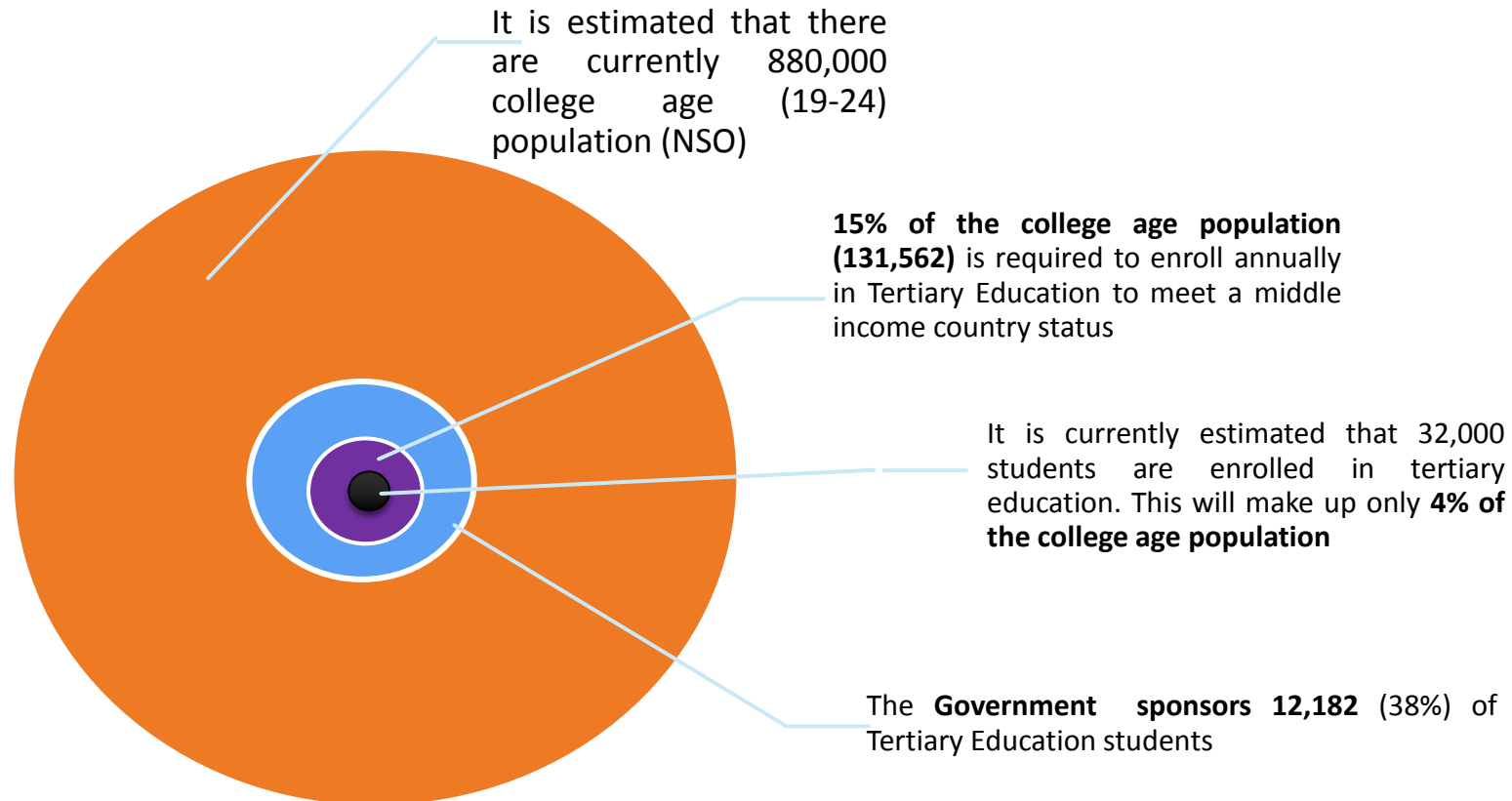
2. Problem Statement

- ▶ There exists the fundamental problem of **Access, Equity, Quality & good administration and financing higher and technical education**
- ▶ How can the Higher and Technical Education Sector increase **Access, Equity** and improve **Quality**?

Challenges

- ▶ Access Issue: 2013 - 17,460 school leavers from 127 secondary and national high schools (up by 0.12%), 4,614 places available in 31 IHEs, OHE only offered 2,730 scholarships (for new intakes);
- ▶ Quality Issue: External Audit has shown evidence that our universities are not meeting international quality standards;
- ▶ Advance Mathematics dropped from 57% (2010) to 29% (2012);
- ▶ Student number grew but the budget declined in real terms; and
- ▶ Growing tension between quantity and quality – missing link is resources

Challenges in the HE Sector



3. Positive Impacts of the Tuition Fee Free (TFF) Policy

- ▶ Increase in Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) to approximately 96%
- ▶ Improvement in certain Human Development Index (HDI) components:
 - ▶ Literacy Rate greatly improved from 56 % (2009 est.) to 62.9% (2013)
 - ▶ Per Capita Income at around US\$2,000
 - ▶ PNG's overall ranking at 158 out of 188 countries
- ▶ Increase in the number of grade twelve students between 2012 and 2016: from 15,887 in 2012 to 24,710 in 2016

Enrolment Statistics

Year	No. of Secondary Schools	% Change	Total School Leavers	% Change	Total Selected by HEIs	% Change	Total TESAS	% Change
2012	115		15,887		4,046		7401	
2013	127	0.12	17,460	15.73	4,614	5.68	7621	2.2
2014	134	0.07	20,554	30.94	5,628	10.14	8764	11.43
2015	142	0.08	23,000	24.46	5,235	-3.93	10877	21.13
2016	154	0.12	24,710	17.1	4,025	-12.1	12,019	11.42

The TFF Policy was introduced in 2011. Since 2011 there has been an increase in the number of Grade 12 students annually.

National Selections Process

- ▶ The entry into higher education is guided through the National Selections process. This process is facilitated by DHERST while the actual selections are done by HEIs.
 - ▶ Quota System – HEIs have specific quota's for programs and institutions taking into consideration their limited absorptive capacities.
 - ▶ Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirement – Each HEI has GPA requirement for each of its programs. Though a lot more students are sitting for Grade 12 exams in recent years, not everyone meets the GPA requirement for admission into a HEI.
 - ▶ There is a general decline in Mathematics: in terms of numbers of students taking up Advanced Mathematics.

4. Achievements of DHERST

Activity/Achievement	Focus Area
Massive PIP funding of K285.4 million to higher education between 2012-2016	Access/Equity/Quality
New Infrastructure – one impact project per university per year	Access & Quality
Implemented over 50 projects for the higher education sector	Access
Academic Audits of all 6 universities leading to Twinning Models	Quality
Academic Audits of 12 Colleges through-out the country	Quality
Launch of Diploma in Primary Teacher Education Curriculum to replace OBE adopting <u>Her Majesty's</u> 9 standards (UK)	Quality & Access

Achievements of DHERST cont..

Activity/Achievement	Focus Area
PNG Open University	Access
Accreditation of 8 new institutions since 2014- ITI, IBS, Sonoma Adventist College, Institute of Banking and Business Management, Enga Nursing College, CLTC, AoG Jubilee Institute of Higher Education and St Peter Channel College of Secondary Teachers Education	Quality
Establishment of a robust quality assurance system to regulate higher and technical education provision.	Quality
TESAS Targeted Scholarships	Access
Revised PNG Qualifications Framework	Quality & Access
Strengthening and re-anchoring of TVETSSP in country	Access & Quality
Western Pacific University under <i>WPU Act 2014</i>	Access
Pacific Governance Precinct	Quality

5. Going Forward

- ▶ The National Higher and Technical Education Plan 2015 – 2014 and the DHERST Corporate Plan 2015 – 2017 provide a guide for growth and prosperity of the higher and technical education sector as we move forward.
- ▶ We anticipate many positive developments for sector including the development of new HEIs to cater for the annual increases in the number of Grade 12 students:
 - ▶ PNG Open University and its roll out into the 89 districts
 - ▶ Western Pacific University (Ialibu Southern Highlands Province)
 - ▶ University of IBS (Port Moresby)
 - ▶ University of Rural Technology (Wewak, East Sepik Province)
 - ▶ University of New Ireland (New Ireland Province)
 - ▶ Commonwealth University of PNG

6. Conclusion

- ▶ The O'Neill-Dion Government has made a huge commitment to education and higher education.
- ▶ Improvement in the Human Development Indicators is also anticipated.



Thank you