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Implementing Educational Policies in Swaziland

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The set of studies on implementation of African educational policies was edited by Mr. George Psacharopoulos. Mr. Psacharopoulos wishes to acknowledge the help of Professor G. Eshipani, who beyond being the author of the case study on Kenya (see No. 85) has coordinated the production of the other case studies in the region.
Implementing Educational Policies in Swaziland

Cisco Magalula

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The decades of the 1960s and 1970s witnessed dramatic quantitative growth in African education systems. Beyond expanding educational places, many African countries pronounced intentions to "reform" their educational systems, by adjusting the length of education cycles, altering the terms of access to educational opportunity, changing the curriculum content, or otherwise attempting to link the provision of education and training more closely to perceived requirements for national socio-economic development. Strong economic growth performances of most African economies encouraged optimistic perceptions of the ability of governments to fulfill educational aspirations which were set forth in educational policy pronouncements.

Sadly, the adverse economic conditions of the 1980s, combined with population growth rates which are among the highest in the world meant that by the early 1980s, education enrollment growth stalled and the quality of education at all levels was widely regarded as having deteriorated. In recognition of the emerging crisis in African education, the World Bank undertook a major review to diagnose the problems of erosion of quality and stagnation of enrollments. Emerging from that work was a policy study, *Education in Sub-Saharan Africa: Policies for Adjustment, Revitalization, and Expansion,* which was issued in 1988. That study does not prescribe one set of education policies for all of Sub-Saharan Africa. Rather, it presents a framework within which countries may formulate strategies tailored to their own needs and circumstances. In fact, a central point which is stressed in the study is the need for each country to develop its own country-specific education strategy and policies, taking into account the country's unique circumstances, resource endowment, and national cultural heritage.

The crucial role of national strategies and policies cannot be overemphasized. In recognition of the centrality of sound policies as a basis for progress, in 1937 the Bank’s Education and Training Department (the relevant unit responsible for the policy, planning and research function at that time) commissioned a set of papers by African analysts on the comparative experiences of eight Anglophone Eastern and Southern African countries, each of which had developed and issued major education policy reforms or pronouncements. The papers give special attention to deficiencies in the design and/or implementation processes that account for the often-yawning gaps between policy intentions and outcomes. The lessons afforded by the eight African case studies, along with a broader-perspective assessment of educational policy implementation, are presented in the papers by George Psacharopoulos (the overall manager of the set of studies) and John Craig. The eight country case studies are presented in companion reports.

By disseminating this set of studies on the implementation of African educational policies, it is hoped that the lessons of experience will be incorporated into the current efforts by African countries to design and implement national policies and programs to adjust, revitalize and selectively expand the education and training systems which prepare Africa’s human resources, the true cornerstone of African development.
ABSTRACT

At the time of independence from Britain in 1968, education in Swaziland was characterized by poor quality, uneven distribution of schools, high dropout and repeater rates, serious shortages of teachers, and inappropriate and highly academic curricula. This paper describes the status of present-day education in Swaziland in terms of the effect of government policies on the primary, secondary, and tertiary sectors. Because current trends in education are the cumulative result of policies followed since independence, the historical development of education policy is traced in quinquennials that correspond to each of the four post-independence five-year National Development Plans. The policies of the first three five-year periods are followed by an appraisal of the achievements and failures of the period with regard to policy objectives and policy procedures. The final chapter on the Fourth Plan (1984-88) lists priority areas for continued improvement—improved teacher training, curriculum development, support to the sector from the Ministry of Education, and more systematic educational planning, monitoring, and evaluation. An annex includes the detailed recommendations of the National Review Commission Report of 1985.
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1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to relate the status of present-day educational development in Swaziland in so far as the policies of government have affected primary, secondary and tertiary education. An effective account of current trends in education requires that an historical account be given of the education policies that have been pursued since the time of Swaziland's political independence. With this end in view, this historical development has been considered in quinquennials that correlate with each of the four independence post-five-year National Development plans. The policies of each quinquennial are followed by an appraisal of the achievement and failures of the set objectives and procedures. The concluding chapter focuses its critical attention on three major policies on education which have dominated the lives of the majority of Swaziland's parents and youth.

Basic Data

The Kingdom of Swaziland gained political independence from Britain in 1968. It covers 1,7364 Km² and is one of the smallest countries on the African continent. SiSwati is the one and only indigenous language. English, which is also the chief medium of instruction at all levels of formal education, is the second official language of the country. The last population census was taken in 1976, however, the estimated population of 1983, which was based on the 1976 growth rate of 3.42 per annum, was given as 644,298 persons. It was then expected that this population would double in 20 years and would have exceeded the one million mark by the year 2000 (see diagram 1.1). Approximately 46% of the entire population is composed of school-age children, of which the ratio of boys to girls is almost 50:50 from the primary level to junior secondary school, that is, during the first ten years of school; thereafter the enrollment of boys has a slight edge over the enrollment of girls (see diagram 1.2).

The Ministry of Education is responsible for the control of all forms of formal education from primary school to University. It is also responsible for pre-school and special education as well as certain forms of adult and non-formal education. The formal sector begins at age 6, with primary school
from grades 1 to 7. A public examination, monitored by the Ministry of Education, selects those who qualify for the Swaziland Primary Certificate (SPC) and admission to secondary school. The next stage, secondary education, is divided into a three-year junior and a two-year senior secondary school. The junior secondary school, from Form I to Form III, culminates in a public examination, the Junior Certificate (JC), which is terminal and is monitored by a local Examinations Council. The syllabi and examination (COSC)\(^1\) of the last two years of senior secondary or high school are controlled by the Cambridge Examination Syndicate in Britain. Thereafter, successful high school leavers may be admitted into such tertiary institutions such as Teacher Colleges or the University of Swaziland. In summary, the formal education pattern is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>No. of Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-school</td>
<td>unspecified</td>
<td>unspecified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Grades 1 to 7</td>
<td>6 to 12 to 13 years</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Secondary Forms 1 to 3</td>
<td>13 to 15 or 16 years</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Forms 4 to 5</td>
<td>16 to 17 or 18 years</td>
<td>2 (extended to 4 (at least))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher College</td>
<td>unspecified</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University</td>
<td>unspecified</td>
<td>4 (at least)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(See also Swaziland Educational Structure)

---

\(^1\) Cambridge Overseas School Certificate.
2. SWAZILAND'S EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY, POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES SINCE INDEPENDENCE

Like most developing countries, immediately after obtaining Independence, Swaziland looked upon education as a main factor in nation building and fulfillment of individual aspirations and needs. It is therefore not surprising to note that the educational policies drawn up immediately after Independence were based on social demands rather than economic factors.

In prefacing the first post-independence National Development Plan (1969-1973), the first Prime Minister of Swaziland, Prince Makhosini Dlamini, stated, "The plan is a program of socio-economic action aimed primarily at improving the living conditions of the mass of the people of Swaziland" (p.i).

Consequently, the government of Swaziland invested a lot of money in education. For example, education, training and broadcasting were allocated E3,310,000, i.e., the second largest share of the total investment in 1969-1973. Therefore, this section of the paper will summarize Swaziland's educational philosophy, policies, and objectives since independence. It should be pointed out from the onset that these policies and objectives have not changed since they were proclaimed by the Government of Swaziland in the early seventies in the Imbokodvo National Manifesto (1972) and the first post-independence National Development Plan (1969).

The Imbokodvo National Manifesto states that:

a) The Government of Swaziland believes that education is an inalienable right of every child and every citizen, to receive to the limit of his/her capabilities;

b) The purpose of education is to produce an enlightened and participant citizenry;

c) Therefore the content of education must be work-oriented from the primary to the higher levels;

d) The ultimate goal is to achieve universal free primary education for every child of Swaziland;

e) Merit and aptitude will be the only criteria for selection into secondary and other forms of higher education;
f) Special state bursaries and scholarships for higher education will continue to be supported;

g) Improved and enlarged facilities for secondary education, with special extra-mural facilities, will continue to be provided;

h) Specialized educational institutions, including special schools for handicapped and retarded children, will be provided;

i) The control of education lies with the government of Swaziland whether it concerns state schools, subsidized schools or private undertakings;

j) The policy of the Government of Swaziland is that all education should be designed to inculcate love for the land, loyalty to the King and country, self-respect, self-discipline, respect for the law accompanied by the highest degree of knowledge and the building of character;

k) Realizing the crucial role of the teaching force in implementing the above educational policies, the government of Swaziland declared as a policy that teachers should be well looked after by providing them with, for example, a free ordinary medical scheme, pension scheme, Teaching Service Commission, etc.

Having summarized the major educational and training policies of the Kingdom of Swaziland, the next section of this paper will examine the first quinquennial's development objectives (i.e. 1969-1973).
3. EDUCATION AND TRAINING OBJECTIVES FOR THE PERIOD 1969-1973

Swaziland, like most developing countries, was faced with many serious educational problems immediately after independence in 1968. These problems ranged from the poor quality of education to the few, unevenly distributed schools, high dropout, repeater and failure rates, serious shortage of trained teachers, and inappropriate and highly academic curricula at both primary and secondary levels.

According to the first post-independence Development Plan (1968-1973), 40% of the children of ages 7-13 years were not attending primary school in 1968. Two-thirds of the primary school children were estimated to be failing to complete their primary education. This was due, in part, to the fact that a significant number of primary teachers were unqualified. In 1968, for instance, out of 1600 primary teachers, 400 had no secondary education. Meanwhile, at the secondary school level, about 70% of the children of the age group 14-18 years were not at school.

The uneven distribution of schools further contributed to the high dropout/failure rate and to the small number of children going to school because time made it physically impossible for some children to travel every day from home to schools.

At the tertiary educational level, the most serious problem was a lack of information concerning the manpower requirements in the public and private sectors. The Government of Swaziland had no basis to decide as to how many semi-skilled and skilled workers were required for what jobs. Lack of information concerning manpower requirements compounded the issue of localization and of the pace government should take to implement localization.

In view of the above problems, the Government of Swaziland, in the same first post-independence Development Plan (1969-1973), proclaimed three important policy decisions, namely:

1. To make primary education universal and free;
2. To make secondary education free and available to all children who wanted it and were capable of profiting from it;

3. To ensure that tertiary education level professional technicians and graduates were trained to meet the manpower requirements in both private and public sectors.

Invariably, during the First National Development Plan (1969-1973), the Government of Swaziland stated as its development objectives: The expansion and improvement of secondary education; the training of teachers and other professionals; curriculum development; and planning and mounting of new development educational programs. In fact, the Government of Swaziland went to the extent of setting up specific targets it hoped to meet by the end of the first plan period.

At the primary educational level, for instance, it promised to increase annually, on the average, 2,000 primary students by providing more facilities and resources. In 1968, the total enrollment of primary students was 62,000 students. Similarly, at the secondary educational level, the Government of Swaziland planned to increase enrollment by 10% per year. Thus by 1973, secondary school enrollment was expected to be about 10,000 students. In 1968 total secondary schools' enrollment was 6,700 students. With respect to the tertiary educational level, the Government of Swaziland promised to conduct a thorough study of manpower needs of the country, and thereafter produce about 200 graduates and technician specialists for both private and public sectors. In fact, the annual output of primary and junior secondary teachers was expected to increase from 100 to approximately 200 per year over the plan period.

The Government of Swaziland recognized that formal education was not going to solve all the educational problems facing the adult population as well as the ever increasing numbers of illiterate youth. As a result, it decided to expand vocational institutions, District Farmers' Training Centers, Youth Training Camps and a National Illiteracy Campaign through the Sebenta National Institute.
The next important question is: How far did the Government of Swaziland succeed or fail to achieve the targets set out at the beginning of the first post-independence plan? The next section will address itself to this question.
4. ACHIEVEMENT AND FAILURES DURING THE FIRST NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN PERIOD 1969-1973

A review of the first five years of post-independence regarding the educational aims and objectives set out in the First National Development Plan 1969-1973, shows that there were some significant achievements as well as inevitable notable failures.

With regard to successes, over the first plan period, there was considerable expansion of primary and secondary education. In 1969, for instance, there were 366 primary schools with a total enrollment of 64,411 primary students and a teaching force of 1,739 primary teachers. However, in 1973, there were 395 primary schools (an increase of 8%) with a total enrollment of 81,694 (an increase of 27%) primary students and a teaching force of 2112 primary teachers (an increase of 21%) (See Table 1).

Table 1

Pupils and Teachers in Primary Schools 1969-1973

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of schools</th>
<th>No. of Pupils</th>
<th>No. of teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>64,411</td>
<td>7,739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>69,055</td>
<td>1,706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>71,455</td>
<td>1,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>76,343</td>
<td>2,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>81,694</td>
<td>2,112</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% increase 8 27 21

Source: Second National Development Plan
At the secondary level, within the same five-year period of the first plan, there were 42 secondary schools in 1969 with a total enrollment of 6,777 students and a teaching force of 366 secondary teachers. In 1973, secondary schools were now 64 (52% increase) with an enrollment of 12,459 (84% increase) and a teaching force of 550 teachers (50% increase) (See Table 2).

Table 2

Pupils and Teachers in Secondary Schools 1969-1973

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Schools</th>
<th>No. of Pupils</th>
<th>No. of Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>6,777</td>
<td>366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>8,027</td>
<td>432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>9,001</td>
<td>448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>10,681</td>
<td>491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>12,459</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% increase 52 84 50

Source: Second National Development Plan

There were also significant developments in vocational and tertiary education. The Swaziland Industrial Training Institute was expanded and new courses were introduced at both artisan and technician level to offset the problems of middle level manpower requirements. In particular, the Staff Training Institute was instrumental in training quite a large number of civil servants, thereby speeding up the process of localization, particularly at the lower and middle levels. Within the same plan period, the Swaziland Agriculture College was developed into a center of agriculture training for...
the University of Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland (UBLS). In addition, for the first time, Part 1 degree programs of the UBLS were introduced in Swaziland.

Despite these notable significant achievements during the plan period (1969-1973), there were quite a number of problems that kept appearing, thereby tarnishing some of the achievements. For example, although there were more children attending school at both primary and secondary levels at the end of the first plan period, there were still a considerable number of them receiving very little or no schooling at all. Out of a total of 167,021 children of the age range 5-19 years, 76,227 were in primary schools and 9,576 were in secondary schools in 1972. In other words, 85,803 (51.4%) of the primary and secondary pupils between age group 5-19 were attending school in 1972 compared to 81,218 (48.6%) who were not. Secondly, the quality of education at both primary and secondary levels was still below the acceptable level. This was reflected, in part, by the high rates of repetition and dropout. According to 1972 Education Statistics, less than a quarter of entrants into Grade I and Form I were expected to complete their primary and secondary courses respectively with the majority repeating at some stage or dropping out of the system. (See Table 3.)

The quality of education in Swaziland was partially affected by the poor quality of teachers some of whom were still underqualified. The Second National Development Plan points out that during the first plan period (1969-1973) 35% of the primary teachers were underqualified. Meanwhile, at the secondary level there was a chronic shortage of science and mathematics teachers - subjects that were vital to the economic development of the country. This led to a heavy reliance on expatriate teachers. In other words, the Teacher Training Institutions were not producing enough teachers to cope with the ever increasing school enrollments. (See Table 4).
Table 3

Rates of Continuation, Repetition and Drop-Out
Between Primary School Classes 1971 and 1972

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Enrollment in 1971</th>
<th>Continuing to Next Class in 1972</th>
<th>Repeating Class in 1972</th>
<th>Dropping out of Class in 1972</th>
<th>Overall Rate of Continuation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade I</td>
<td>14,524</td>
<td>78.9</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade II</td>
<td>12,149</td>
<td>88.7</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>78.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>12,041</td>
<td>78.1</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>70.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard II</td>
<td>10,347</td>
<td>76.2</td>
<td>16.8</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>54.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard III</td>
<td>8,796</td>
<td>73.6</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>41.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard IV</td>
<td>6,913</td>
<td>72.4</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>30.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard V</td>
<td>6,685</td>
<td>54.5</td>
<td>28.5</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>22.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: 1/ This percentage is affected by re-starters, that is pupils who return to school to continue their course after an absence of one or more years. No information is available on re-starters at present.

2/ This column shows the percentage of a given enrollment in Grade I which would survive to each successive year given the rates of continuation, repetition and drop-out between 1971 and 1972.

3/ This negative drop-out rate may be the result of an abnormally high number of re-starters.

Source: Second National Development Plan
Table 4

Secondary School Teaching Staff by Qualification and Citizenship of Teacher and Type of School, 1972

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citizenship of Teacher and Type of School</th>
<th>Total Teachers</th>
<th>Graduate</th>
<th>Post-Trained</th>
<th>Pre-Trained</th>
<th>Metric with</th>
<th>Metric with Uncertified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swazi</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Grant-aided                              |               |         |              |             |             |                        |
| Swazi                                    | 100           | 23      | 8            | 32          | 14          |
| Other                                    | 192           | 54      | 76           | 39          | 11          | 12                     |
| Total                                    | 299           | 77      | 84           | 71          | 34          | 26                     |

| All Secondary Schools                    |               |         |              |             |             |                        |
| Swazi                                    | 185           | 43      | 21           | 70          | 33          | 18                     |
| Other                                    | 306           | 88      | 124          | 63          | 13          | 18                     |
| Total                                    | 491           | 131     | 145          | 133         | 46          | 36                     |

Source: Second National Development Plan.
Thirdly, it was the Government of Swaziland's intention to reorient the curricula towards practically oriented subjects at both primary and secondary levels so as to equip school leavers with basic practical skills to sell. This was not achieved during the first plan period. Subjects such as agriculture, technical drawing, carpentry, woodworking, metal works, home economics, etc. were not introduced in the schools. Thus, the school curricula at both primary and secondary levels by the end of the first plan period were as academic as ever.

Inevitably, in the light of the shortcomings experienced in the First National Development Plan (1969-1973) the Government of Swaziland identified three major areas needing special attention in the next plan period (1973-78) namely:

1. Restructuring the school system, raising the quality of education, and radically changing its academic orientation;

2. Making appropriate education and training available to as large a proportion of the population as possible;

3. Continuing with the policy of localization in both public and private sectors by expanding tertiary education and training programs such as on-the-job training schemes.

It should be noted that the above major areas formed the broad aims of education and training in the next five-year period (i.e., 1973-1978). Thus, the next section of this paper will look at the development objectives of education and training within the period 1973-1978.
5. EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES FOR THE PERIOD 1973-1978

Realizing the shortfalls of the first plan period, the Government of Swaziland decided to commit itself to the following educational and training objectives within the Second National Development Plan period namely:

1. To continue the expansion of primary education so as to achieve universal primary education. (It should be noted that "free" was now dropped out from U.P.E.);

2. To continue with the expansion of secondary education so as to make places available to all qualifying students (again the word "free" was dropped);

3. To reorient the curricula at both primary and secondary levels so as to counteract the non-technological bias to enable school leavers to move naturally into the employment sectors;

4. To raise the quality of education by reducing the high incidence of dropout and repeaters as well as by improving performance at all levels (that is producing better qualified teachers and improving school facilities);

5. To develop systems of non-formal education and training for youths and adults in order to raise the ability of individuals, particularly those with limited formal education, so that they contribute to rural development;

6. To expand facilities for tertiary education in order to meet the manpower requirements of both public and private sectors.

In short, the Government of Swaziland's policies in the area of education and training during the second plan period were basically expansion at all levels and the improvement of the quality of education. However, during the latter part of the First National Development Plan (i.e., in 1972), the Government of Swaziland made a major policy decision to establish the first Post-Independence National Education Commission. Some of its findings and recommendations influenced the educational and training development objectives of the Second National Development Plan. Therefore, the next section of this paper will summarize the commission's observations, findings and recommendations.
6. THE FIRST POST-INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL EDUCATION REVIEW
COMMISSION: ITS CONCERNS, FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Government of Swaziland was very much concerned about the type of
education Swaziland had inherited from the colonial British government. It
had problems which are already enunciated above namely: a highly academic
curriculum geared towards white collar jobs and irrelevant, to a large extent,
to the pressing needs of individuals and the nation. Thus, in 1972 the
Government of Swaziland made a major policy decision: to restructure the
Swaziland educational system. To do that, and be in line with the principles
of democracy, the Government of Swaziland decided to hear the views of the
entire nation as to which direction education in Swaziland should follow.

Subsequently, in November 1972 the government of Swaziland
established the First National Education Commission with the following task:
to investigate the organization of education in the country and advise the
government on desirable changes and future educational developments. In
presenting the terms of reference to the commission, the Ministry of
Education emphasized that, based on their investigations and findings, they
should:

1. Give advice on matters pertaining to educational goals and
   objectives.
2. Formulate guidelines and structure of a new education advisory board
   and then recommended to government;
3. Give advice on the implementation of the government's decisions
   affecting education policy; matters pertaining to future expansion of
   primary and secondary education; and teacher training with respect to
   the location of new primary and secondary schools;
4. Give advice regarding aims and objectives for curricula reform;
5. Give advice on issues pertaining to regulations and procedures to be
   included in the new education act. Such regulations should deal with
   the flow of students through the educational system, e.g.,
examinations, promotions, repetition, selection of procedures, students'
   performance, etc.;
6. Investigate and report on the number of school years necessary to
   achieve the objectives of primary education; and the most efficient
organization of secondary education to deal with preparation for University studies and vocational training.

In carrying out its tasks, the commission reviewed the whole education system of Swaziland, consulted pertinent documents, received written submissions from members of the public, and held numerous meetings and interviews across the entire nation. In 1975, the commissioners submitted their final report to the Minister of Education, titled: Report of the National Education Commission, 1975.

Most of the concerns, findings and recommendations of the commission were noted and accepted by the government of Swaziland with the exception of free universal primary education (FUPE), and the expansion of senior secondary education. The government postponed the target date for achieving FUPE from 1980 to 1985. In addition, the word "free" was removed from both primary and secondary education. In the secondary system expansion was to be determined by manpower requirements rather than be made available to all students who qualified as the policy statement had said.

The following sections will summarize the commission's concerns, findings and recommendations for each of the educational levels namely: primary, secondary and tertiary as well as curricula reform.

**Primary Level**

The commission agreed with the government policy of making primary education available to every child in Swaziland starting in 1985. It further agreed with the government's intention of expanding primary educational facilities and resources so as to achieve UPE. Thus, in its submission, the commission recommended the expansion of primary educational resources and facilities by mobilizing communities, through district education officers, to contribute financially and in kind to building classrooms and teachers' houses.

Concerning the issue of the quality of education at the primary level, the commission found that the high dropout rate was due in part to the lack of schools with full primary courses. Quite a number of primary schools went as far as Grade III, Grade IV, Grade V, or Grade VI (See Table 5). In
addition, the commission found that the high dropout rate of primary level was also caused by the fact that primary schools with Grade VII level were not evenly distributed throughout the country. Hence, quite a number of primary children who otherwise would not have dropped out of the system, did so because of the long distance they had to walk to and from the nearest primary school.

Table 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of School</th>
<th>No. of Schools</th>
<th>No. of Grade I or II</th>
<th>Grade I</th>
<th>Grade II</th>
<th>Grade III</th>
<th>Grade IV</th>
<th>Grade V</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government 1/</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>12,708</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand-aided</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>53,026</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>10,609</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>76,343</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>172</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(100%) (1.8%) (2.3%) (24.7%) (12.2%) (15.1%) (43.9%)

Note: 1/ This includes: Kwaluseni Infant School Grade I and Grade II)

Kwaluseni Primary School Std. I to Std. V ) Shown

Manzini Infant School Grade I to Std. II ) Separately

Manzini Central School Std. II to Std. V )

Source: Second National Development Plan
In the light of the problem of high dropouts, the commission recommended that all primary schools should be upgraded to full primary level as soon as possible. Secondly, the commission suggested that District Education Officers, when planning the distribution of schools in the four districts, should involve communities.

With respect to expanding educational facilities, in particular building new classrooms, the commission discovered that the government was subsidizing communities by purchasing building materials. However, the commission recommended that a program should be set up indicating, not only priority areas, but specifically mentioning which communities and agencies should get grants for subsequent years. It also recommended that both government and communities/agencies should contribute 50/50 in constructing classrooms and/or teachers' houses. On the issue of UPE, the commission found that facilities were lacking to accommodate all the children enrolled in primary education. It also found that there was a growing demand for primary education even from under-age and over-age children. In 1972, for instance, no less than 12,564 pupils in primary schools were under 6 or over 12 years of age. In view of the under-age and over-age children blocking places for 6-13 year old students in primary education, the commission recommended that UPE be introduced fully by 1980; that tuition should be free in order to give all children a fair chance to enroll if the government's main goal was to prevent illiteracy among adults in future; and that the curricula should be revised so as to meet individual needs as well as that of National Development.

On formal education, in particular, in the rural areas, the commission noted the significance and necessity of developing a widespread rural educational program which would meet the urgent needs in training for early school leavers and adults. It therefore recommended formulation of a rural educational program that would cater to all sections of the rural population; address itself to the needs of self-employment in rural areas; be practically oriented; be extremely low-cost in terms of capital and staff; and be widely spread in the country.

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2 The government postponed this date to 1985 and UPE was not to be free.
The commission envisaged two parallel rural educational programs, one for the youth and another for adults. It suggested that youth rural education programs should cater to out-of-school and over-age youths. Such a programme should provide the youth with basic-out-of-school course. The ultimate goal of organizing such a program for this group was to open more spaces in the primary education system for the 6-13 years old and hopefully achieve UPE by 1980.

Secondary Level

At the secondary school level, the commission discovered that there was a high demand for secondary education, and yet spaces and facilities in Form I and Form IV, to accommodate the qualifying students were limited, and hundreds of students each year failed to enroll. This was in direct contrast to the policy of Imbokodvo National Manifesto which spelt out that all pupils who had passed Standard V (Grade VII) should get a place in Form I. Furthermore, it contradicted the Government of Swaziland’s objective, as stated in the Second National Development Plan (1973-1978), of making places in secondary education available to all qualifying pupils.

Secondly, the commission found that secondary schools were unevenly distributed in the country. It found, for example, that among the four districts, Manzini district had eight secondary schools with boarding facilities compared with Hhohho and Shiselweni districts, which had four such secondary schools each. Lubombo district had one.

In the light of the above issues, the commission recommended that new junior secondary schools should be established in places or areas where none existed before or were inadequate. In particular, the commission recommended establishment of 14 new secondary schools among the four districts, namely:

Shiselweni District:
1. Hluti Secondary
2. Elulakeni Secondary
3. Enhletsheni Secondary
4. Lavumisa Secondary
5. KaMazombizwe Secondary
Lubombo District:
6. Big Bend Secondary
7. Mpoloni Secondary
8. Npundle Secondary

Nhohho District:
9. Dvokolwako Secondary
10. Etimpisini Secondary
11. Esigangeni Secondary
12. Ensingweni Secondary

Manzini District:
13. Ekuphakameni Secondary
14. Dwalile Secondary

All of the above schools have been established.

Secondary schools should be double-streamed in order to increase the number of places as well as maximize the utilization of facilities and resources economically.

With reference to expansion at the senior secondary level (high school), the Government of Swaziland, in the Second National Development Plan, suggested that those schools which had double-streaming, should triple stream. Such schools were, for example, Mbabane Central, Evelyn Baring, Mhlatane High and Lubombo Central.

The commission concurred with government's suggestion to triple stream and further recommended that more secondary schools should be upgraded to Form V such as Ngwane Secondary, Entfonjeni Secondary, Siteki Nazarene and Vuvulane. (As of 1989, these schools have been upgraded to High Schools.)

In addition, the commission recommended that a few high schools be upgraded to "A" level; and such schools should be evenly distributed throughout the country so as to give equal opportunities to all children. The commission suggested that, at least, there should be one "A" level school in each district.

The commission also reviewed the geographical situation and need of boarding facilities to the country. It noted that existing boarding facilities were catering to a few students and were expensive to operate. As a result, the commission recommended that boarding schools should be kept to a
minimum level. It also suggested that transportation facilities should be made available to take children to school. This would greatly minimize the incidence of high drop-out, repetition and failure rates. However, the commission, noting the fact that Lubombo District had no boarding facilities, recommended that Lubombo High School be converted into a boarding school.

Teacher Training

In reviewing the teaching force at all education levels, with the view of realizing the national educational goals and objectives, the commission found that about one third of primary teachers were unqualified or had qualifications below the minimum teacher qualification. It further noted that Teacher Training Institutions, including the teacher upgrading program, were not producing enough teachers to man the ever increasing number of students in the schools.

To alleviate these problems, the commission recommended expansion of teacher training colleges. It also recommended construction of an additional teacher training college.

At the secondary school level, the commission found a serious shortage of science and mathematics teachers. Subsequently, it recommended training of more science and mathematics teachers through special programs.

One of the major policies of the Government of Swaziland was diversification of the curricula so that practical subjects such as woodworking, domestic science, home economics, and agriculture could be included. In view of this policy, the commission recommended training of specialized teachers in these subjects.

In addition, the commission recommended that the University of 'Otswana, Lesotho and Swaziland should step up its output to at least 35 teacher graduates, of which 15 should be B.Sc graduates.
Concerning the issues of curricula reform, with a view of realizing the policy of curricula diversification, the commission recommended that the duration of primary school should be six\(^3\) years, that of secondary school should be three years, and high school (Form IV-V) should be two years.

In examining the aims and objectives of the curricula at all levels of the education system, the commission suggested that primary education should give a child a broad educational background and, in particular, basic numerical and literacy skills and general knowledge. With respect to secondary education, the commission suggested that the aims of education at this level should give the child a broad educational background as well as elementary skills to enable him to either engage in self-employment or proceed to high school or tertiary education.

Regarding the content of the syllabi, in particular, at the secondary level, the commission suggested that it should have a broad aspect of practical oriented subjects so as to be in line with the aims of secondary education.

**The Education (Consolidation) Order, 1975**

One of the terms of reference given to the commission was to give advice on issues pertaining to the establishment of the new educational act. In this connection, the commission recommended the establishment of the Education (Consolidation) Order whose aim was to set up six statutory bodies:

- a) The National Education Board;
- b) Four District Education Advisory Boards;

\(^3\) The government of Swaziland did not accept this recommendation and stuck to 7 years of primary education.
Basically the function of these bodies was to advise the Minister of Education on educational issues throughout the system.

Indeed, in 1977 the Education Rules, 1977 was gazetted and came into operation in the same year. Those rules spelt out the control of schools, procedures for admitting pupils, hiring teachers, controlling discipline, examinations and award of certificates, etc. (See Appendix 1)

The next section of this paper will look at the successes and/or failures of the Second National Development period 1973-1978.
7. EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING ACHIEVEMENT
FACILITIES FOR THE PERIOD 1973 - 1978

Primary Education

At the primary level the quantitative developments within the plan period were satisfactory. Enrollments increased by 23% from 1973-1978. In addition, the number of primary teachers increased by 35% within the same period. However, the rate of expansion of primary school facilities within the plan period was inadequate. From 1973 to 1978 for example, in spite of large enrollments and more teachers, the number of schools increased by only 10%. (See Table 6).

Table 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Schools</th>
<th>No. of Pupils</th>
<th>Number of Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>81,694</td>
<td>2,112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>86,110</td>
<td>2,220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>89,528</td>
<td>2,363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>92,721</td>
<td>2,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>77,835</td>
<td>2,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>100,700</td>
<td>2,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% increase</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Central Statistics Office, Annual Statistical Bulletin 1983
A survey conducted by the Ministry of Education in 1975-1976 found that more than half the classrooms in primary schools were inadequate and the majority of them were without proper equipment and basic facilities. In addition, housing for teachers was inadequate.

Although the number of primary school teachers did increase by 35% between 1973 to 1978 the proportion of qualified and unqualified teachers did not change much in the same period.

Table 7

Teacher Qualifications, Primary Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Qualified</th>
<th>Unqualified</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Qualified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>1,618</td>
<td>494</td>
<td>2,112</td>
<td>76.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>1,643</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>2,220</td>
<td>74.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>1,644</td>
<td>719</td>
<td>2,363</td>
<td>69.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>1,699</td>
<td>814</td>
<td>2,513</td>
<td>67.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>1,978</td>
<td>694</td>
<td>2,672</td>
<td>74.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>1,194</td>
<td>659</td>
<td>2,853</td>
<td>76.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Third and Fourth National Development Plans.

Despite the fact that Teacher Training Colleges had increased their teacher enrollments through regular and in-service courses, they failed to cope with the pace of increasing primary school enrollments.
With respect to curriculum development, Grade I materials, from the Primary Curriculum Unit, established in 1973, were piloted in some selected primary schools. In addition, more buildings for the curriculum center as well as four other Teaching Innovation Development Centers were completed in 1977.

Concerning the issue of the quality of education at primary level, in particular, regarding the continuation rates, there was some notable improvement in the flow of students in the system. This flow was due, in part, to the introduction of the normal progression policy in 1973 by the Ministry of Education. However, there was still a bottleneck at the Standard V (Grade VII) level where a significant number of students failed to pass the Swaziland Primary Certificate Examination (SPCE); and hence either dropped out of the system or repeated the Standard. In short, the government of Swaziland failed to eliminate repetition and drop out rates at the primary level. (See Tables 8 and 3.)

On the other hand, the number of students passing SPCE increased while the number of failures, in terms of percentages, dropped during the plan period. In 1973, for example, the pass rate was 64.4% and the failure rate was 35.6%. However, in 1977, the pass rate was 75% and the failure rate was 25%. (See Table 9).
# Table 8

**Rates of Continuation, Repetition and Drop-out Between Classes in Primary Education**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
<th>% Continuing to Next Year</th>
<th>% Repeating</th>
<th>% Dropping Out of System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1972</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1</td>
<td>15,864</td>
<td>79.5</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 2</td>
<td>12,856</td>
<td>89.4</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard I</td>
<td>12,380</td>
<td>88.4</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard II</td>
<td>11,142</td>
<td>75.5</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard III</td>
<td>9,430</td>
<td>77.7</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard IV</td>
<td>7,745</td>
<td>79.5</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard V</td>
<td>6,911</td>
<td>56.8</td>
<td>29.5</td>
<td>13.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1973</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1</td>
<td>10,241</td>
<td>83.7</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 2</td>
<td>13,736</td>
<td>92.5</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard I</td>
<td>12,828</td>
<td>85.9</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard II</td>
<td>11,742</td>
<td>92.0</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard III</td>
<td>10,385</td>
<td>79.4</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard IV</td>
<td>8,552</td>
<td>81.7</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard V</td>
<td>8,130</td>
<td>57.0</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>17.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1974</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1</td>
<td>16,496</td>
<td>83.6</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 2</td>
<td>14,375</td>
<td>90.7</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard I</td>
<td>13,787</td>
<td>82.6</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard II</td>
<td>12,306</td>
<td>81.6</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard III</td>
<td>10,882</td>
<td>79.9</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard IV</td>
<td>9,187</td>
<td>81.9</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard V</td>
<td>9,077</td>
<td>61.0</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>20.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1975</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1</td>
<td>17,590</td>
<td>82.5</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 2</td>
<td>15,708</td>
<td>88.5</td>
<td>.6</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard I</td>
<td>14,199</td>
<td>82.4</td>
<td>.9</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard II</td>
<td>12,737</td>
<td>80.2</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard III</td>
<td>11,269</td>
<td>80.0</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard IV</td>
<td>9,809</td>
<td>80.5</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard V</td>
<td>9,216</td>
<td>60.5</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>20.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1976</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1</td>
<td>18,357</td>
<td>85.0</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 2</td>
<td>15,631</td>
<td>90.9</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard I</td>
<td>14,435</td>
<td>84.4</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard II</td>
<td>13,046</td>
<td>84.3</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard III</td>
<td>11,454</td>
<td>82.1</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard IV</td>
<td>10,162</td>
<td>84.1</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard V</td>
<td>9,636</td>
<td>64.7</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>24.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry of Education Annual Reports 1973-1977
Table 9

Examinations Results, Swaziland Primary Education Certificate
1973 - 1977

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Candidates</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Fail</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Rate %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>7,508</td>
<td>876</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2,045</td>
<td>27.2</td>
<td>1,911</td>
<td>25.4</td>
<td>2,676</td>
<td>35.6</td>
<td>64.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>9,157</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2,543</td>
<td>27.7</td>
<td>3,185</td>
<td>34.7</td>
<td>3,118</td>
<td>34.1</td>
<td>85.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>8,762</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2,832</td>
<td>32.3</td>
<td>3,115</td>
<td>35.5</td>
<td>2,544</td>
<td>29.0</td>
<td>71.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>9,006</td>
<td>819</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3,613</td>
<td>40.1</td>
<td>2,383</td>
<td>26.4</td>
<td>2,191</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>75.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>9,087</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3,400</td>
<td>37.4</td>
<td>2,474</td>
<td>27.2</td>
<td>2,273</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>75.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Secondary Education

At the secondary level, quantitative developments were more satisfactory than at the primary within the plan period. In 1973 student enrollment was 12,459; and in 1978 it went up to 20,584, an increase of 65% from 1973 to 1978. Similarly, secondary teachers increased from 550 in 1973 to 1,073 in 1978, an increase of 95%. But the percentage level of qualified teachers went down while the number of unqualified teachers soared. The number of secondary schools also went up from 64 schools in 1973 to 76 schools in 1978, an increase of 19%. (See Table 10 and 11.)

Table 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Schools</th>
<th>Number of Pupils</th>
<th>Number of Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>12,459</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>14,301</td>
<td>611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>16,227</td>
<td>739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>17,396</td>
<td>885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>19,359</td>
<td>978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>20,584</td>
<td>1,073</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% increase 19 65 95

### Table 11

**Teacher Qualifications, Secondary Schools**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Qualified</th>
<th>Unqualified</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percent Qualified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>84.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>611</td>
<td>78.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>538</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>739</td>
<td>72.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>655</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>885</td>
<td>74.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>741</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>978</td>
<td>75.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>811</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>1,073</td>
<td>75.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Despite the notable quantitative expansion, the secondary school system was afflicted with the same problems of low quality and poor orientation of the primary school system. There were still numbers of qualifying students failing to find places in Form I and Form IV. The rate of growth of secondary school facilities did not keep pace with the demand for secondary education, despite the fact that the number of schools during the plan period had increased by 19%.

Although the policy of normal progression did ease the flow of students in the secondary system, as it did in the primary school system, drop out and repeat rates were still very high. (See Table 12.)
Table 12

Rates of Continuation, Secondary Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of Course</th>
<th>1972</th>
<th>1973</th>
<th>1974</th>
<th>1975</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>83.2</td>
<td>87.0</td>
<td>85.5</td>
<td>82.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>65.1</td>
<td>69.1</td>
<td>67.3</td>
<td>63.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>38.6</td>
<td>37.3</td>
<td>35.3</td>
<td>32.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>30.6</td>
<td>28.3</td>
<td>23.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


In addition, the government of Swaziland failed to provide enough teachers' houses as recommended by the National Education Commission.

Concerning the construction of new schools as well as adding more facilities in others, the government of Swaziland partly accomplished this objective within the plan period, hence the 19% increase. However, most of the construction of new schools was completed in the Third National Development Plan (1978-1983). The siting of these schools, as well as the number to be constructed, was based on the recommendations of the 1975 National Education Commission.

In 1975 expansion and renovation of Swazi National High School was completed. Construction of five new schools was started in 1977; and construction of five more were to follow in 1978. By 1977, facilities were added to two more schools with another 12 schools to follow.
Another notable achievement during this plan period was the opening of a Correspondence Education Center to provide secondary education for people not in schools (both youth and adults).

**Secondary Curriculum Development**

With respect to secondary curriculum development within the plan period, subject panels were set up to improve the curriculum and achieve the policy of diversification. By the end of the plan period modern agriculture, elementary technology, and home economics were introduced in secondary schools. In addition, the number of schools offering technical subjects and commercial education increased during the plan period. In 1972, there were three schools offering technical subjects, but in 1976 they had increased to ten schools offering commercial courses.

Another important achievement during this plan period was the organization of the Secondary Curriculum Unit (SCU) within the same premises of the Primary Curriculum Unit. The main objective of establishing the SCU was to speed up the process of re-orientating the secondary curriculum so as to be in line with the policy of curriculum diversification and meeting the needs of individuals as well as of the nation.

**Teacher Training**

During the plan period the Teacher Training Colleges operated close to capacity. Unfortunately the enrollments in both primary and secondary schools rose at a proportionately greater rate than the supply of qualified teachers. (See Table 7.3.)

It should be noted that at the beginning of the second plan period, the government of Swaziland instituted a five-year In-Service upgrading program for 600 poorly qualified teachers. The government of Swaziland was aiming at two objectives: increasing the number of qualified primary teachers and phasing out the lowest primary qualification (the lower primary certificate). The ultimate goal was to improve the quality of education at the primary level. By the end of the plan period (1977) 550 primary teachers
had gone through the upgrading primary program. Another 600 were identified for upgrading in the next plan period.

In 1973, at the beginning of the plan period, the government projected that by 1978 all primary teachers would be qualified. However, this was not the case due to the rapid expansion of school facilities and increased student enrollments. The government of Swaziland failed to solve the problem of the serious shortage of mathematics and science teachers as it had promised at the beginning of the plan period.

Non-Formal Education

At the beginning of the Second National Development Plan, the government of Swaziland, through the Ministry of Education, successfully devised a rural education program to serve out-of-school youth and adults. In 1977, seven Rural Education Center (RECs) were constructed adjacent to some secondary schools. The general goal of the REC's program were to provide training in practical skills to rural adults and school leavers; to assess needs and initiate projects; to coordinate services, resources and activities of the various government and non-governmental agencies involved in rural development; and to be community resource centers where education, economic and social activities could be provided. The potential success of the RECs could not be established during the plan period since they were constructed towards the end of the plan.
8. EDUCATION AND TRAINING DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES
FOR THE PERIOD 1979 - 1983

When drawing up the educational and training development objectives for the Third National Development Plan, 1979-1983, the government of Swaziland reiterated its previous policies that social demands for education would continue to be the guiding principle for the provision of education at the primary levels of education, while manpower requirements would determine enrollments and the planning of courses at the higher levels of education. The government of Swaziland further re-emphasized its philosophy for providing education by proclaiming that every child had a right to have access to education and to receive an education geared to his or her own needs. It re-emphasized its commitment to achieve Universal Primary Education (UPE) by 1985 and to develop post-primary education with the long term objective of providing ten years of basic education.

In this connection the broad educational and training objectives for the Third Plan were:

1. To cope with the strong and diversified demand for education;
2. To improve the quality of education and training at all levels.

To achieve the above objectives the government of Swaziland planned to continue with the policy of expansion at the lower levels of the educational system with a view of achieving UPE by 1985 and ten-year basic education thereafter. At the secondary level the government of Swaziland promised to restrict enrollments on the basis of manpower requirements.

To achieve the above stated broad aims and objectives within the plan period, the government of Swaziland set specific targets to be realized before the end of the Third Plan (1983):

1. To provide an increase in the enrollment of primary schools to 122,000 children and an increase in the teaching staff to 3,400 by 1983 by applying a standard of 55 m$^2$ per 40 pupils a classroom;
2. To reduce the pupil-teacher ratio to 36 to 1 and the pupil per qualified teacher ratio to 45 to 1;
3. To provide for 22,500 secondary students and a teaching staff of 1,150, applying a standard of 55m² per 35 students in a classroom by 1983;

4. To reduce the ratio of secondary students to qualified teachers to 25 to 1;

5. To restrict entry to high school to holders of first and second class passes in the Junior Certificate examinations;

6. To continue the diversification of the curriculum to achieve a closer relationship with labor market opportunities, necessitating the provision of practical subject classrooms in Junior Secondary Schools and the orientation of the curriculum at all levels towards practical and technical pursuits;

7. To scrutinize the examinations system with a view to evolving a set of examinations relevant to the specific needs of Swaziland;

8. To expand and improve teacher training facilities;

9. To extend the In-Service teacher training program so as to qualify 600 teachers by 1980 and thereafter to concentrate In-Service efforts on training teachers in the use of the new curricula;

10. To integrate radio education closely with curriculum reform, Teacher Training and Correspondence Studies;

11. To add 'O' level courses to the on-going program of correspondence education at Emalalatini Development Center;

12. To expand and diversify the annual output of the Swaziland College of Technology;

13. To establish two Vocational Training Centers in the districts to serve the development needs of rural areas and the training needs of junior secondary school leavers;

14. To coordinate and integrate Rural Education Centers with other adult training programs and to evaluate them during the plan period;

15. To continue and diversify the Swaziland National Sebenta literacy program;

16. To expand the Gcina Youth Training facilities to accommodate 160 trainees;

17. To extend primary education for the deaf and the mentally retarded and to extend education and vocational training for the blind and those otherwise handicapped;
18. To transfer jurisdiction over institutions for the handicapped to the Ministry of Education;

19. At the University College of Swaziland to achieve by 1983 the following enrollment mix:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commerce</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other professional studies</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>302</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to the specific targets described above, the government of Swaziland further drew up an action program which would guide it in executing the set targets within the plan period. The action program is summarized below:

a) In primary schools, the government of Swaziland intended to construct 2,856 classrooms, 2,082 teachers' houses, and other educational facilities;

b) In secondary schools, the government of Swaziland planned to build 739 general classrooms, 929 teachers' houses, and other support facilities;

c) With respect to curriculum development, practical courses were to be added in 22 junior secondary schools and agriculture introduced in 40 more primary schools, 12 secondary schools and 3 vocational centers;

d) Concerning Teacher Training, the government of Swaziland promised to build a new Teacher Training College in the Shiselweni District (Nhlangano) with an annual enrollment of 200 student teachers. It was expected that by 1980/81 the College would be in full operation. The In-Service program at William Pitcher College was to be extended until 1980 by which time 600 primary teachers would have been trained. It was projected that the University would annually produce 56 graduates with secondary teaching qualifications by 1983. As a result, it was expected that by 1985 the above program would raise the percentage of qualified primary teachers to 77.1% and of qualified secondary teachers to 87.1%;

e) With respect to radio education, the government of Swaziland expected the curriculum center to develop 15 junior secondary program for broadcasting. In this connection, cassette copying equipment and radio receivers were to be provided in a limited number of schools;
f) Concerning non-formal education, the government of Swaziland planned, within the period (1979-1983), to build three new Rural Education Center, bringing the total to ten. It further promised to build three adult education center in urban areas as well as undertake a training program for specialized staff.
9. ACHIEVEMENTS AND FAILURES DURING THE THIRD
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 1979-1983

Primary Education

At the primary level the Ministry of Education did make some progress in increasing educational opportunities for primary students during the plan period.

There was an average annual increase of 6,150 school places per year in primary schools during the plan period. But the Ministry of Education failed to reach its planned target of constructing 2,856 primary school classrooms during the plan period. Instead, 364 primary school classrooms or approximately 14,560 places (assuming 40 students per classroom) were provided, compared with an overall increase of 24,603 students during the same period. The number of primary schools rose by 32 (7%) from 1978 to 1983. There were 436 primary schools in 1978.

In the Third Plan, the government of Swaziland's planned target enrollment was 122,000 by 1983. However, this planned target enrollment was surpassed in 1982 by 3,303 pupils (37%). The actual enrollment in 1982 was 125,303 primary pupils and in 1983 it went up to 129,767 pupils.

With respect to constructing primary teachers' houses, the government of Swaziland had planned to build 2,082 houses by the end of the Third Plan Period. However, it fell far short of that number. Instead, a total of 341 (16%) teachers' houses were constructed within the plan period. Yet the number of primary teachers increased from 2,853 in 1978 to 3,922, an average annual increase of 37%. More than 800 teachers' houses should have been built over the plan period.

At the beginning of the plan period the government of Swaziland had planned to have a primary teaching force of 3,400 teachers before the end of the plan. However, in 1983, there were 3,922 primary teachers in the field, exceeding the targeted number by 522 teachers (15%).
With respect to the pupil-teacher ratio, the government of Swaziland had planned to reduce it to 36:1 and to 45:1 per qualified teacher at the primary level over the plan period. However, as early as 1978, the pupil-teacher ratio was 35:1 and by 1983 it was 33:1. Meanwhile, the number of pupils per qualified teacher also declined from 46:1 in 1978 to 38:1 by the end of the plan period. In essence the government of Swaziland succeeded in reducing pupil-teacher ratio. However, this is debatable since classroom sizes vary from one school situation to another and the above ratios are simple national averages and tend to smooth the variations.

Despite the reduction in pupil-teacher ratios over the plan period, wastage was significantly high. Instead of the normal seven years to produce a primary school graduate, it took 12.6 years in 1981 to produce one, almost doubling the resources. The number of repeaters went up from 10,775 to 13,300 over the plan period (i.e., by nearly 50%). The repetition rate, over the plan period increased from 10.7% in 1978 to 12.2% in 1983.

One would have expected that the reduction in pupil-teacher ratios would improve the results of the Swaziland Primary Certificate Examination (SPCE) taken at the end of primary education. Unfortunately that was not the case. There was no improvement in the overall pass rate in the SPCE during the plan period. In 1978, 9,284 pupils wrote the SPCE and 6,880 (74.1%) passed. In 1983, 12,197 pupils wrote the SPCE and 8,900 (73.1%) passed. Thus, there was no improvement at all in the quality of education vis-a-vis the number of passes in the SPCE (See figure 1).

**Secondary Education**

At the secondary school level, as at the primary level, there was an increase in enrollment during the Third Plan Period. In the beginning of the Third Plan Period, the government of Swaziland estimated 22,500 secondary students would be enrolled by the end of the period. However, in 1983, the secondary school enrollment was 27,801 students, exceeding the projected enrollment number by 5,301 (24%). Between 1978 and 1983 the average annual increase was 7,217 (35%) students. (See Table 13.)
### Table 13


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Third Plan</th>
<th>Approved Estimates</th>
<th>Actual Expend.</th>
<th>Actual/ Plan</th>
<th>Actual/ Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRIMARY EDUCATION</td>
<td>24,296</td>
<td>16,071</td>
<td>14,412</td>
<td>0.62%</td>
<td>0.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECONDARY EDUCATION</td>
<td>14,063</td>
<td>14,091</td>
<td>14,746</td>
<td>1.12%</td>
<td>0.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEACHER TRAINING</td>
<td>2,913</td>
<td>6,731</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>0.22%</td>
<td>0.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT</td>
<td>1,712</td>
<td>1,449</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>0.46%</td>
<td>0.42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADULT AND NON-FORMAL EDUCATION</td>
<td>967</td>
<td>1,618</td>
<td>1,130</td>
<td>1.12%</td>
<td>0.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIGHER EDUCATION</td>
<td>7,061</td>
<td>9,840</td>
<td>2,430</td>
<td>0.34%</td>
<td>0.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPECIAL EDUCATION</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>349</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>0.91%</td>
<td>0.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>61,838</td>
<td>60,850</td>
<td>37,968</td>
<td>0.72%</td>
<td>0.62%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry of Education/Ministry of Finance

Notes: 1 Excluding other activities such as Ministry Administration not included in Third Plan

### Figure 1

Per Cent Passes - Primary School Examination (1972 - 1982)

![Graph showing percentage passes in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd classes from 1972 to 1982](source: Fourth National Development Plan 1984-1988)
The above enrollment figures provided Junior Secondary School places for 48% of the 13-15 age group; the Senior Secondary School places for 22% of the 16-17 year age group. Because of the presence of out-of-age students, only 24% of the junior and 9% of the senior secondary school age populations respectively were in school in 1982.

The enrollment increase in secondary education was caused, in part, by the ten-year basic education policy; by the failure of the Ministry of Education to ensure that entry at the secondary level was strictly restricted to holders of first and second class passes in the SPCE and Junior Secondary Certificate; and by the failure of the government of Swaziland to provide adequate Vocational Training Center to work with Junior Secondary School leavers. The unexpected increase of enrollments in the secondary schools over-stretched the budget of the Ministry of Education, and by the end of the plan period the budget had been exceeded. (See Table 14 and 15).

With regards to expanding secondary school facilities, the government of Swaziland fell short of reaching its target figure of building 739 general classrooms by the end of the Third Plan Period. The target figure of 739 did not take into account the unexpected secondary school enrollment increase. By the end of the Third Plan Period, 274 (40%) separate classrooms were built. In addition, 40 agriculture facilities, 21 multi-purpose rooms, and 49 workshops were completed.

In effect, approximately 3,990 additional places were made available (assuming 35 pupils per class) compared with a student increase of 5,885 over the period.

The government of Swaziland failed as well to build 929 secondary teachers' houses it had planned to build within the plan period. By 1982, only 191 (21%) secondary teachers' houses built, (short by 738 houses) compared with the additional 428 secondary teachers employed over the same period. A total of 334 qualified secondary teachers still needed houses for accommodation.
Table 14
Comparison of Third National Development Plan
Capital Costs for Education, Approved Estimates and
Actual Expenditure by Program Activity Totals
(1978/79 - 1982/83)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Third Plan</th>
<th>Approved Estimates</th>
<th>Actual Expend.</th>
<th>Actual/Plan</th>
<th>Actual/Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Education</td>
<td>24,295</td>
<td>16,571</td>
<td>14,132</td>
<td>0.58%</td>
<td>0.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Education</td>
<td>14,663</td>
<td>14,081</td>
<td>17,495</td>
<td>1.19%</td>
<td>0.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Training</td>
<td>2,913</td>
<td>6,731</td>
<td>1,809</td>
<td>0.62%</td>
<td>0.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum Development</td>
<td>1,712</td>
<td>1,469</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>0.38%</td>
<td>0.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult and non-formal</td>
<td>957</td>
<td>1,513</td>
<td>1,130</td>
<td>1.18%</td>
<td>0.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Education</td>
<td>7,051</td>
<td>9,869</td>
<td>2,550</td>
<td>0.36%</td>
<td>0.26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>349</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>0.91%</td>
<td>0.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL 1/</strong></td>
<td><strong>51,836</strong></td>
<td><strong>60,584</strong></td>
<td><strong>29,998</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.73%</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.63%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry of Education/Ministry of Finance

1/ Excluding other activities such as Ministry Administration not included in Third Plan.
Table 15
Ministry of Education: Recurrent Expenditure
Comparison of Revised Provision and Actual Expenditures,
by Activity
Totals (1978/79 - 1982/83)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approved Activity</th>
<th>Approved Estimate</th>
<th>Actual Expenditure</th>
<th>Over/Under Spending</th>
<th>% of Est.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minister</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>917</td>
<td>+598</td>
<td>287%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry Admin.</td>
<td>4,179</td>
<td>4,888</td>
<td>+709</td>
<td>117%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Educ.</td>
<td>31,845</td>
<td>42,588</td>
<td>+11,143</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Educ.</td>
<td>25,361</td>
<td>30,576</td>
<td>5,215</td>
<td>121%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Training</td>
<td>3,334</td>
<td>2,518</td>
<td>-816</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum Dev.</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>572</td>
<td>-134</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Education</td>
<td>1,319</td>
<td>1,378</td>
<td>+59</td>
<td>104%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Educ.</td>
<td>10,315</td>
<td>10,114</td>
<td>-201</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Educ.</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>-23</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-School Educ.</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>-17</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>77,466</strong></td>
<td><strong>93,999</strong></td>
<td><strong>+16,533</strong></td>
<td><strong>121%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry of Education/Ministry of Finance

Because of the increase in student enrollments at the secondary level, the planned target of 1,150 secondary school teachers was exceeded by 331 teachers. This excess of teachers further compounded the problem of teacher accommodation. However, there was a 45% increase of qualified secondary teachers from 811 in 1978 to 1,172 in 1982, bringing the proportion of qualified teachers vis-a-vis the total secondary school teaching force from 76% in 1978 to 78% in 1982. Despite the moderate increase of qualified teachers...
One of the ways by which the government of Swaziland planned to achieve quality of education at the secondary level, within the plan period, was to reduce the pupil:teacher ratio. Therefore, when drawing up the action program of the Third Plan, the government of Swaziland stated that it would reduce the pupil-qualified teacher ratio to 25:1 by the end of the plan. The overall pupil-teacher ratio dropped from 19:1 in 1978 to 18:1 in 1982. Similarly the overall pupil-qualified teacher ration dropped from 25:1 in 1978 to 23:1 in 1982.

As already pointed out above, the favorable pupil-teacher ratios should be interpreted with caution because they are based on national averages, thereby ignoring situational variations within schools.

One would have expected as well that the favorable pupil-teacher ratios at the secondary level would improve the quality of education by reducing repetition and drop out rates within the plan period. Unfortunately, the repetition rate rose significantly from 3.1% in 1978 to 5.9% in 1982. Meanwhile, the drop out rates in Grace VII, Form IV and Form V in 1983 were 15.1%, 40.3% and 95.6% respectively. (See Table 16.)

The qualitative effects of the rapid expansion in secondary enrollments were also reflected by the examination results. In 1978, the J.C.E. was taken by 4,266 candidates of which 2,796 (65.5%) passed. In 1982, 5,222 candidates took the same examination, of which 69.5% passed. However, it should be noted that the bulk of passes were mostly from the third class category. In 1978, 3.0% of the candidates passed in first class and 24.3% passed in second class. But in 1982, only 1.7% and 21.6% of the candidates passed in first and second class respectively. (See Figures 2 and 3)

The situation in the senior secondary level was worse. In 1978, 1,705 candidates took the COSC examination and the overall pass rate was 51.4. In 1982, it dropped to 29.6.
Table 16

Q7. Rate of Continuation, Repetition and Drop-Out
Between Classes in 1982 and 1983

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Enrollment 1982</th>
<th>Continue to Next Class in 1983</th>
<th>Repeating Class in 1983</th>
<th>Dropping Out of System in 1983</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>Grade I</td>
<td>25,470</td>
<td>71.2</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools:</td>
<td>Grade II</td>
<td>21,807</td>
<td>83.2</td>
<td>12.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grade III</td>
<td>20,524</td>
<td>79.2</td>
<td>13.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grade IV</td>
<td>17,276</td>
<td>81.1</td>
<td>11.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grade V</td>
<td>16,129</td>
<td>78.8</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grade VI</td>
<td>13,200</td>
<td>80.7</td>
<td>12.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grade VII</td>
<td>11,897</td>
<td>67.7</td>
<td>16.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Form I</td>
<td>7,984</td>
<td>85.8</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>Form II</td>
<td>7,190</td>
<td>77.7</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools:</td>
<td>Form III</td>
<td>5,794</td>
<td>53.7</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Form IV</td>
<td>3,090</td>
<td>77.2</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Form V</td>
<td>2,327</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Form VI</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Central Statistical Office

NOTE: 1. The high drop-out rate reflected in Form III merely reflects the fact that after taking the Junior Certificate Examination in Form III, some pupils leave the schools system to take up occupations or technical training at SCOT or elsewhere.

2. At present there are High Schools offering a full Sixth Form Course.
Figure 2
Per Cent Passes - Junior Certificate Examination (1972 - 1982)


Figure 3
Per Cent Passes - Cambridge "O" Levels (1972 - 1982)

**Teacher Training**

In the field of teacher training, there was some moderate progress during the plan period. There were 639 primary teachers, 298 secondary teachers and 50 home economics teachers trained over the plan period. In addition, a total of 1,630 primary teachers were upgraded through the In-Service upgrading program at William Pitcher Training College. By 1982, the annual average increase of trained primary teachers was 5%, whereas at the secondary level it was 4.7%. By the same year the number of qualified primary and secondary teachers was 87.7% and 78.1% respectively. It should be noted that within the plan period, there were still quite a number of primary and secondary teachers not qualified. There were, for instance, 12.3% and 21.9% unqualified primary and secondary teachers respectively, by the end of the plan period. (See Table 17).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Primary Number</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
<th>Secondary Number</th>
<th>% of total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>29.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Trained</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Untrained</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Matric</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with Training</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>688</td>
<td>45.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Matric</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with Training</td>
<td>3,216</td>
<td>85.4</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- PHC + PTC + MF</td>
<td>1,471</td>
<td>39.0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- PLC + PLU</td>
<td>1,748</td>
<td>46.4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uncertified</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>21.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>3,769</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>1,501</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Ministry of Education
Curriculum Development

With respect to curriculum development at both primary and secondary levels there was some progress in diversifying the curriculum. Practical and occupational subjects such as agriculture, home economics and elementary technology were introduced. To strengthen the teaching of agriculture, school garden projects were established in 1982 in 200 primary schools (See Tables 18 and 19).

Table 18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Schools Teaching Practical Subjects</th>
<th>1978 and 1982</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subjects/School</td>
<td>1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Primary</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Junior Secondary</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- High School</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Economics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Primary</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Junior Secondary</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- High School</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Subjects</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Secondary</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry of Education

NOTE: Numbers equipped to teach technical subjects.
There was also some progress in training local Swazi teachers of agriculture. In 1978, there were 35 secondary school teachers of agriculture, of whom 60% were expatriates. By 1982 this number rose to 108, of whom 10% were expatriates.

Table 19
Schools Teaching Agriculture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Primary</th>
<th>Secondary</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Fourth National Development Plan

Adult and Non-Formal Education

The establishment of Rural Education Center (RECs) continued in the Third Plan period during which seven were built. More than 500 rural adults and youths were trained in various practical skills in the RECs. The RECs were used more and more by other government ministries for training adults and youths. About 22,000 adults have obtained basic literacy through the Sebenta National Institute program during the nine years that it has been operating.

Special Education

There was some notable progress in the area of special education during the Third Plan period. Two new schools were established for mentally retarded children. In addition, facilities were added for the deaf at Siteki School for the Deaf and also at Mzimpofu School for the Deaf. A Rehabilitation Vocational Center was established at Swaziland College of Technology to train disabled persons in practical subjects.
10. EDUCATION AND TRAINING DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND/OR OBJECTIVES FOR THE FOURTH-YEAR PERIOD 1984 - 1988

According to the Fourth National Development Plan, the main aim of education within the plan period is to improve the quality and relevance of education at all levels by improving and expanding teacher training program, curriculum development, strengthening the Ministry’s administrative, professional and support services, and by the systematic planning, monitoring and evaluation of education development and reform.

The overall educational objectives over the plan period are stated as follows:

- To consolidate the achievements made towards the quantitative and qualitative improvements of the education system;
- To continue with the implementation of UPE with the objective of achieving the ten-year course of basic education;
- To limit entry to senior secondary education, other courses of higher learning and training according to the ability of the student;
- To provide alternative educational opportunities through the establishment of a variety of pre-vocational and vocational programs;
- To expand and improve teacher training program through the more effective use of existing and planned facilities;
- To provide reading materials for research, education and recreational purposes;
- To strengthen and re-organize the Ministry of Education both at Headquarters and in the Districts; and
- To pursue appropriate training instruction for incorporation into teacher training syllabi.

In accomplishing the stated educational objectives, the Ministry of Education has identified the following overall priorities:

- To re-organize and staff the Ministry with suitable qualified personnel and support services;
- To strengthen the National Curriculum Center;
- To coordinate and monitor Teacher Training and Curriculum Development;
- To reorganize and strengthen the professional and supervisory services so as to ensure that a cadre of trained inspectors is established; and
- To develop a financial and administrative system which will be cost effective in the use of materials and supplies and which will also ensure equitable distribution to schools.

To achieve the above educational objectives, the government of Swaziland has allocated Capital and Recurrent Expenditure commitments as indicated in Table 20.

Table 20

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capital and Recurrent Program Expenditure Commitments</th>
<th>in E,000 at 1983 Prices</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5880</td>
<td>2945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry of Education
APPENDIX I

Recommendations of the
National Review Commission 1985
A LETTER TO THE HONORABLE MINISTER OF EDUCATION
Dear Mr. Minister

On the 20th March, 1984, the Cabinet of the Kingdom of Swaziland approved the formation of the National Education Review Commission. This Commission was charged with the important task of reviewing the entire education system which has grown very complex and has developed a number of problems since the last Education Commission of 1975.

The Commission was launched on the 27th of July, 1984 and was given six months to complete the task and submit its findings. This, the Commission has successfully done.

The findings in the Commission's report, represent the views of a wide spectrum of Swazi society. The report may have certain flaws but the Commission has made an attempt at looking into ways of improving the quality of education now that as a result of the 1975 Commission school places especially at primary level are almost accessible to all.

It is hoped that Her Majesty's Government will find the report useful and will approve and implement those recommendations that can be catered for within the nation's limited means.

Yours sincerely

M.D. NSIBANDE
CHAIRMAN
SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION

1. As a long term objective, free pre-school education should be provided to all children aged 4 to 6. Pre-schools should be located in close proximity to children's homes, and where this is not possible, provision of transport facilities should be made.

2. Pre-school attendance should not be a precondition for admission into primary schools before pre-school education is generalized throughout the country.

3. Regional and Headquarters pre-school administrative services should be strengthened and a clearly defined policy governing the operation and functioning of pre-schools, including the standardization of pre-school curriculum, should be drawn up.

4. The training and conditions of service of teachers at the pre-school level should be streamlined.

5. The local communities should be encouraged to participate in the establishment and operation of pre-schools.

PRIMARY EDUCATION

1. The duration of primary education should be seven years (grades 1 to 7) and should cater for children in the age group of 6 to 13.

2. Provision should eventually be made to offer free education for Grades 1-4.

3. Primary schools should be equitably distributed throughout the country, and transport facilities should be provided for children living in isolated areas.
4. The curricula of primary and secondary levels should be closely coordinated and practical arts subjects should be given strong emphasis.

5. Continuous assessment should be introduced throughout the primary level and at the end of this level of education, the award of the Swaziland Primary Certificate will be based on the record of this continuous assessment and performance in the national Examination.

6. Repetition should be allowed once in Grades 1-4 and once in Grades 5-7 and remedial instruction and psychological guidance should be introduced to cater for the needs of slow learners.

7. Administrative and Inspectorate services at the Regional level should be strengthened.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

1. In the long term, the duration of secondary education should be four years, with the first two years (Grades 8-9) serving to stream students for academic 'O' Levels or alternative fields and the following two years (Grades 10-11) for specializing either in academic or vocational fields).

2. The J.C. examination should be abolished.

3. A diversified curriculum will be offered for children's different talents and aptitudes.

4. Vocational and Psychological Guidance Services should be introduced and should be supported by continuous assessment which together with the examination administered at the end of four years lead to the award of a School Leaving Certificate.
5. Provision should be made for the introduction of a year "A" Level equivalent studies, to be offered at centers attached to existing schools, preferably one in each Region.

6. Provision should be made for the maintenance of school buildings, equipment for libraries, laboratories and workshops.

7. School administration and management should be strengthened by the training of headmasters and by the consolidation of the services of school inspectors at the regional level.

PRACTICAL ARTS

1. Both the primary and secondary school programs should be diversified to include Practical Arts subjects like Agriculture, Home Economics, Elementary Technology and Technical Trade Skills.

2. Practical Arts subjects should be accorded adequate prestige and value.

3. Regional Vocational Training Centers should be constructed to strengthen practical arts education.

4. SCOT and UNISWA should offer advanced studies in practical arts and facilities for technical/vocational teacher education at SCOT should be expanded.

5. The Act of 1982 creating the Directorate for Industrial and Vocational Training should be implemented and the Directorate should be established under the Ministry of Education.

6. Land should be made available to school leavers trained in agriculture, through the readjustment of the land utilization system; some Government farms should in addition, be used for training youth in modern agricultural methods.
TEACHER EDUCATION

1. Teacher Colleges should function under an overall coordinating body and be given resources to implement their programs.

2. The duration of training should be three years post 'O' Level and the two year probationary period before confirmation should be reactivated.

3. Primary school teachers trained at UNISWA should be encouraged to teach in primary schools.

4. The Teacher Education course should include the teaching of handicapped children in normal classes and compulsory courses in psychological and vocational guidance.

5. Only highly motivated, qualified and experienced candidates should be eligible to become teacher educators.

UNIVERSITY

1. As a long term aim, the entrance requirements to University should be an "A" Level (type) examination and consequently the duration of the basic degree course should be reduced to three years.

2. The commencement of the University academic year should be related to that of the school year.

3. A one year post graduate Diploma in Education should replace the compulsory concurrent Diploma of Education.

4. An Endowment Fund should be established for the University.

5. The payment of personal allowances to students should be determined strictly by their socio-economic background.
6. The money recovered by Government for paying back scholarship loans should be recycled to support the on-going programs.

7. In order to attract persons of high intellectual calibre and ensure continuity of service the University should review the conditions of service of staff.

NON-FORMAL AND ADULT EDUCATION

1. A Directorate of Non-Formal, Adult and Special Education should be created and provided with adequate staff and resources to coordinate and implement the programs in these fields.

2. Emlalatini Development Center should be consolidated to cater more effectively for non-formal education activities, vocational skill training and the training of teachers of agriculture.

3. The regional outlets of the Non-Formal education sector and their activities should be closely integrated with rural development programs.

4. Inter-ministerial and private sector support should be sought to establish a loan scheme and support services for graduates of Rural Education Centers.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

1. The Ministry of Education should assume direct responsibility for special education as an integral part of the education system, with free flow of pupils between the normal and special schools.

2. Government should provide funds for the expansion and improvement of facilities and procurement of teaching aids and materials for the existing Institutions for the Handicapped.
3. In-service and pre-service training should be provided for all teachers to enable them to cater to the needs of special education.

4. Provision should be made for the identification of handicapped children at the earliest stages of childhood.

EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

1. Administration and management of the education system should be decentralized from the Ministry of Education Headquarters to the Regional level in order to make implementation of educational projects, programs, regulations and policies more efficient.

2. Training programs in communication skills, delegation of responsibility and decision making should be designed for all senior officers of the Ministry of Education.

3. Authority to enforce discipline should be given to officials at the Regional and School levels.

4. The Teaching Service Commission should be an appeal body and most of its present administrative functions should be transferred to each Region.

5. While promotional avenues within the teaching profession should be broadened, promotion should be based on merit, length of service and previous service in a rural area.

6. A Teachers' Council should be established to protect the teacher's rights, professional reputation and image and a Teachers' Code of conduct should be drawn up.
CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

1. Coordination of all curriculum development activities should be consolidated under the National Curriculum Center.

2. The Curriculum Coordinating Committee should be reactivated and should work closely with the National Curriculum Center.

3. The National Curriculum Center should cooperate more closely with Teacher Colleges, Subject Panels and should be intimately associated with the establishment of Regional Education Resource Centers.

4. Swazi culture, traditional values and history should be incorporated in the content of the national curriculum.

VOCATIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL GUIDANCE SERVICES

1. The system of continuous assessment should be introduced at all levels of the education system throughout the country to enable a systematic follow up of the progress of students through their school career.

2. Vocational guidance and aptitude testing should form part of the education system so that students are guided into fields for which they are best suited.

3. The Educational Testing, Guidance and Psychological Services should be strengthened at Headquarters, Regional and School levels and be provided with the necessary resources to implement their services.

TEACHING PROFESSION: CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

1. Teachers should enjoy the same benefits as their counterparts in the civil service.

2. Provision should be made for adequate accommodation of teachers.
3. Boarding school heads be provided with a special allowance for their extra services.

4. Hardship allowances should be awarded to teachers working in rural areas.

5. The criteria for promotion should be clearly defined and based on, among other considerations, qualifications, professional achievement, length of service and service in rural areas.

6. A simple and regular form of evaluating the professional services of teachers should be devised.

7. Provisions should be made for regular in-service training of teachers.

8. Teachers should be free to exercise all civic rights generally enjoyed by citizens and a such be given the right to choose to belong to professional associations.

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

1. A permanent machinery based at the Department of Economic Planning should be established to ensure an adequate link between the supply and demand for trained manpower on the one hand, and to relate school curriculum to national employment prospects.

2. A comprehensive National Manpower Survey should be conducted to identify manpower requirements at all levels and feed back the information to the school system.

3. The scholarship Board should award scholarships for fields of study that have been accorded priority rating for the employment market.
4. The National Employment Program should be drawn up with the purpose of encouraging the public to create employment opportunities for school leavers and trained manpower.

DISCIPLINE AT SCHOOL

1. A disciplinary code concerning teachers and students should be drawn up specifying their rights and responsibilities, the major misdemeanors meriting disciplinary sanctions and the authorities responsible for applying these sanctions.

2. The teachers should be given the opportunity to defend themselves against allegations made by parents or other persons and no publicity should be given to such proceedings unless it is for the well-being of the pupil.

3. Schools should keep parents regularly informed of the studies and conduct of their children and encourage parents to take more interest in the activities of their children at school.

4. Pre-service and in-service training should put greater emphasis on professional and moral conduct of teachers and discipline at school.
### Capital Costs, Education and Training
*(in thousands of Emalangeni)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Education</td>
<td>1,205</td>
<td>5,554</td>
<td>5,668</td>
<td>5,908</td>
<td>5,960</td>
<td>24,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Education</td>
<td>5,086</td>
<td>2,164</td>
<td>2,446</td>
<td>2,442</td>
<td>2,525</td>
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<td>Curriculum Center</td>
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<td>425</td>
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<td>129</td>
<td>98</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agriculture Program</td>
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<td>71</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>60</td>
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<td>Elementary Tech.</td>
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<td>224</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>112</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher Training</td>
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<td>975</td>
<td>1,074</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>2,913</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radio Education</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>Correspondence Educ.</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>Swaziland Col. of Tech.</td>
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<td>120</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>185</td>
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<td>1,300</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>Adult Educ. Centers</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>132</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geina</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>245</td>
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<td>Higher Education</td>
<td>1,845</td>
<td>2,229</td>
<td>896</td>
<td>1,288</td>
<td>793</td>
<td>7,051</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>10,298</td>
<td>12,169</td>
<td>10,906</td>
<td>10,709</td>
<td>9,803</td>
<td>53,885</td>
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</table>

**Source:** Third National Development Plan

### Average Annual Expenditure Per Pupil
*1973/74 to 1977/78*
*(in Emalangeni)*

<table>
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<th>Capital</th>
<th>Recurrent</th>
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<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>1.98</td>
<td>22.37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>65.28</td>
<td>143.79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher Training</td>
<td>655.97</td>
<td>1,355.93</td>
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<tr>
<td>University</td>
<td>1,970.84</td>
<td>2,330.20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Third National Development Plan
APPENDIX II

Further Statistical Information
Actual and Projected Growth of Population in Swaziland

Source: Third National Development Plan
Age-Sex Pyramid of the Population, 1976

Note: This is derived by taking raw data from the 1976 census. No adjustments have been made to smooth out bases arising from inaccurate declarations of age as for instance rounding of ages to the nearest five or ten years or overstating age for reasons of prestige, etc.

Source: Third National Development Plan.
Organizational Chart of Ministry of Agriculture

MINISTER

PERMANENT SECRETARY

UNDER SECRETARY

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION

DIRECTOR OF VET SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

STATUTORY BOARDS

RESEARCH

LAND PLANNING

LAND VALUATION

ECONOMIC PLANNING & ANALYSIS

R.D.A.'s PROJECT MANAGERS

R.D.A.'s MANAGEMENT UNIT

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

LIVESTOCK SERVICES

VET SERVICES

DISTRICT SERVICES

LIVESTOCK EXTENSION

4-S CLUBS

HOUSING ECON. & NUTRITION

FISHERIES

FORESTRY

CORPS OF EXPERTS

CROP EXTENSION

LAND DEVELOPMENT

Source: Ministry of Agriculture
**Swaziland**

**Education and Training Sector Review**

**STRUCTURE OF THE FORMAL EDUCATION SYSTEM**

**PRIMARY**

1. Age 6
2. 12
3. Grades
4. Standards
5. Forms

**SECONDARY**

1. 13
2. 17
3. Junior
4. Senior
5. Forms

**Notes:**
- Swaziland Primary Certificate Exam (SPCE)
- Junior Certificate Exam (JC)
- Cambridge Overseas School Certificate Exam ("O" level)
- W.P.T.C. - William Pitcher Teacher College
- N.T.T.C. - Nazarene Teacher Training College
- SCOT - Swaziland College of Technology
- Post graduate Diplomas and Degrees
- To universities abroad
- Junior Secondary Teacher Certificate

University courses given above are all catered for in Swaziland. The last two years of science are taken at the Botswana campus. The third and fourth years of law are taken at the University of Edinburgh, after which the student returns to Swaziland for the final fifth year.

**Source:** Compiled by the mission from official documents.
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Ministry of Education and Ministry of Finance
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