

Skills Misalignment and Its Implications for Sustainable Economic Growth in South Africa

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ABSTRACT The main objective of this paper was to evaluate the skills demand and supply pipelines in the context of South African economy. The research adopted exploratory characteristics in South Africa in relation to accelerated economic growth. The research adopted exploratory research method. The paper analysed secondary data collected from participating institutions of higher learning to arrive at its conclusions. The paper established a significant misalignment in the supply and demand sides of skills pipeline. There is also a gradual shift in the enrolment balance from the Social Sciences and Humanities in favour of Business, Commerce and Management without a corresponding shift in the field of Science, Engineering and Technology as proposed by the National Plan for Higher Education. The practical implication of this is that it may be difficult for South Africa to achieve its current drive for sustainable economic growth if the status quo is not urgently addressed.