



higher education  
& training

Department:  
Higher Education and Training  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# How DHET promotes and supports Student Success

## SIYAPHUMELELA CONFERENCE

### 28-30 JUNE 2023

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# Background



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- Whilst good progress is being made in strengthening the university education sector in South Africa, significant transformation and development challenges persist in a range of areas including:
- **student success**; the recruitment, development, retention and progression of academic and professional staff; and in respect of responsive, quality programmes and curricula.

# Objectives of the UCDP



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The UCDP is a strategic national programme, implemented by the DHET and universities, that seeks to contribute to:

- a. Equitable **access** and high levels of **success** for all undergraduate and postgraduate students;
- b. The creation of an academic pipeline that enables the recruitment and development of adequate numbers of new academics;
- c. Provision of development opportunities for professional staff in universities including management staff that lead key portfolios and professionals that manage specific portfolios; and
- d. The development and/or renewal of academic programmes and curricula that are of strategic importance and are national priorities.

The UCDP is an implementation programme that has three focus areas: student development, staff development and programme/curriculum development, and it draws on multiple resources to enable its implementation

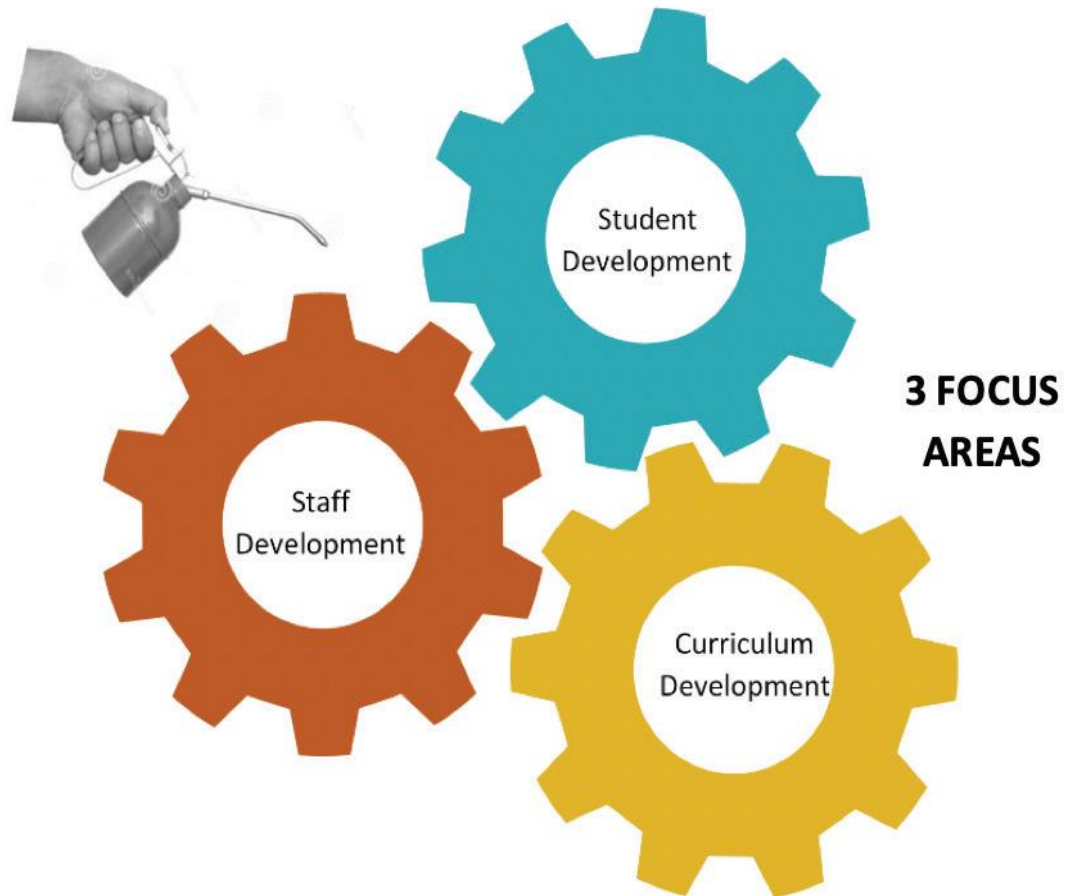
THE UNIVERSITY CAPACITY  
DEVELOPMENT GRANT AND OTHER  
DHET FUNDING MECHANISMS

UNIVERSITY CONTRIBUTIONS

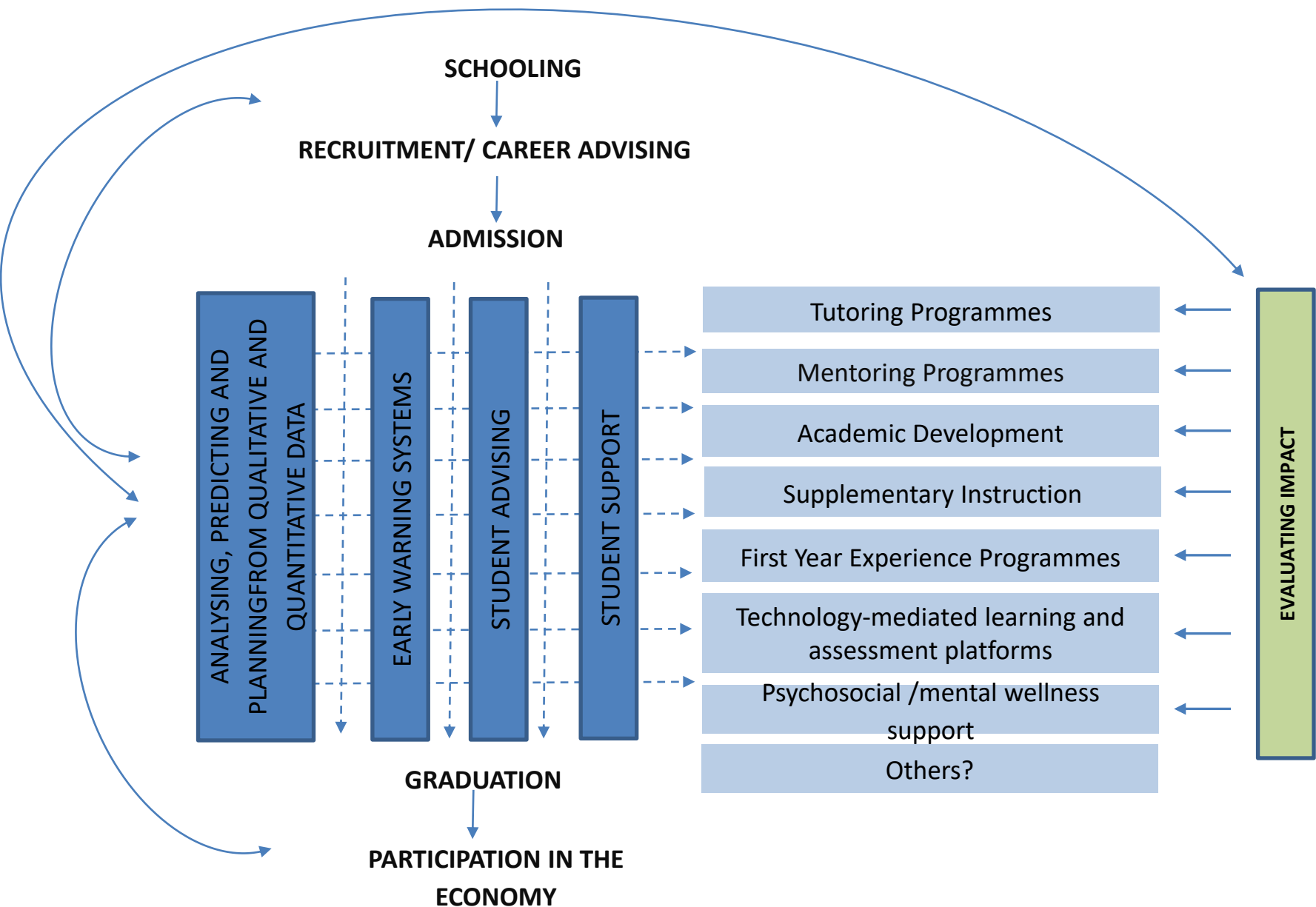
OTHER GOVERNMENT  
DEPARTMENTS AND ENTITIES

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS AND  
CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

**MULTIPLE  
RESOURCES TO SUPPORT  
UCDP IMPLEMENTATION**



# THE UNIVERSITY CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME SEEKS TO PROMOTE A STRUCTURED INTEGRATED APPROACH TO IMPROVING STUDENT SUCCESS...



1

## Institutional Grants Sub-Programme

- 26 Institutional University Capacity Development Grants
- 26 approved University Capacity Development Projects

2

## University-led Collaborative Projects Sub-Programme

- Teaching Advancement in Universities (TAU) Fellowship
- SA National Resource Centre for the First-Year Experience
- Development of UCDP Management Information System
- Student Success Collaborative Forum (SSCF)
- Academic Advising National Collaborative Project
- Implementation of National Framework for Enhancing Academic Quality
- Development of a National Student Data Warehouse
- Dual Higher Education Collaborative Project
- Nurturing Emerging Scholars Programme (NESP) Implementation
- New Generation of Academics Programme (nGAP) Implementation
- University Staff Doctoral Programme (USDP) Implementation
- National Graduate Destinations Tracer Study

3

## Nationally-led Sub-Programmes

- Nurturing Emerging Scholars Programme (NESP)
- New Generation of Academics Programme (nGAP)
- University Staff Doctoral Programme (USDP)
- Future Professors Programme (FPP)
- Higher Education Leadership and Management Programme



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## Student Leadership Capacity Development Programme

Empower SRCs with the skills and knowledge.

Provide an opportunity for SRCs to engage higher education stakeholders and role players so that they may gain better insights on the systems and processes of the higher education sector from a national perspective; and

Facilitate interaction and sharing of ideas amongst the current SRCs and former student leaders to foster engagement so that SRCs benefit from the experiences of both colleagues and former student leaders



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# Target group

Students' Representative Councils (SRCs)  
South African Union of Students

## CONTENT

Understanding the higher education policy landscape  
University governance and role of student leaders  
Safety and Security and wellness  
Empowering and building decisive leadership

## OUTCOME

Student leaders able to participate in university governance structures,  
policy development and community structures.