

# Department of Higher Education and Training

**GROWING STUDENT SUCCESS**

**Siyaphumelela Conference  
29 June 2016  
Durban**



# SOME PRINCIPLES

- **Access and success are interlinked...**
- **Student and staff success are interlinked....**
- **Teaching, learning and researching are interlinked....**
- **Have to think about achieving success along the entire academic study and academic career continuum...**
- **Need an evidence-based approach. Data about the system must inform choice of areas for action, and strategies that are put in place...**

➤ **HAVE TO THINK AND WORK SYSTEMICALLY**

# STUDENT SUCCESS: ARE WE MAKING PROGRESS?

Selected indicators			2030 Target?
Success rate in undergraduate programmes	<b>69.8%</b> in 2004	<b>77.8%</b> in 2014	<b>≥80%</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> year dropout rate for undergraduate programmes	<b>31.5%</b> in 2000	<b>19.1%</b> in 2012	<b>15%?</b>
Cohort throughput rate for undergraduate contact programmes ( <u>after year 6</u> )	<b>49.3%</b> (2000)	<b>61.4%</b> (2008)	<b>75%?</b>
Cohort throughput rate for undergraduate distance programmes ( <u>after year 10</u> )	<b>11.6%</b> (2000)	<b>14.8%</b> (2006)	<b>?</b>

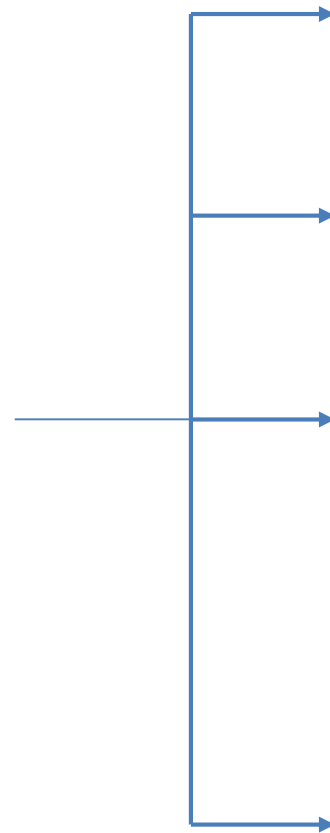
These macro-indicators show some progress... BUT

# ACCESS AND SUCCESS

- Entry into higher education - can we use data to assist with placement and advice?
- What data?
- How?
- Central Applications Service?
- Success through distance education modes?
  
- QUALITY?

# SYSTEMIC LEVERS PROMOTING STUDENT SUCCESS

Earmarked grants  
(steer transformation)  
30% of state budget for  
universities)



**NSFAS**

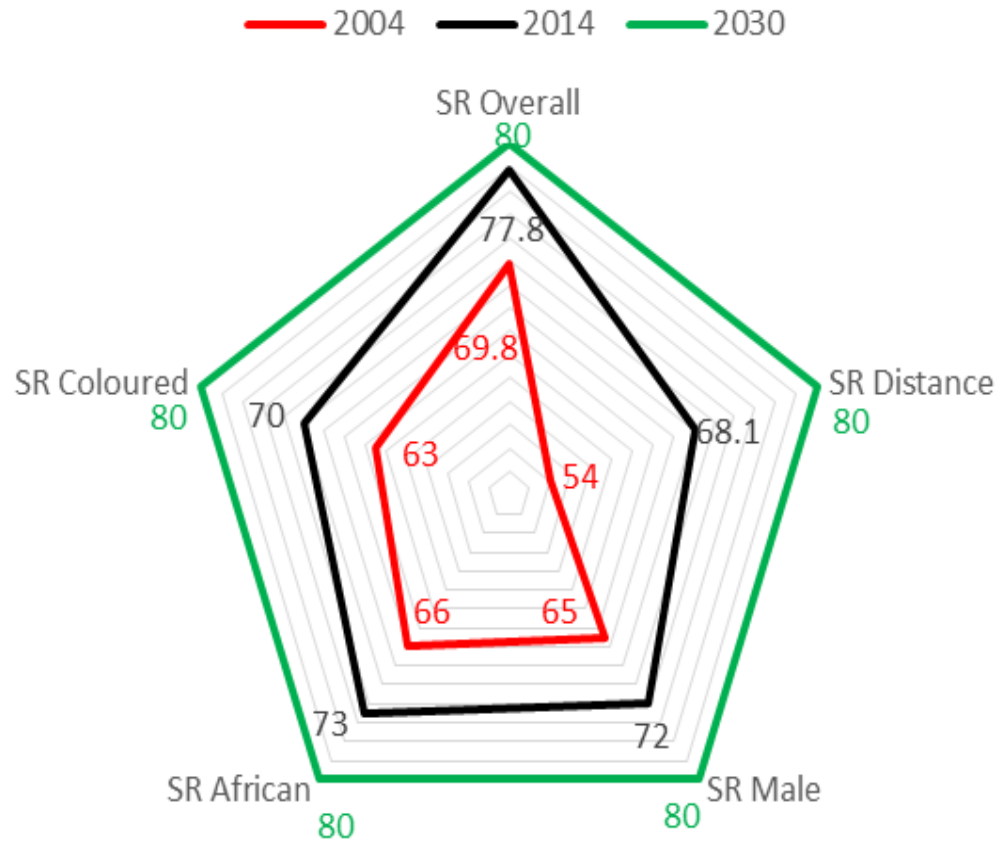
**Foundation  
Provisioning**

**Teaching  
Development**

**Infrastructure and  
efficiency**  
(Residences)  
(Enabling  
Teaching and  
Learning Spaces)

# BUT DIGGING A LITTLE DEEPER...

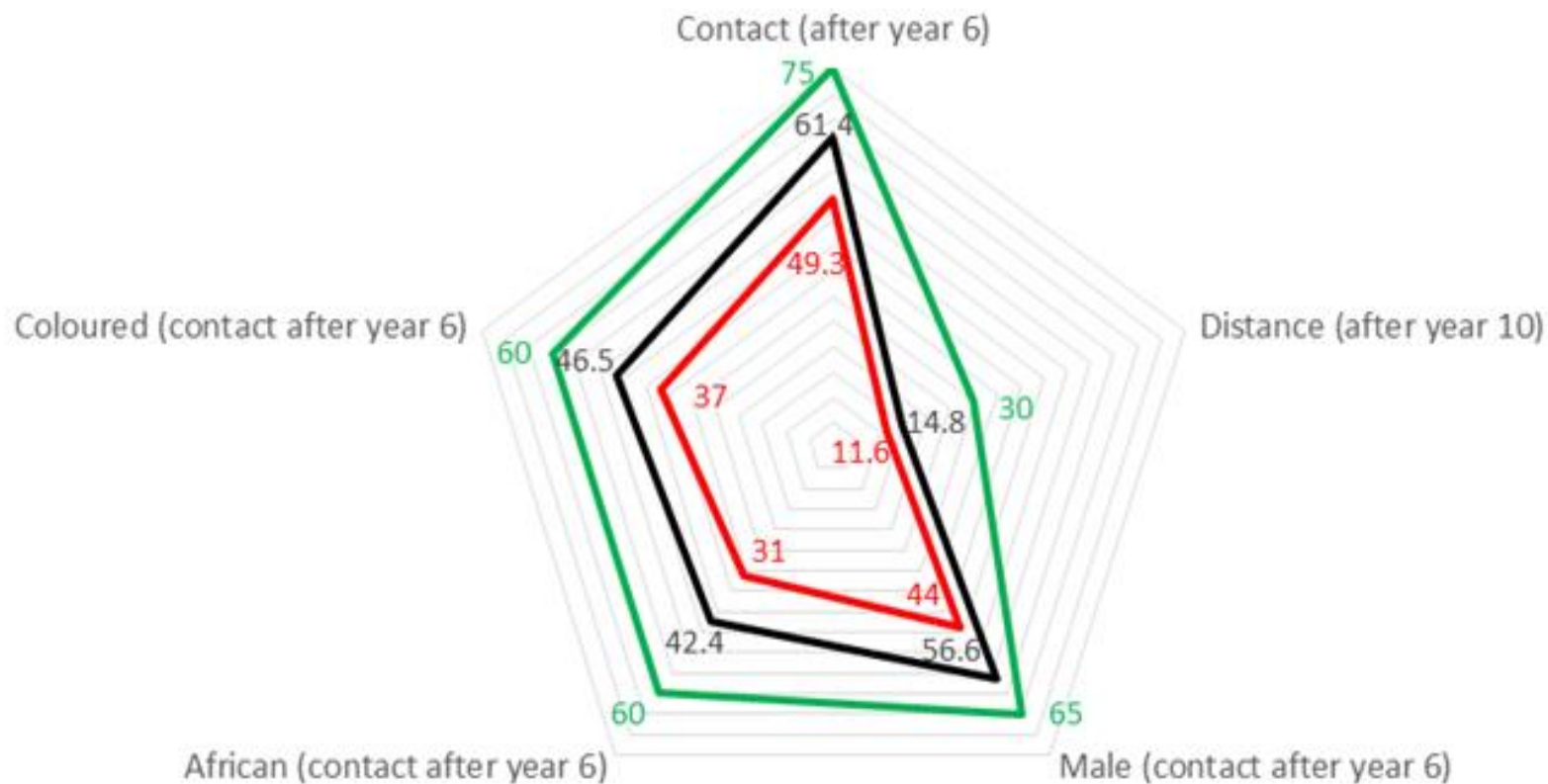
## Success rate in undergraduate programmes



# AND DEEPER...

## Throughput rate for undergraduate programmes

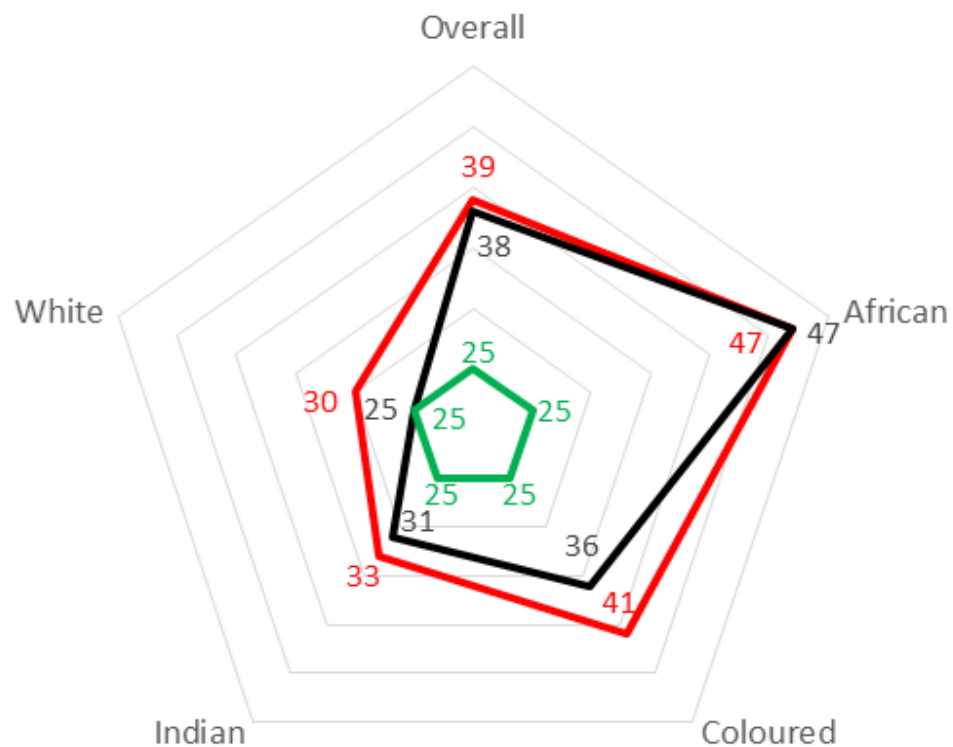
— 2000      — 2008(c)/ 2005(d)      — 2030



# AND DEEPER...

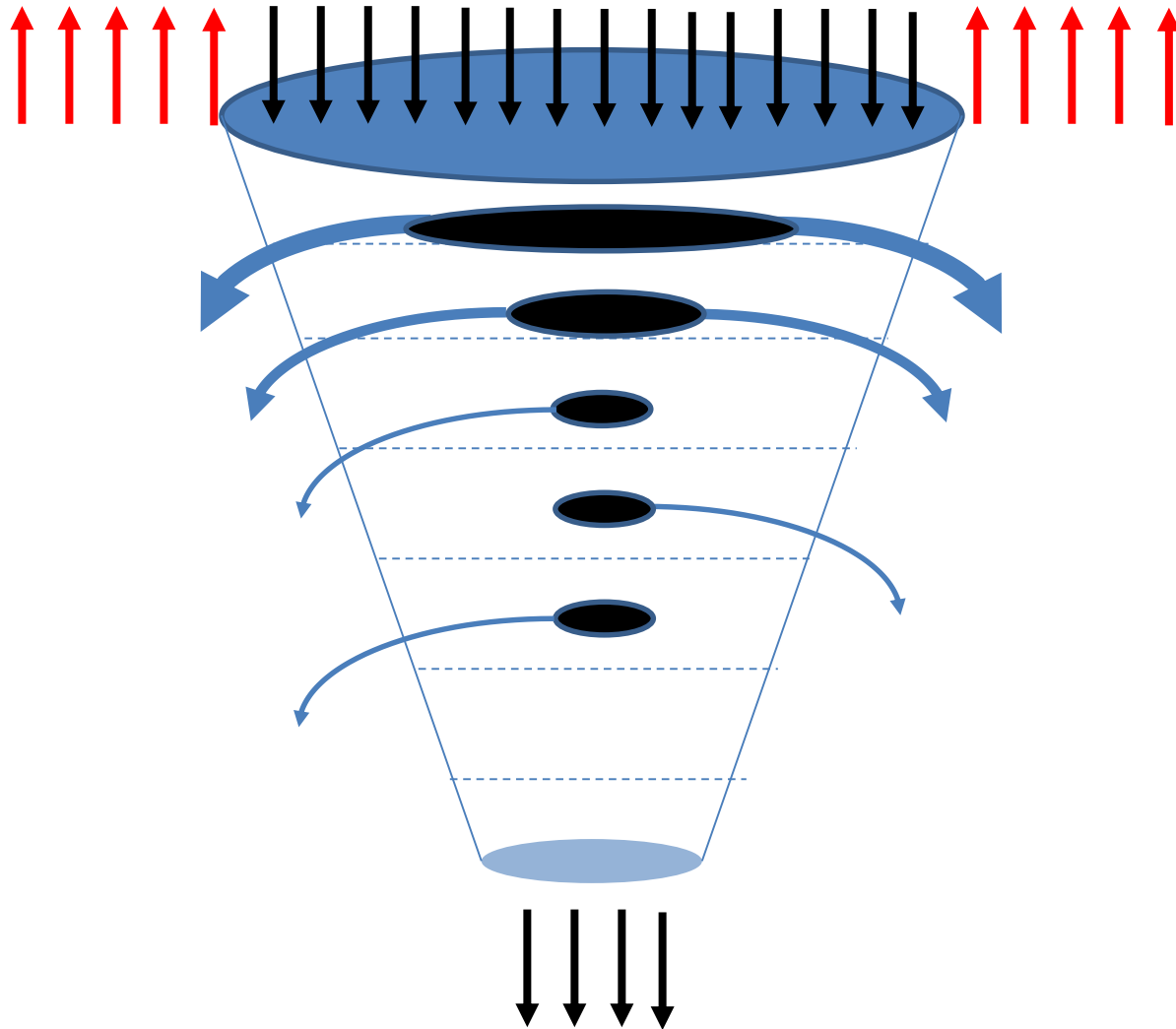
## Dropout rate for coursework masters at universities

— 2008 cohort      — 2009 cohort      — 2025 (2020 cohort)



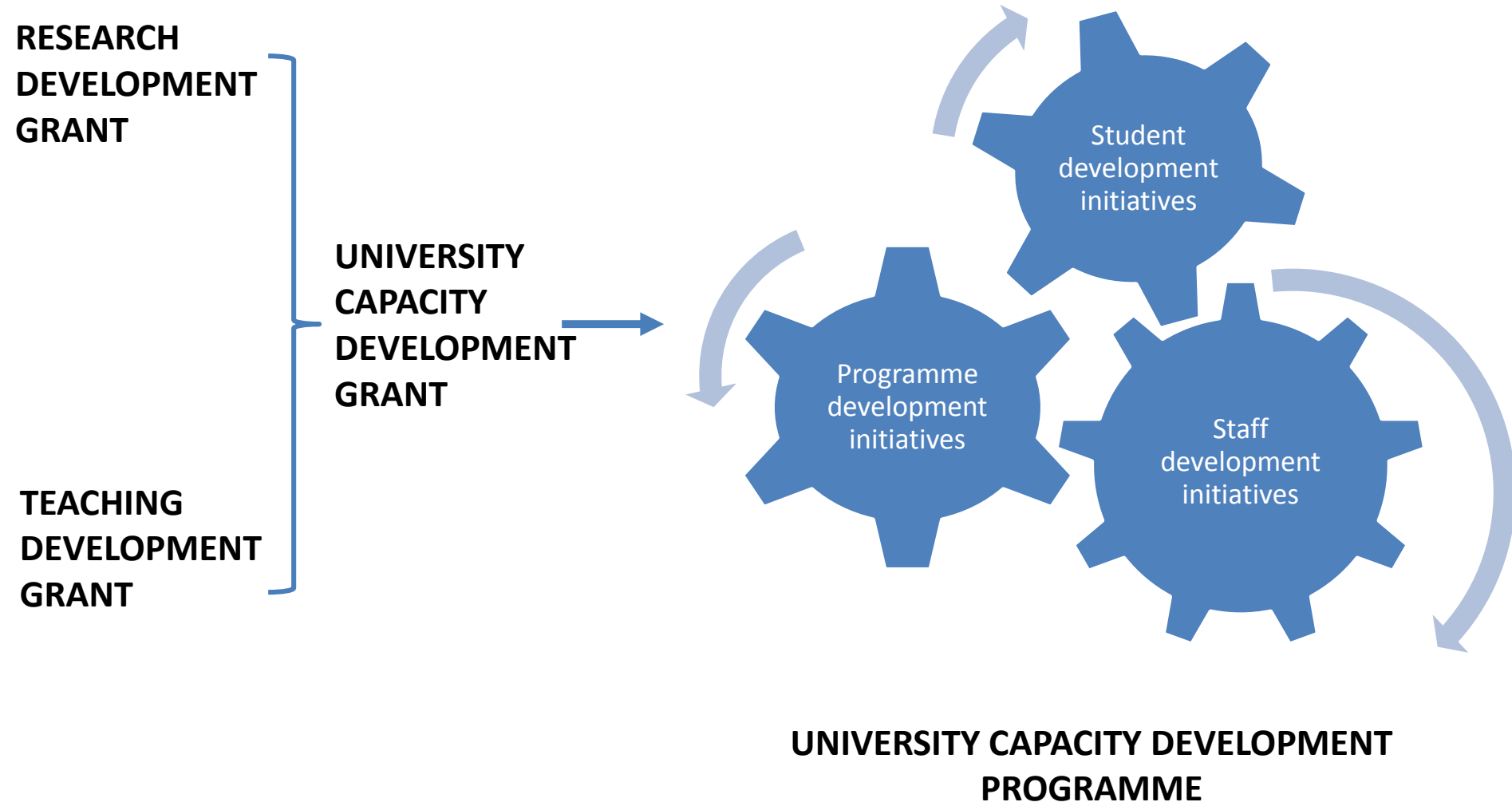


# HE IN SOUTH AFRICA- A 'LEAKING FUNNEL' SYSTEM?

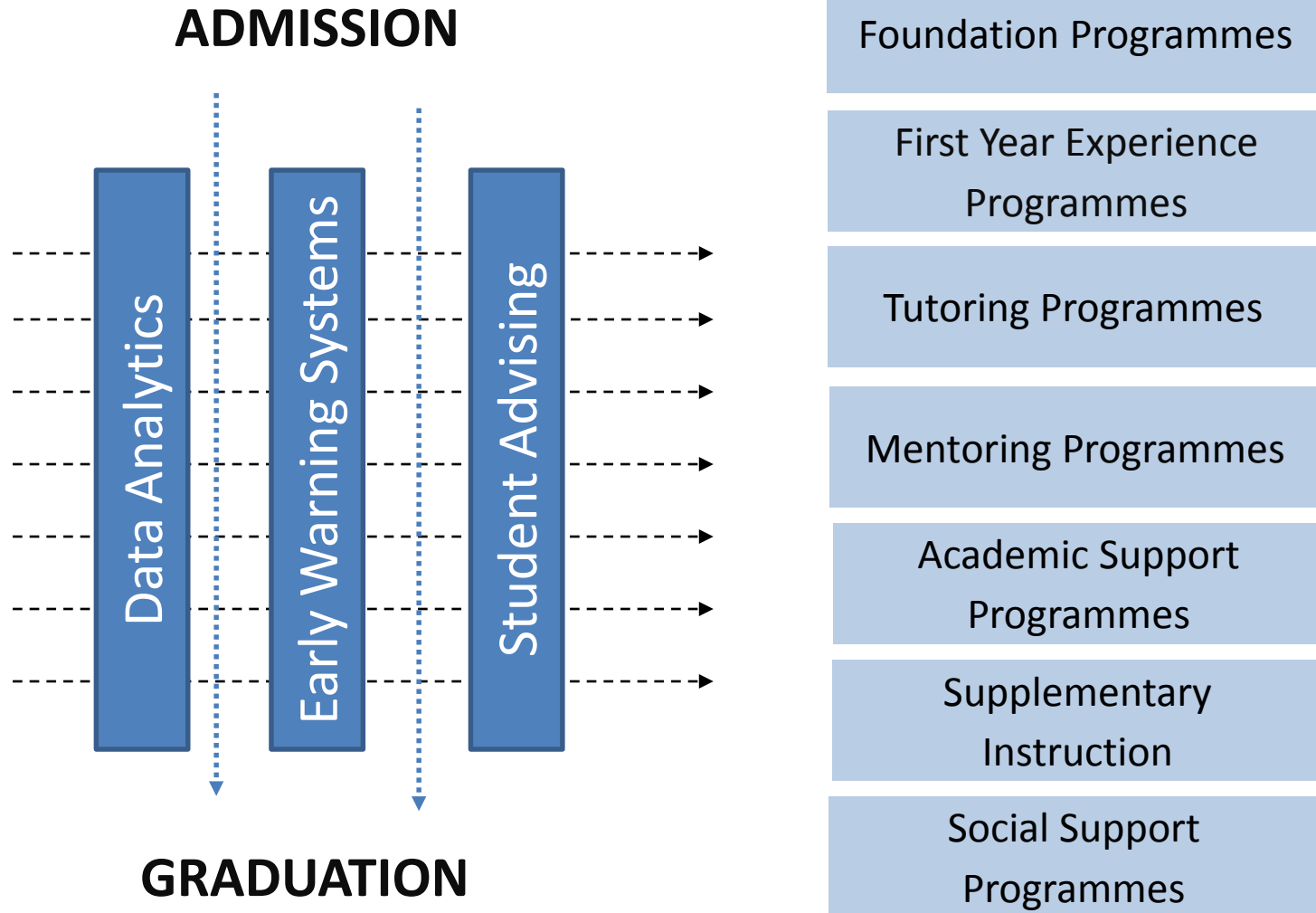


**Inneficient & wasteful & reproducing inequality...and what about quality?**

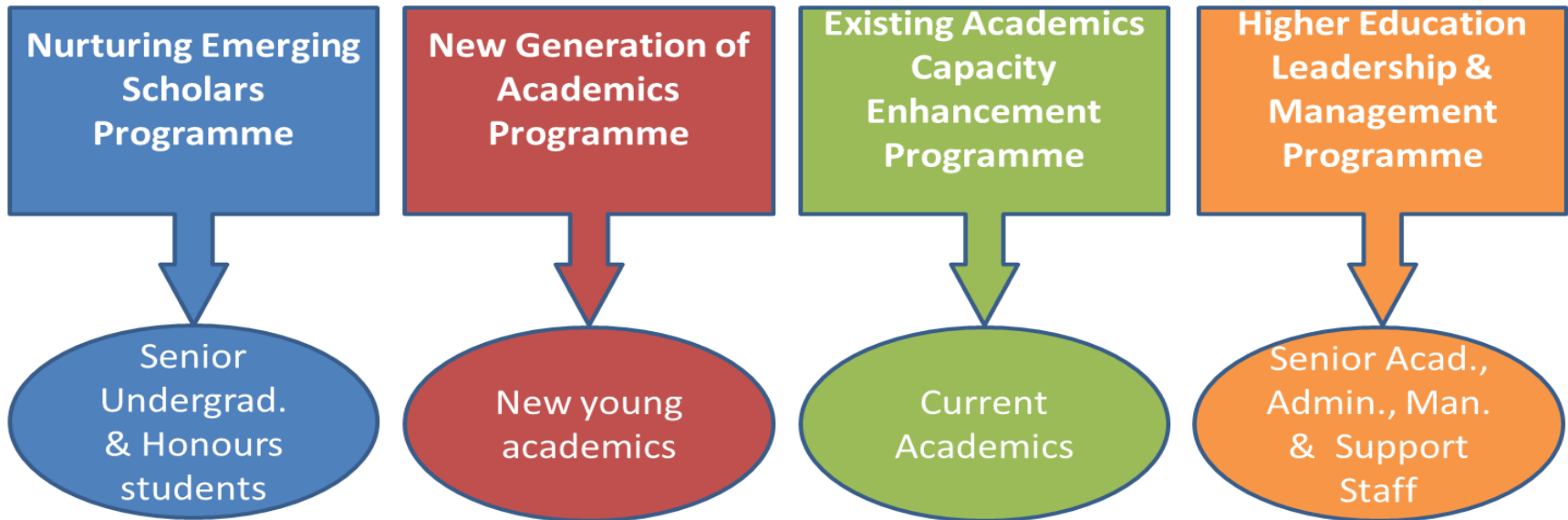
**THE UNIVERSITY CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME WILL SEEK TO PROMOTE  
A STRUCTURED APPROACH TO IMPROVING STUDENT SUCCESS...**



# THE UNIVERSITY CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME WILL SEEK TO PROMOTE A STRUCTURED APPROACH TO IMPROVING STUDENT SUCCESS...



# Staffing South Africa's Universities' Framework



Supplementary Staff Programme

Will enable universities to recruit, in a temporary capacity, people with specific skills to support the implementation of other SSAUF programmes, for example retired academics, experts in industry, professionals and contracted academics from other countries

SSAUF Development Programme

Cuts across the core programmes and supports teaching and research development needs in each programme.



higher education  
& training

Department:  
Higher Education and Training  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**THANK YOU**