



BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL

USE OF TIMSS INFORMATION IN BOTSWANA: A PIECE OF A BIGGER PICTURE

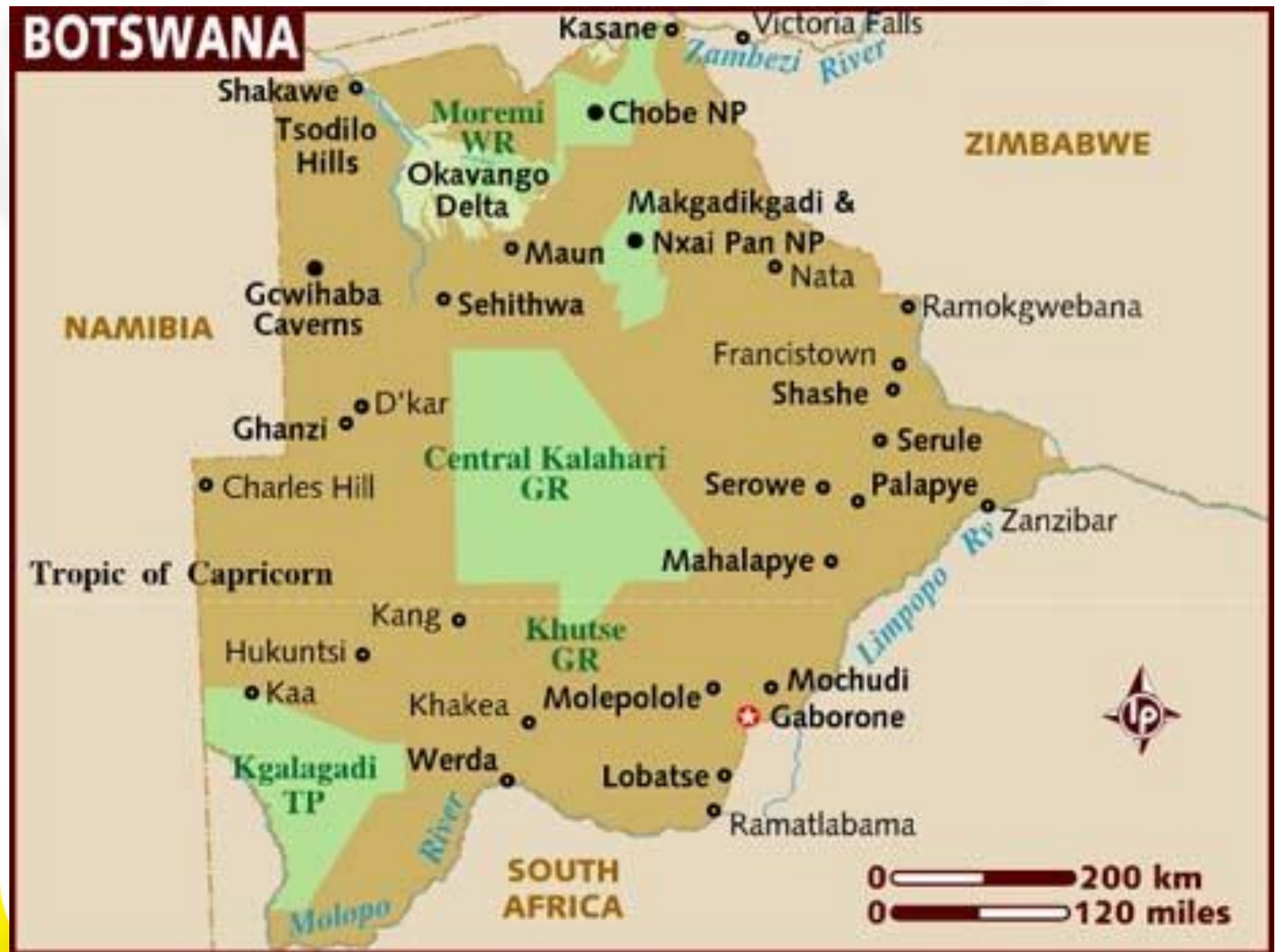


**BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL**

**Dr Serara Moahi
Executive Secretary
Botswana Examinations Council**

Advancing learning, certifying your future

BOTSWANA



BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL

A FEW FACTS ABOUT BOTSWANA

- **Population : 2 030 738 - (2011) Census**
- **GDP (USD) 17.63 billion – (2011)**
- **Middle Income, struggling to transition into high income level**
- **General Education Structure:**
 - Centralised system**
 - 7 years primary**
 - 3 years junior secondary**
 - 2 years senior secondary**



**BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL**

EDUCATION & SKILLS DEVELOPMENT A PRIORITY

- About 30% of the recurrent budget goes to education and training
- Revised National Policy on Education (RNPE) (1994) --Education and training
 - **the primary vehicle for sustainable development and diversification of the economy**



BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL

THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY

- Internal and comparative indicators, provide information about Botswana's education system in a globally competitive environment
- BEC mandated to coordinate and conduct TIMSS, PIRLS on behalf of MOESD



BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL

SOURCES OF INFORMATION FOR MONITORING SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

Internal indicators

Quality and context of learning

- Standard Four Attainment Study – 2007
- Enrollment Rates, Attrition Rates, recurrent Budget
- Performance patterns in national examination
- MLA
- SAGMEQ
- TIMSS– System level information on the context of learning –non comparative

External Indicators–

Competitiveness----

Comparative context of learning & performance

- MLA
- SAG MEQ
- TIMSS
- Global Competitiveness Index
- Macro Economic Indicators



BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL

SELECTED RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TIMSS 2003 NATIONAL REPORT

- 1 The review of the Upper Primary curriculum should consider the curriculum analysis report from the 2003 TIMSS which identified gaps in coverage of some topics. Generally, Botswana content expectation are less demanding with less emphasis high order thinking skills.**
- 2 Botswana Mathematics and Science teachers should undergo some in-service training on specific topics in Science and Mathematics.**

Introduce teachers to instructional strategies that may work best for specific topics.
- 3 BEC should introduce open-ended items in the Primary School Leaving Examinations**
- 4 MOESD should implement initiatives that will Improve proficiency in English Language (Reading and Writing) at primary level**
- 5 Provide guidelines to teachers on classroom testing and the use of classroom test results.**

RESPONSE TO TIMSS 2003 RECOMMENDATIONS

- Reviewed of curriculum of 2007 (inclusion of proposed adjustments). Related adjustment made in the 2010 junior secondary curriculum
- Introduction of a teacher support programme known as “Strengthening of Mathematics and Science in Secondary Education” (SMASSE).
- The SMASSE program was intended to equip teachers with strategies of teaching learners with diverse learning styles, mainly employing student centered approaches.
- Documented justification for SMASSE:
 - “ The TIMSS 2003 report has shown that Botswana is not performing well in Mathematics and Science, as such alternatives are needed ...”(2010) Evaluation of SMASSE in Junior Secondary Schools. MOESD, DEPRS



BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL

SELECTED RECOMMENDATIONS FROM TIMSS 2007

- Schools should promote parental involvement
- Performance in Mathematics and Science is not improving– MOESD should consider Strategies to promote Excellence in Mathematics and Science at student and school levels

Response:

- In 2009 BEC introduced Excellence Awards for best students, best performing schools and PTAs, best improved schools at national and regional levels. Excellence Awards supported by Minister and HE the President.



BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL

Call to Reform Education and Training

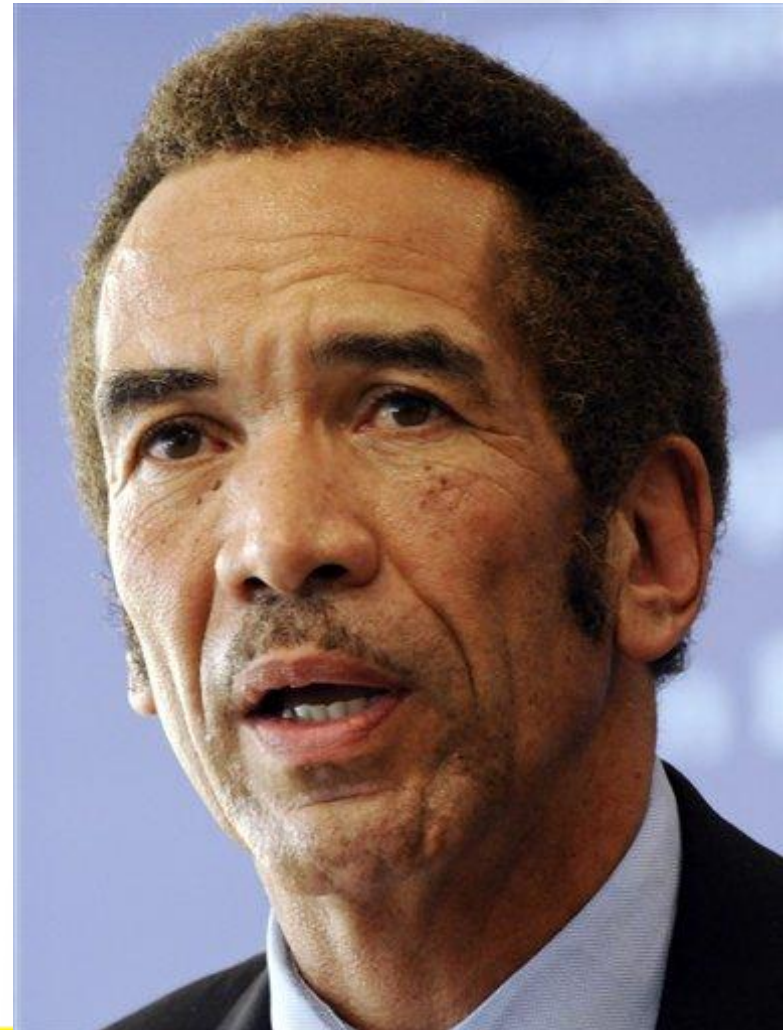


**His Excellency the President's
Inaugural Address to the
Nation in November 2008
drew attention to the
necessity to focus on human
resource development and
indicated that achieving
high income status
will require an enhanced skill
base.**



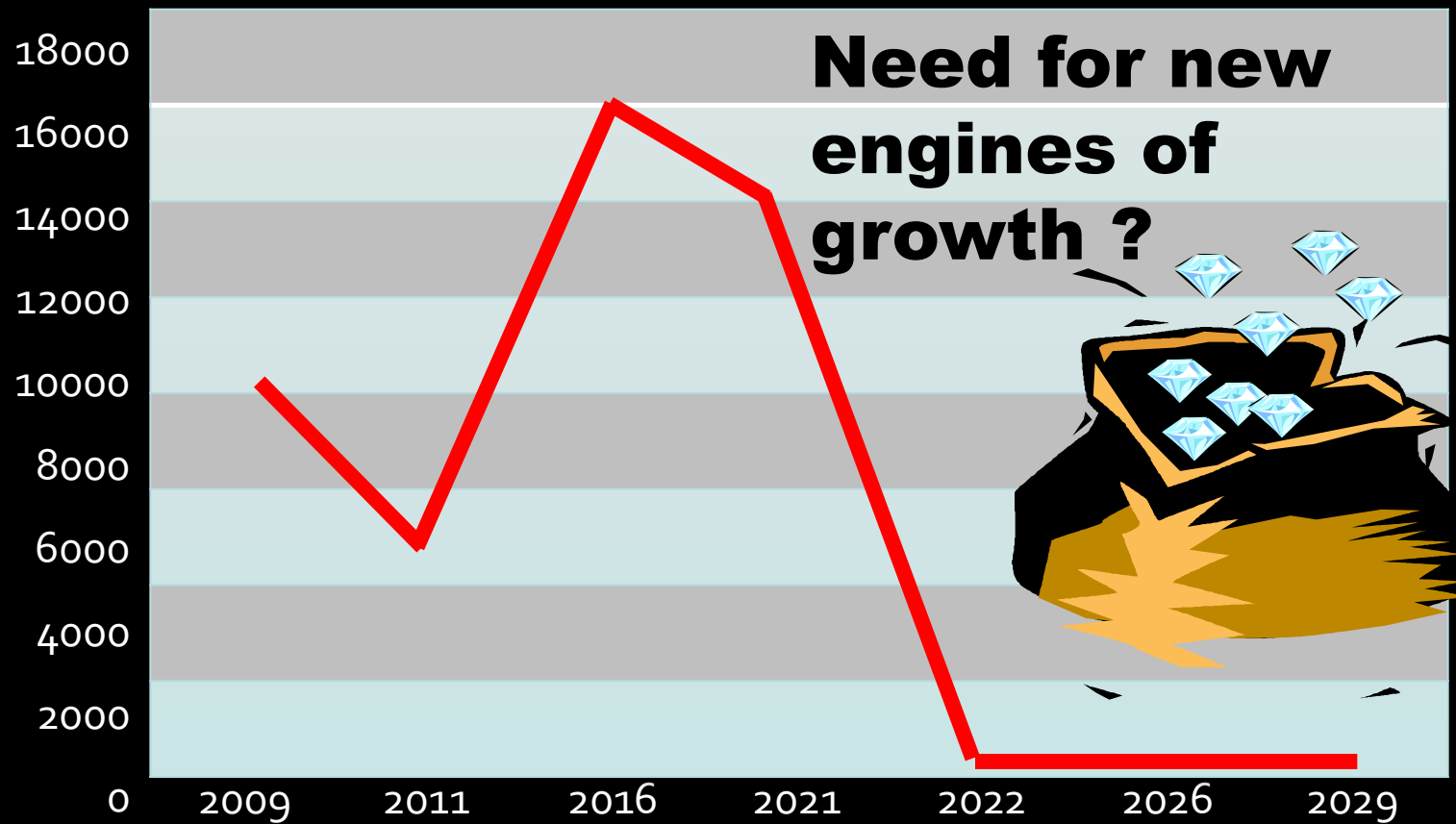
**BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL**

He emphasised delivery & delivery !!!



Advancing learning, certifying your future

A RESOURCE DEPENDANT COUNTRY



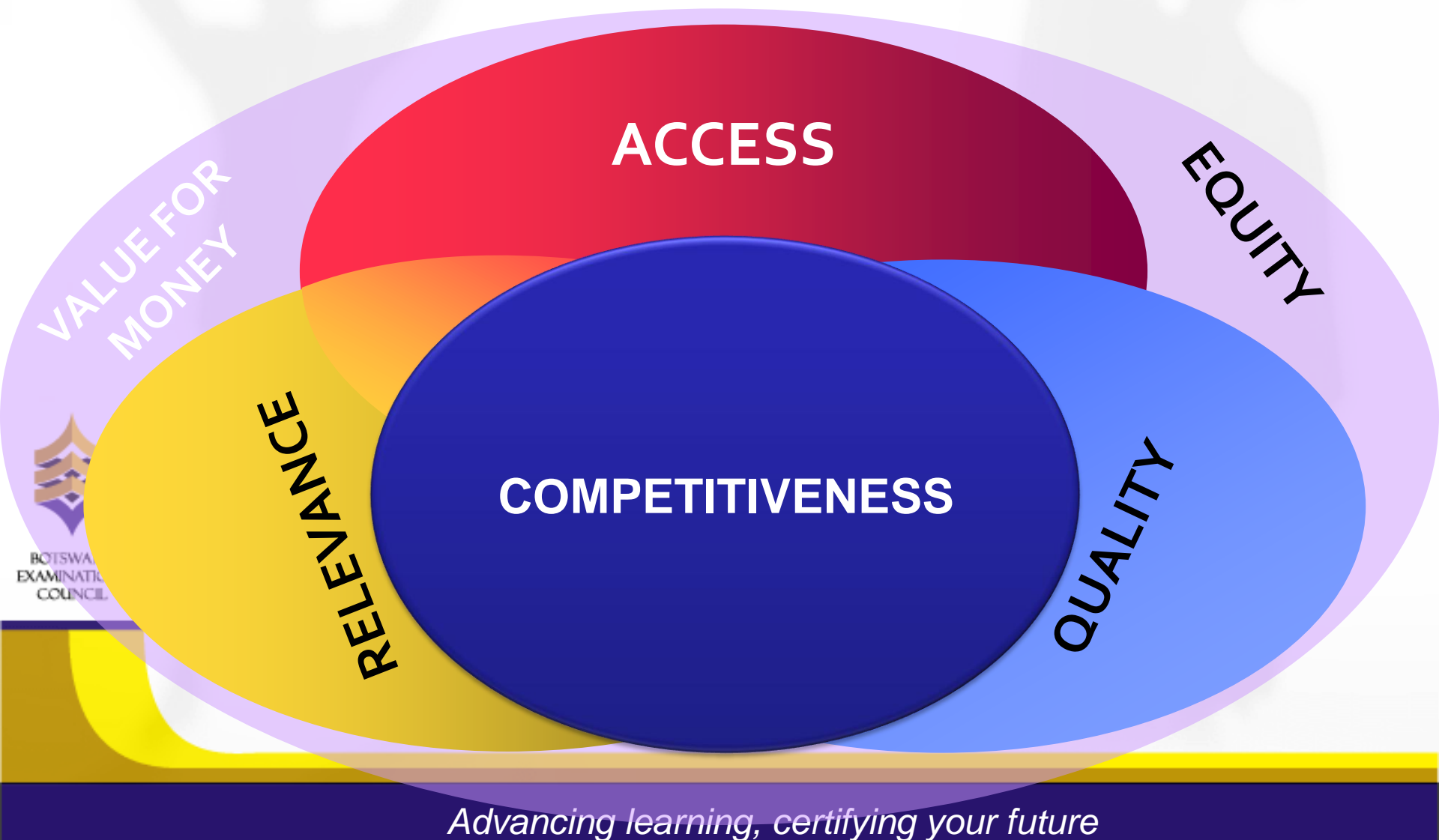
MAJOR SYSTEM WIDE REFORM PROGRAMME

- Current improvement initiatives, fragmented and isolated
- Botswana is embarking on system wide reforms of the education and training sector
- Evidence from a variety of sources, including TIMSS
- Building a case for change

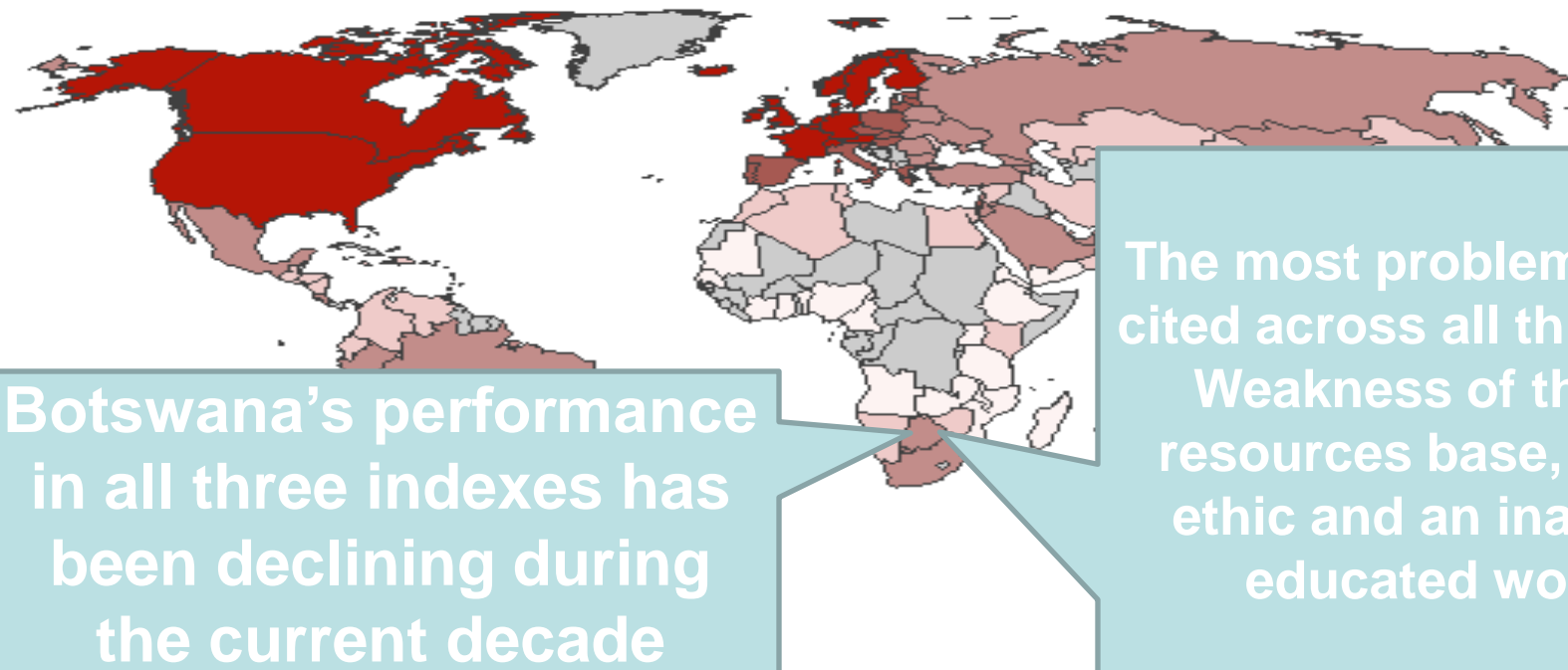


BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL

EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT



GLOBAL PERFORMANCE



COUNCIL

Global Competitiveness Report
Knowledge Economy Index
Doing Business Report

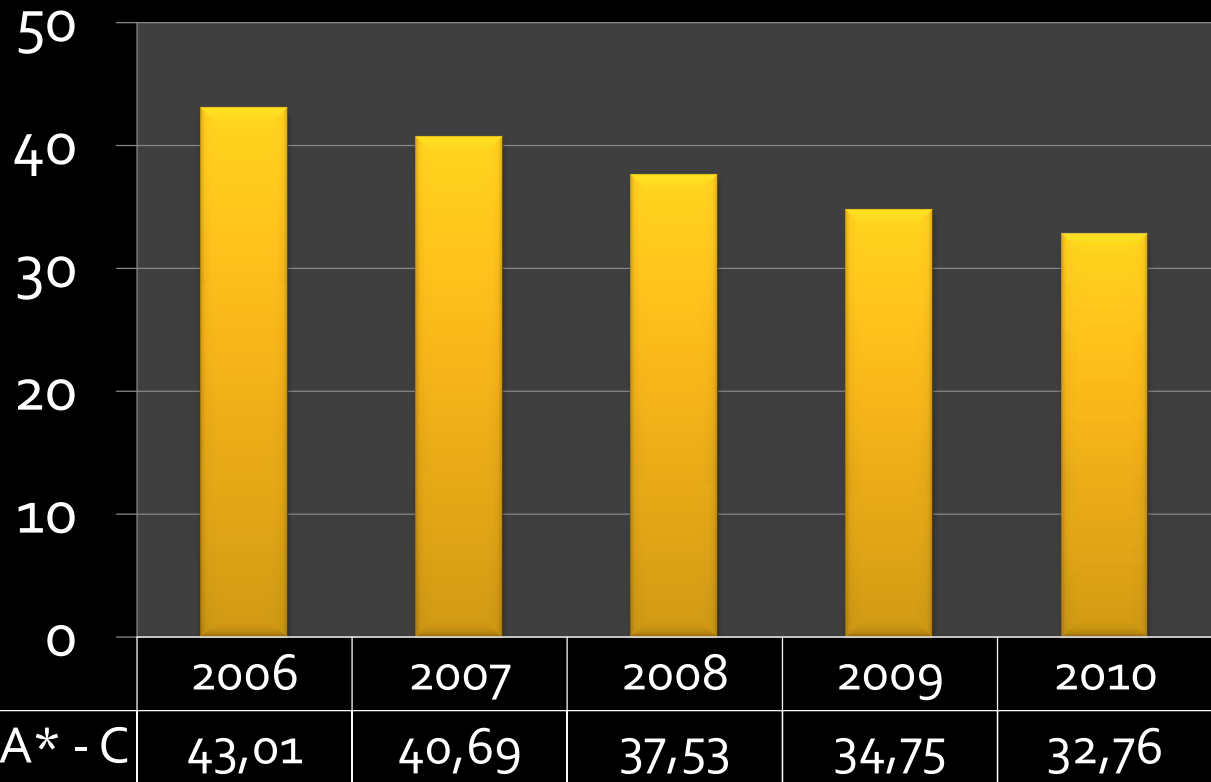
10/15/2012

15

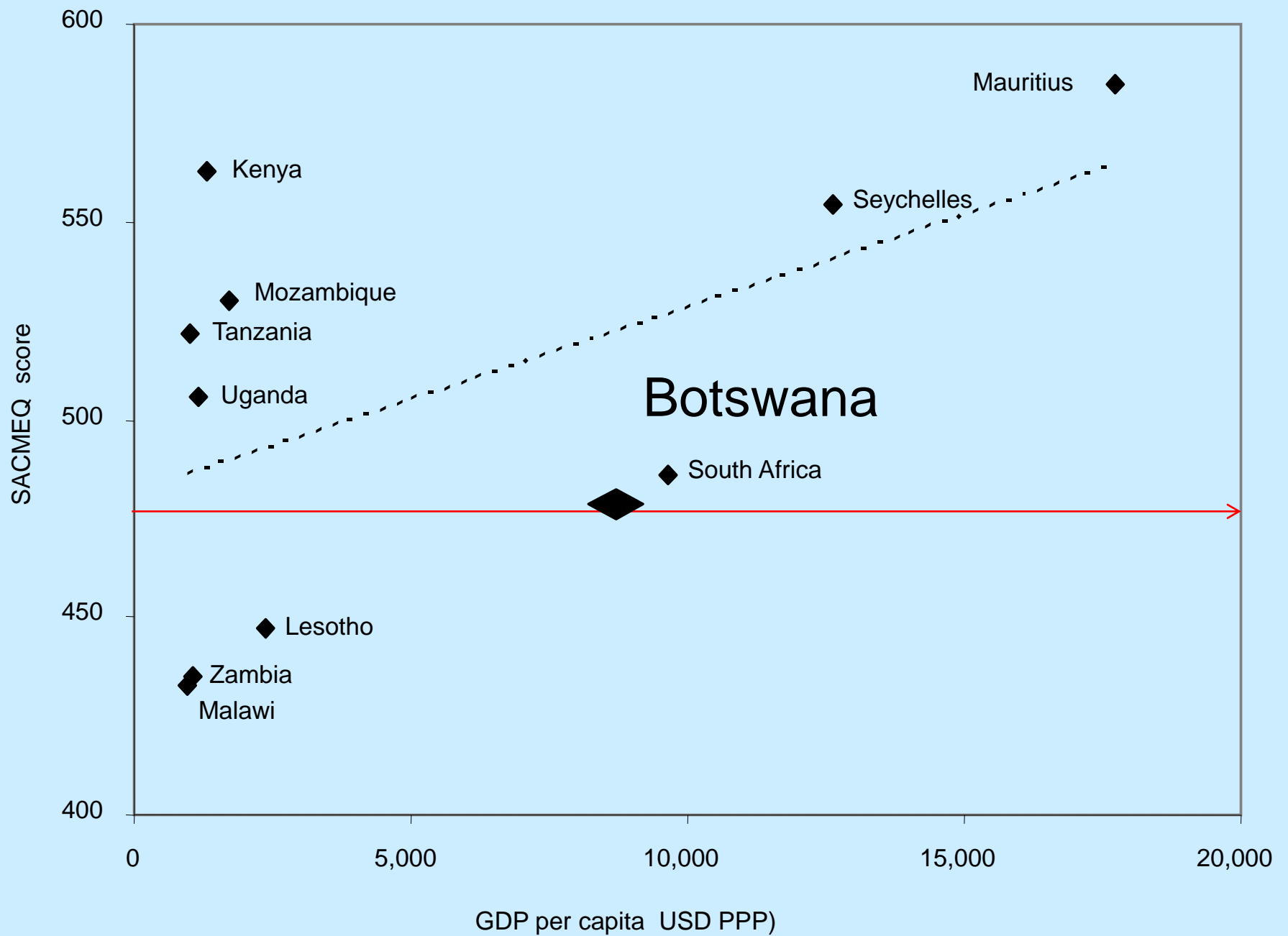
Advancing learning, certifying your future

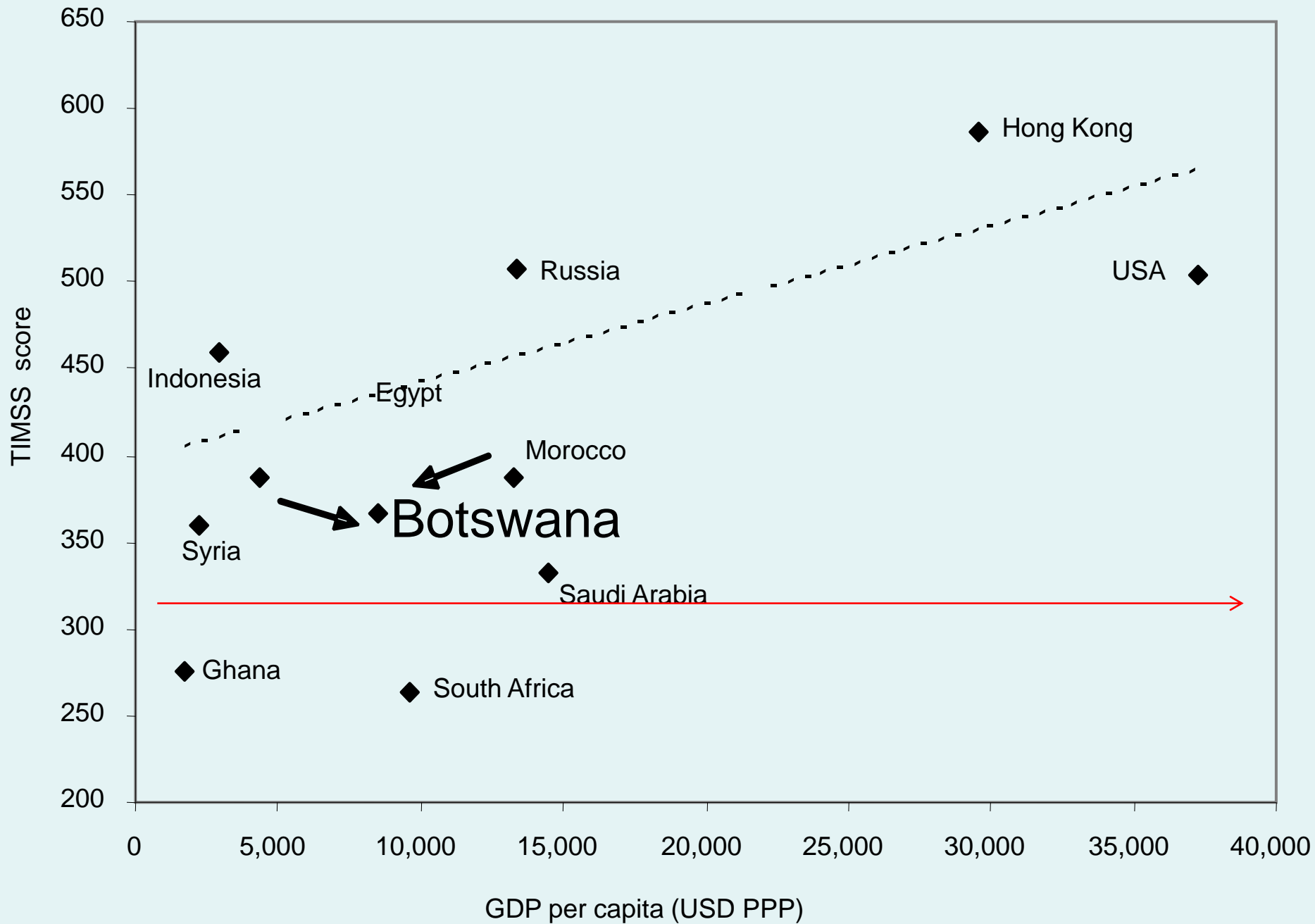
Declining Academic Achievement in Secondary Education- Internal

Percentage of Grade A* - C (All Candidates & Syllabuses)

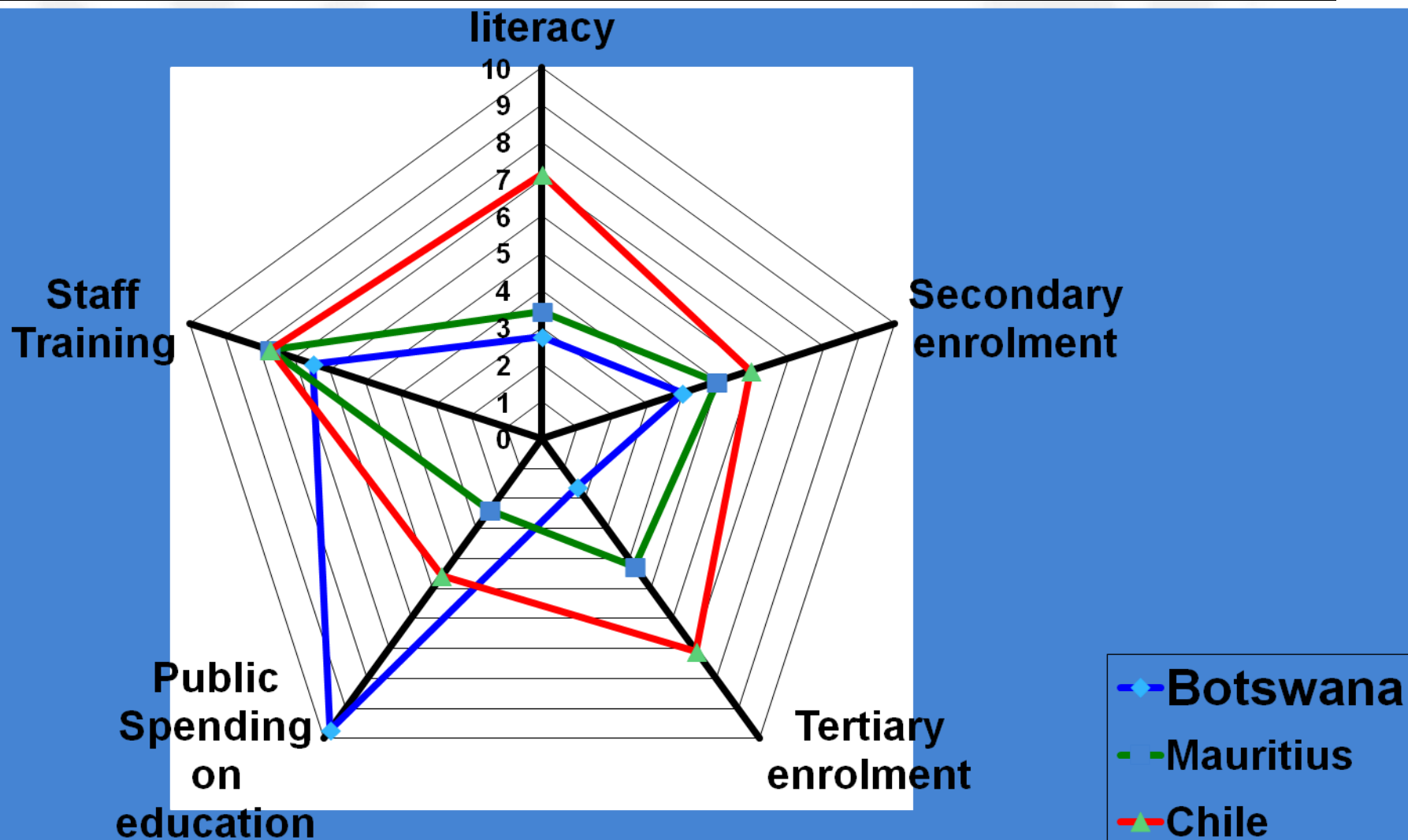


BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL





EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT



Advancing learning, certifying your future

RESPONSE

SYSTEM WIDE EDUCATION REFORM GUIDED BY THE NEW HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY



BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL

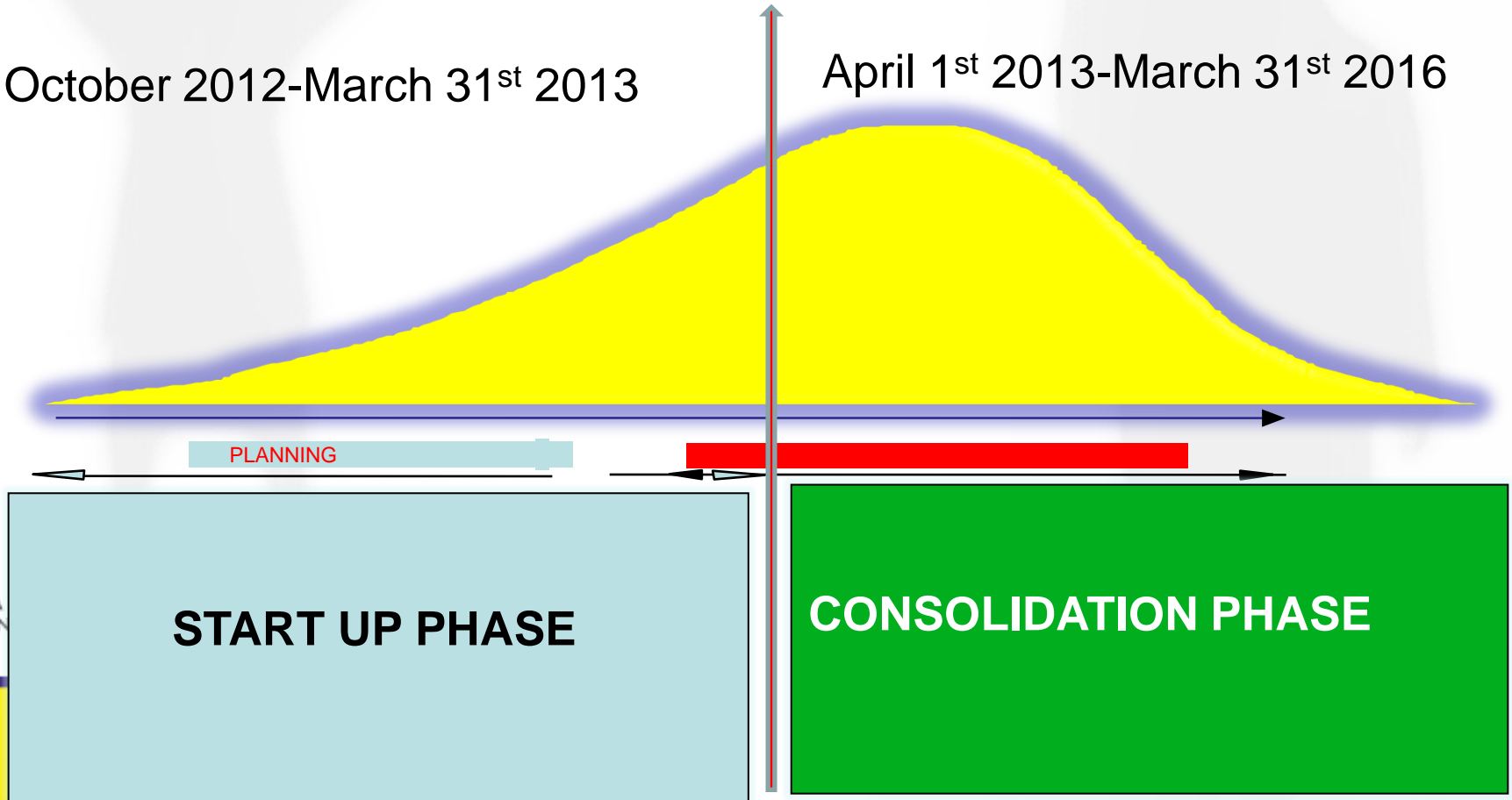
Programme Life Cycle



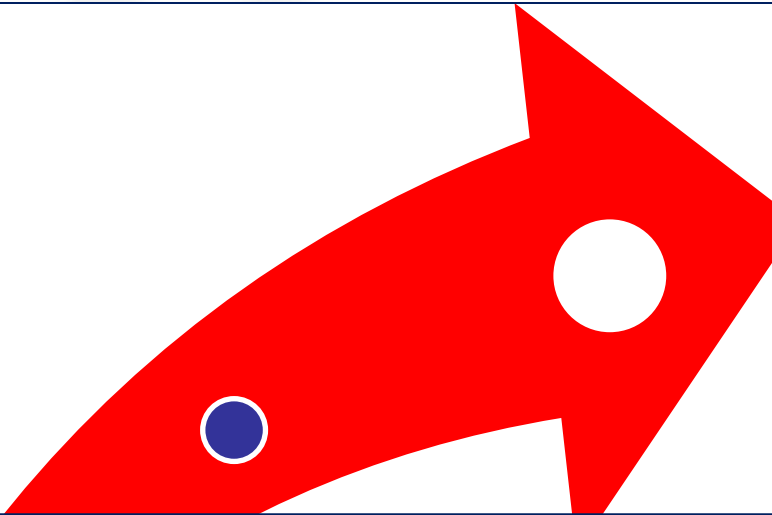
Day 1 – APRIL 1st 2013

October 2012-March 31st 2013

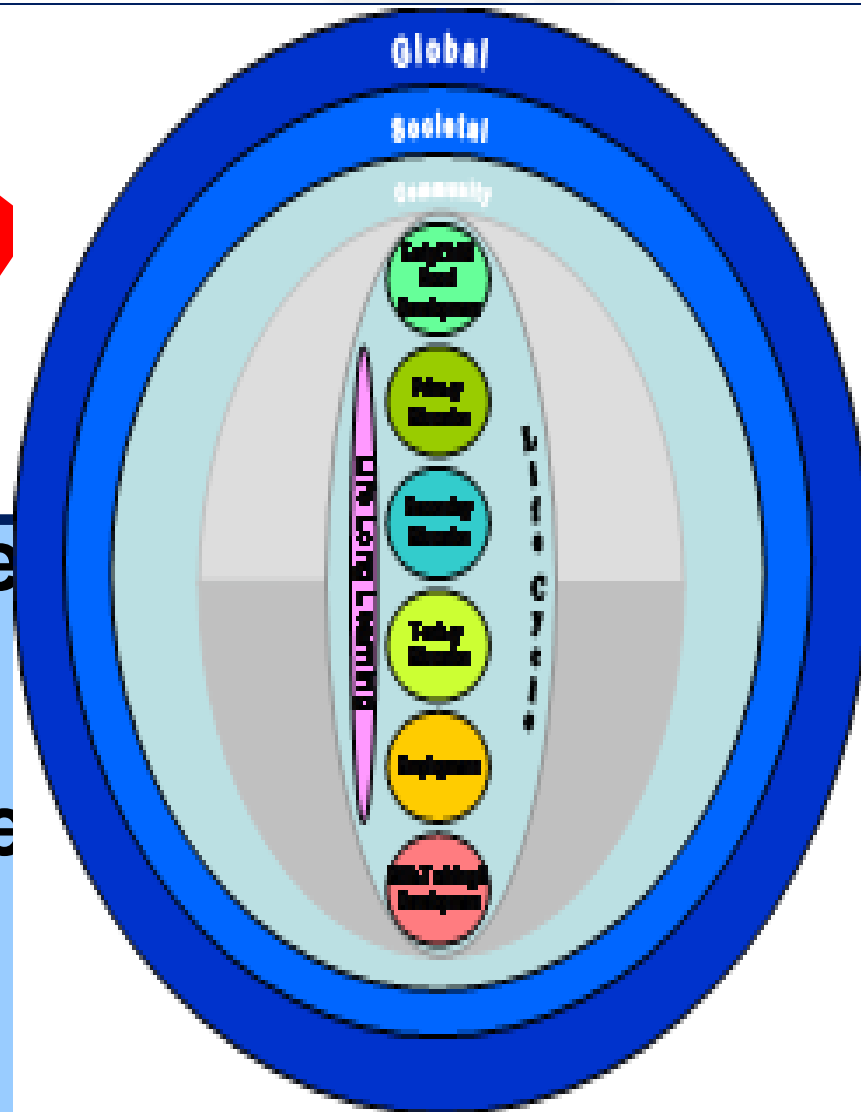
April 1st 2013-March 31st 2016

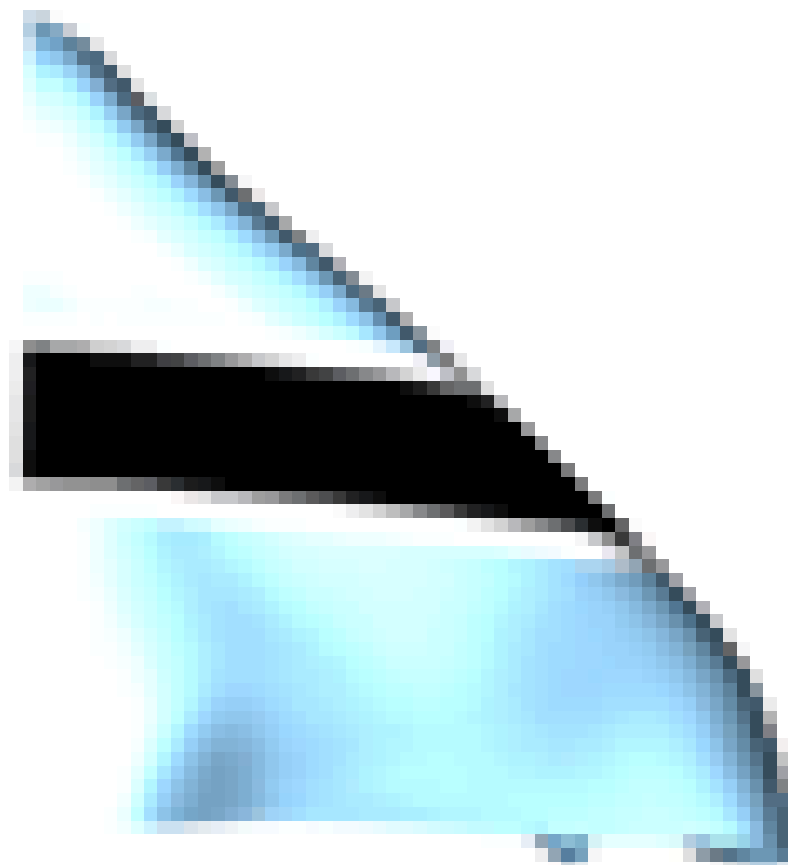


THE NEW VISION



By 2022 Botswana will be famous for its quality, skilled , well educated motivated and productive people.





BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL

Thank you for listening !!

Advancing learning, certifying your future