

A Descriptive Analysis of the Causes, Challenges and Effects of Skills Deficit on Youth Empowerment in South Africa

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ABSTRACT There is a mismatch between the available jobs and the skills possessed by the youth in South Africa, which is a barrier to the socio-economic development. An in-depth review of the current and relevant literature in this study reveals that the South African public and the private sectors are on the verge of a collapse due to the shortage of the relevant job skills. The study establishes that the shortage of the critical skills has been a part of the skills development debate in South Africa despite the huge numbers of graduates churned out in different fields on an annual basis. This ultimately impacts on the youth economic empowerment which has a direct causal link on poverty and unemployment in South Africa.