

HSRC Strategic Plan and Annual Performance Plan

April 2012

Mission statement

The HSRC is a research organisation that advances social sciences and humanities for public use.



Mandated Objectives: Section 3 Act 17 of 2008

- a) Initiate, undertake and foster strategic basic research and applied research in human sciences;
- b) inform the effective formulation and monitoring of policy and evaluate its implementation;
- c) stimulate public debate through the effective dissemination of fact-based results of research;
- d) foster and support research collaboration, networks and institutional linkages;
- e) respond to the needs of vulnerable and marginalised groups in society through research;
- f) develop and make publicly available data to inform research & discussion of developmental issues

HSRC strategic business objectives 2012/13 to 2016/17

- A – “Advance”:** Knowledge advancement through institutional collaboration, public dialogue, policy briefs & publications
- D – “Develop” :** Contribution to development and social progress in Africa through research which is informed by government, civil society and community needs
- E – “Enhance”:** Development of a skilled and capable workforce
- P – “Preserve”:** Preservation and sharing of data with others for further analysis
- T – “Transform” :** Contribution to the ongoing transformation of the organisation
- S – “Sustain”:** Development & implementation of strategies to ensure financial sustainability of the organisation

What we do: 150 projects

- Science system and innovation
- Poverty, grow economy and create jobs
- Quality of education
- Human and social advancement
- Skills development
- Service delivery
- Crime
- Early childhood development and learning (ECDE)
- Children, youth, families and social cohesion
- Health promotion, health systems and wellbeing
- HIV/AIDS, TB and STI control
- Nutrition and food security



Key Projects for 2012/13

The dynamics of human and social behaviour

- HIV/AIDS prevalence (SABSSM), South African National Health and
- Nutrition Examination Survey (SANHANES)

Science, technology and society

- R&D, Innovation, Biotechnology surveys, Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS)

Social cohesion and identity

- South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS)



Key Projects for 2012/13

Promoting an African research agenda

- An African Studies Centre is being introduced in 2012 after the HSRC Board's approval;

Skills development

- DHET research project to support skills planning for institutions;
- Talent management programme & succession planning for internal staff development;

Key Projects for 2012/13, cont

- **Agrarian Reform:** to assess its impact on poverty and the effect of the availability of agricultural land and development support in this process.
- **Rural Innovation Assessment Tool (RIAT):** to develop a RIAT through drawing on lessons and experiences from earlier innovation assessment tools and then to pilot it in several rural municipalities.
- **Green Economy and Resilient Cities:** to combine environmental and economic development ('green growth') to cut poverty and create more resilient cities.

Summary of Performance Against 69 Targets

Advance knowledge (N=14)

- 11 achieved, 3 not achieved

Develop (N=40)

- 30 achieved and 10 not achieved

Enhance (N=4)

- 3 achieved and 1 not achieved

Preserve data (N=1)

- Annual target exceeded (Target 14 – Achieved 19)

Transform (N=5)

- 4 achieved and 1 not achieved

Sustain (N=5)

- 4 achieved and 1 not achieved

Adoption in South Africa: trends and patterns in social work practice

Zitha Mokomane*, Tamsen Jean Rochat† and The Directorate‡

*Human Sciences Research Council of South Africa, Pretoria, †Africa Centre for Health and Population Studies, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Mtubatuba, and ‡Adoptions and International Social Services, National Department of Social Development, Pretoria, South Africa

Correspondence:

Zitha Mokomane,
Child, Youth Family and Social
Development,
Human Sciences Research Council
of South Africa,
P/Bag X41, Pretoria 0001,
South Africa
E-mail: zmokomane@hsrc.ac.za

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data

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ABSTRACT

This paper reports findings from a research study on adoption in South Africa conducted in 2009. The research included secondary data analysis of the South African National Adoption Register to establish trends and patterns of adoption in South Africa between 2004 and 2009, and primary data collection through qualitative interviews with key informants in public and private social welfare services to explore attitudes, knowledge and experiences of social work practice related to adoption. The quantitative findings report the number of national and international adoptions along with trends and socio-demographic patterns of national adoptions. Qualitative findings report on social work practice, systemic barriers and social worker attitudes as barriers to improved social work practice around national adoptions. The paper highlights comparisons to adoption literature in the USA, a country with a similar legislative framework and cultural complexities, but significantly more resources for implementation. Recommendations are offered for social work practice, national data collection and policy implementation efforts to support efforts to increase adoption.

INTRODUCTION

In line with international and regional commitments such as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, South African policy encourages the uptake of permanent forms of alternative care such as adoption for children with inadequate or no parental or family care. This support is premised on the fact that unlike less permanent forms of care such as fostering and residential care, adoption *potentially* provides permanency and protection to the relationship between the adopted child and the adoptive family. Therefore, while there is increasing debate regarding the validity of this fact in cultural contexts where longer term family fostering may be more socially acceptable and provide as much permanency, security and benefit for children (Wrobel & Neil 2009), the current legislative framework in South

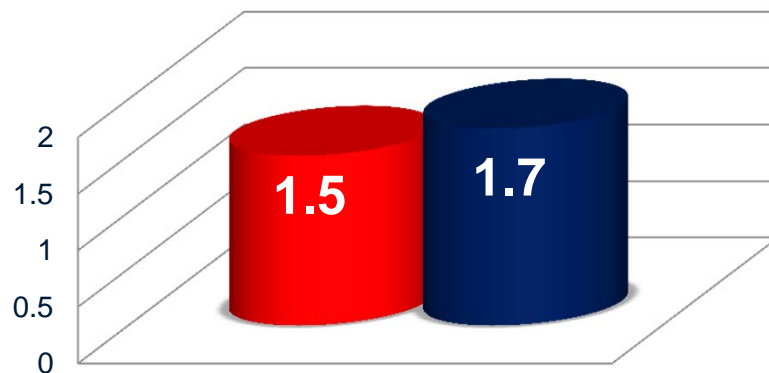
Africa supports adoption over fostering or residential care. To this end, the country's new Children's Act (No. 38 of 2005) strongly reflects international standards and best practices by setting out principles related to the care and protection of children, and making provision for children's courts and extensive adoption infrastructure. South Africa is also one of only five African countries to have ratified the 1993 Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoption and is an emerging leader on the African continent with regard to legislative frameworks established for the social protection of children.

Despite this robust legislative framework, very little research has been conducted on adoption in South Africa, and little is known about whether changes to legislation have proved effective or acceptable within social work practice. This paper addresses this research gap through the analysis of available statistics on the levels and patterns of court-ordered adoptions,

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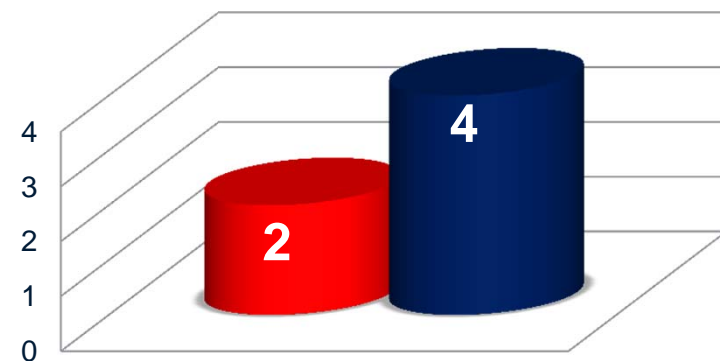
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■ Annual Target ■ Actual performance



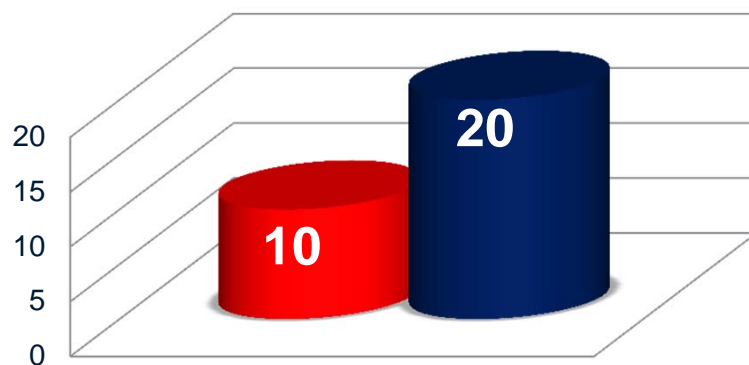
Peer-reviewed Journal articles

■ Annual Target ■ Actual performance



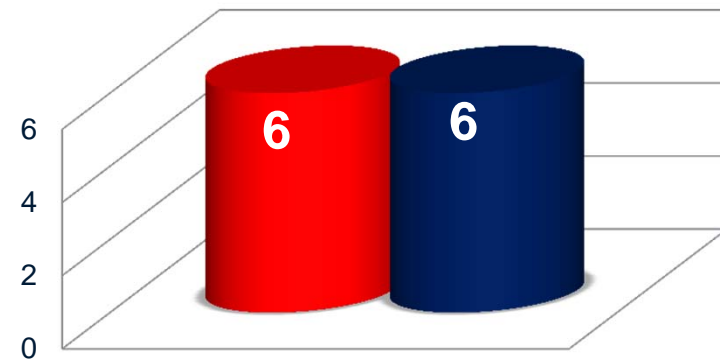
Recognised Books

■ Annual Target ■ Actual performance



Recognised book chapters

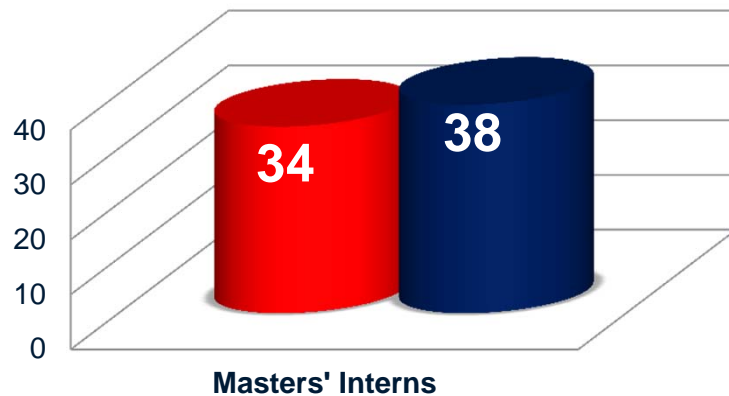
■ Annual Target ■ Actual performance



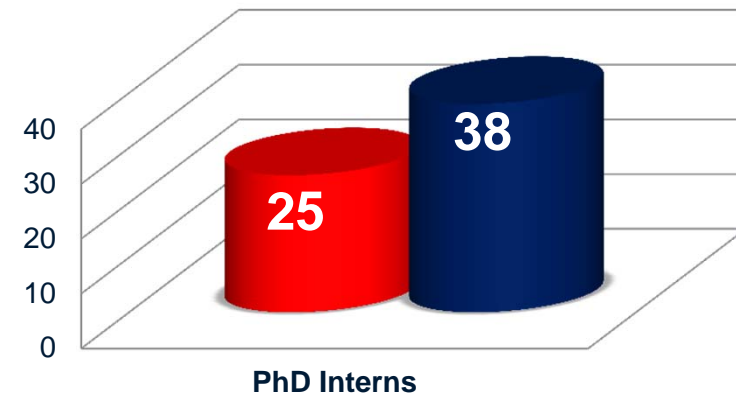
Policy Briefs

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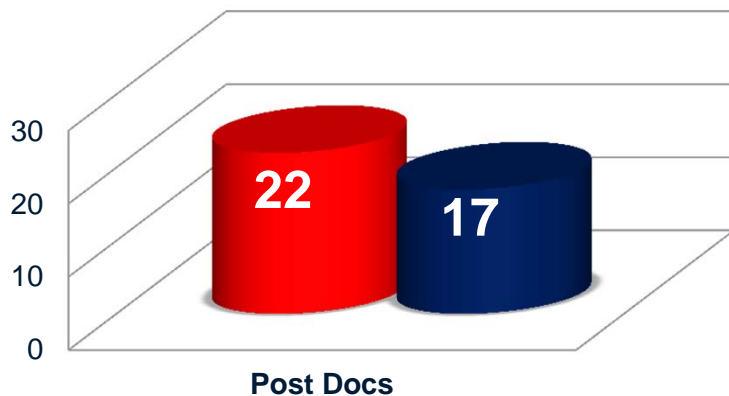
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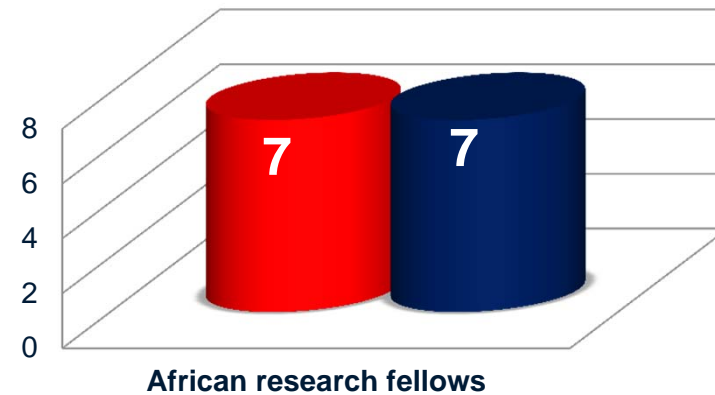
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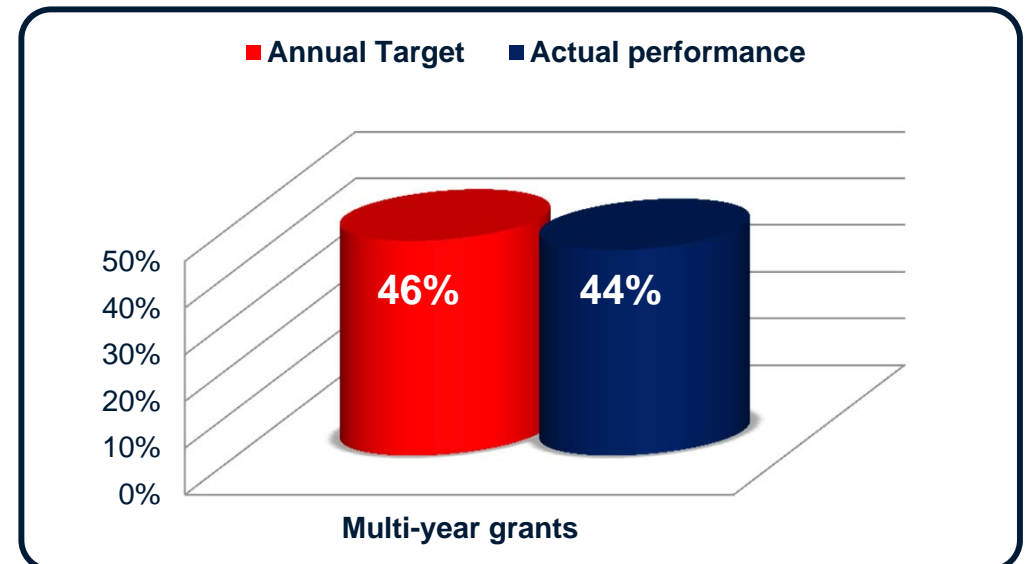
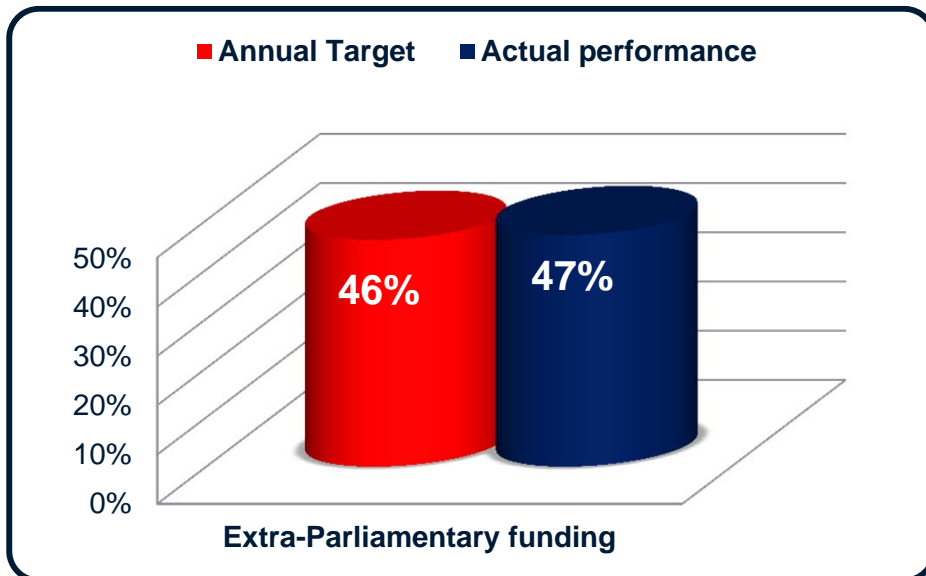
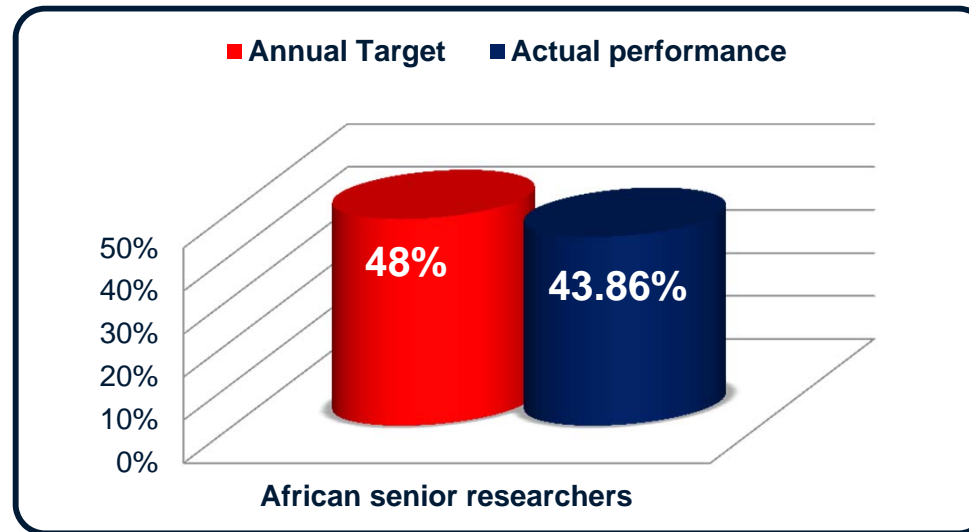
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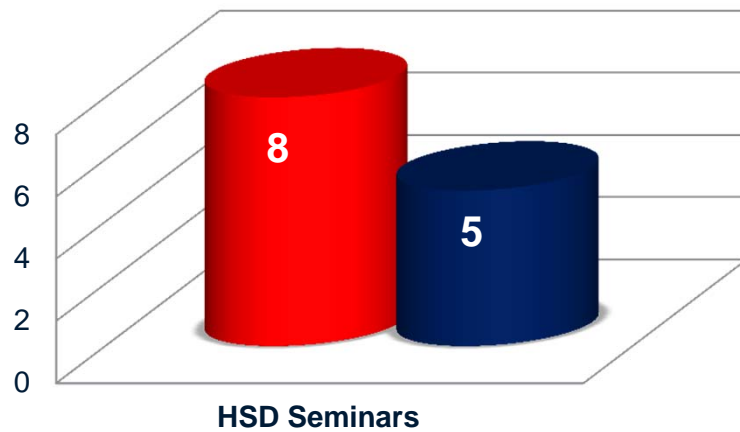


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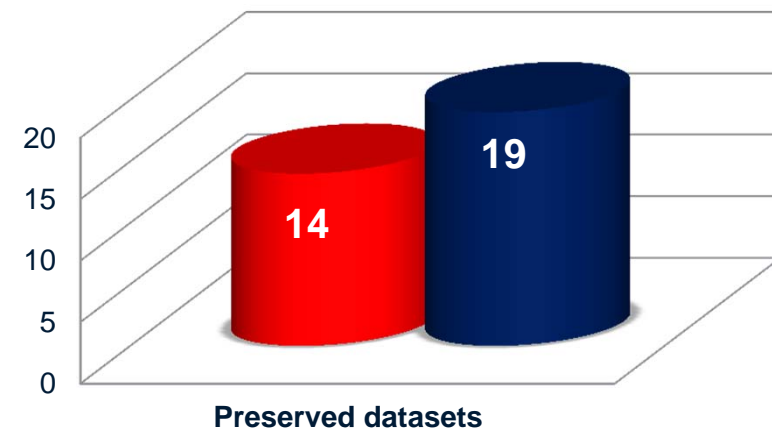


HSRC 2011/12 Performance, March 2012

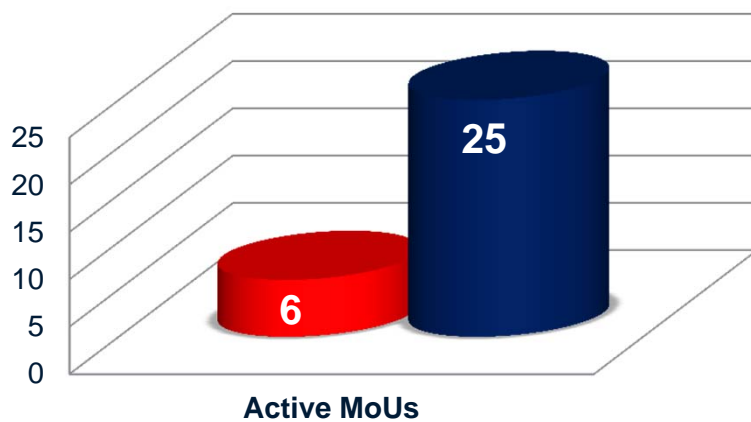
■ Annual Target ■ Actual performance



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■ Annual Target ■ Actual performance



HSRC 2011/12 Financial Performance, March 2012

(based on Draft Financial Statements for 2011/12)

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Narration	Target Achieved 31 March 2012	Target Achieved 31 March 2011
Parliamentary Grant received and recognized	100%	100%
External Income Target achieved	98%	88%
Other Income Target achieved	158%	132%
Actual Expenditure/ Budgeted Costs	101%	97%
Actual Total Revenue/Budget	102%	97%

Budget 2012/13

	2012/13 R'000
Income	360 206
Parliamentary Grant	187 875
Research Income	147 420
Other income	24 911
Expenses	360 206
Salaries	182 669
Overhead	26 523
Project related expenses	151 014
Surplus / deficit	-

Budget: Ratios

- Budgeted income : R 360 206 000
- External research income target: R 147 420 000
- Other external income target: R 24 911 000
- Staff costs: R 182 669 000
- Ratio between Parliamentary grant and (total) external income: 52:48
- Direct staff costs as percentage of total expenses: 51%

Budget: Challenges

- CAPEX: Building, IT, other infrastructure
- Budgeting for performance targets
- “Knowledge hub” for dissemination
- Longitudinal studies
- Future growth dependent on growth in Parliamentary grant
- Salary absorb 97% of total PG
- Cash flow constantly under pressure

Appreciation

- Minister, Deputy Minister and Department of Science and Technology
- Portfolio Committee of S&T, chair and members
- Other government departments
- Board chair, members, committees
- Funding agencies
- HSRC Staff