



VISION 2015







JET board of directors, March 2009

The Joint Education Trust was set up 18 years ago. It addressed some of the educational challenges, while some continue to exist. It is only right for JET to stay the course.
– Mike Rosholt, founder member of JET and recipient of the Order of Baobab in Silver, 2009



Nick Taylor – former CEO



Mike Rosholt – founder member of JET

Vision

Quality education for every child in South Africa

We have revised our strategy so as to fulfil our role in society as a not-for-profit organisation committed to improving the quality of education, particularly for the poor, through research and other activities.



Imagination is
more powerful
than knowledge.
Albert Einstein

Background

JET was founded in 1993 to manage the disbursement of R500 million (R1.6 billion in today's terms) raised by business to support the reconstruction of the education system. In 2001, after successfully discharging its founding mission, JET reviewed its role and shifted focus from fund disbursement to managing education and development projects. Similarly, in 2009, JET redefined its role amongst the new challenges and role players in education and revised its vision and mission accordingly.



Mission

We offer educational research and knowledge-based interventions that are innovative, cost effective and sustainable to our clients who support disadvantaged young South Africans through education development initiatives.

Values

- Professional and knowledge-based
- Innovative and courageous
- Independent but accountable
- Effective and measurable
- Respectful and respected



JET's strategic focus for the coming years is to define and implement education development and research projects that contribute to systemic improvement of educational outcomes in South Africa. Our purpose is to help government work effectively in delivering a quality education service to the disadvantaged South African children and young adults.

We can only achieve this purpose in partnership with government and non-governmental interest groups, particularly business, foundations and providers of funds for the development of our country. – *Jeremy Ractliffe, Chairman of the Board, JET Education Services*

Strategic objectives

In the next five years, JET will –

- Demonstrate replicable, systemic education change models that can be used by government and its partners to improve the quality of public education in South Africa.
- Make a meaningful contribution to the education development knowledge base and to finding solutions to the national educational challenges.
- Run sustainable organisational operations that will increasingly strengthen JET's organisational capacity and relevance in the education sector.

JET has committed itself to creating knowledge, disseminating it, and using it to gain a better understanding of the problems facing education, and to design solutions that are tried and tested in the field. We are dedicated to the principle of making recommendations that are evidence-based.

Strategic focus

After 17 years of pursuing a mission of uplifting the education of disadvantaged people of South Africa through grants management, project management, fundholding, research and evaluation activities, JET will continue to make contributions to education development in the following focus areas:

- School improvement
- Education planning
- Communities and youth development
- Education research
- Evaluations and assessments

The three focus areas of education planning, community mobilisation and youth development were adopted by JET at the beginning of 2010 as being crucial to education quality improvement. The youth component specifically seeks to contribute to addressing the challenge of the 1,75million young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 years who are neither in school nor employed.

The combination of research, evaluation and development expertise in JET and our extensive networks assists our clients who require efficiently designed and implemented education improvement and research projects. The JET Board makes partnership funding available to leverage projects of strategic importance which are initiated by the government, partners or JET itself.

JET carries a BEE rating of 3 and aims to improve in the coming years.

JET has been restructured into two key divisions, namely the Education Development Division (EDD), which focuses on designing and implementing education development programmes and the Education Evaluation and Research Division which carries out evaluation and research activities in support of the education system.



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The real quest is not for knowledge, but for understanding...
– Gordon Johnson,
President of Woodson
College, Cambridge





The mission of the Education Development Division (EDD)

To design, support and implement education development programmes that demonstrate meaningful and measurable impact.

In the next five years EDD will –

1. Design and implement education development projects focusing on schools and FET colleges
2. Provide education improvement tools and strategies for education institutions and their communities
3. Develop the education planning task with a view to improving the planning function in the education subsystems, namely education departments, districts, circuits and schools



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The mission of the Education Evaluation and Research Division (EERD)

To provide cutting-edge research, monitoring and evaluation services that support national education development initiatives and seek solutions to current education challenges.

In the next five years EERD will –

1. Increase the dissemination of research output through peer reviewed journals and other media targeting education and CSI practitioners
2. Define and implement a research agenda that sufficiently maintains focus on strategic national education issues
3. Extend its assessment function beyond learner performance to teacher knowledge
4. Provide highly scientific monitoring and evaluation services with a view to improving programmes and project delivery

Services offered by JET

Service Area	School Improvement	Communities and Youth Development	Education Planning
Description	<p>JET's work in this area targets provincial departments, districts, managers, teachers and learners in schools to tackle school improvement in a manner that ensures sustainability.</p> <p>Through its systemic model, JET works towards improving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support and monitoring of schools by district offices; • community involvement; • school functionality, teacher competence and performance; and • learning outcomes. 	<p>The Youth and Community Development Unit tackles two challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • active parent and community involvement in education; and • the transition of youth from school to work and the role of FET Colleges in enhancing employability. 	<p>The Education Planning Unit supports JET's longstanding work in school improvement facilitation, research and evaluation. It functions on the premise that the quality of education depends on the effectiveness of the education systems (national, provincial, districts and circuits) to support and monitor schools.</p>
Services	<p>JET provides the following services to our clients –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • design and implementation of school improvement projects; • advice on educational improvement projects; and • implementation of projects targeting education officials, school managers, teachers, learners and FET colleges. 		

Qualitative Research	Statistics	Assessments
<p>The Qualitative Research Unit adopts a qualitative approach to education research with a view to gaining in-depth understanding of human behavior, attitudes and reasons that influence school performance and education delivery.</p> <p>The unit's purpose is to conduct research in order to investigate the why and how of education successes and challenges, and to strategically determine to what degree interventions achieve their objectives.</p>	<p>The Statistics Unit provides statistical support to both JET and external researchers.</p> <p>Services provided include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • research planning and design; • research and evaluation tools development; • model building and data analysis; and • training in statistical analysis and programmes. <p>The unit mainly works on STATA, SPSS and ACCESS databases.</p>	<p>The Assessment Unit aims to establish the knowledge profiles of teachers and learners in order to inform teacher development plans and school improvement interventions.</p> <p>The unit provides the following key services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing and maintaining assessment item banks; • providing learner and teacher assessment services including test administration, data processing and reporting; and • high level analysis of results.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • design and implementation of school and systemic assessments; • design and implementation of research projects; • evaluation of education projects; and • data analysis using RASCH analysis and classical test theory. 		



Chief Executive Officer

Godwin Khosa

Godwin holds a Masters degree in Public and Development Management and a Post-graduate Diploma in Public Management from the University of Witwatersrand. He is an education management expert and has 17 years of experience in the education sector as a teacher, policy analyst, researcher and programme director. He has provided advisory and technical support services to ministries of education in South Africa and internationally, including the Seychelles and other SADC countries and recently served as team leader of a seven-year education change programme in Limpopo Province. Godwin has a deep and comprehensive understanding of the South African education system including the workings of EMIS, financial management, human resources development, whole school development and Further Education and Training college transformation.



Executive Manager, Education Development

Anthony Gewer

Anthony holds a Doctorate in Education Policy with a specific focus on post-school transitions and the role of vocational education and training (VET). More recently he worked as a senior manager at the National Business Initiative where he was responsible for research and strategy in schooling and VET. During this time he was instrumental in developing a strategy to enhance corporate investment in school development and post-school skills training. Anthony has worked extensively with national and provincial departments and donors as a research, planning and evaluation consultant. Among other projects, he managed three large-scale studies of FET College student labour market destinations, supported the Limpopo Department of Education with the recapitalisation programme for colleges and managed the delivery support for skills programmes and learnerships for the Forestry SETA.



Executive Manager, Education Evaluation and Research

Carla Pereira

Carla has a Masters degree in Research Psychology from the University of the Witwatersrand. She has served as a manager of numerous research and evaluation projects initiated or commissioned by government, research organisations, international donors and corporate social investment units. Carla has extensive knowledge and experience of quantitative and qualitative research methods and data analysis, programme evaluation, financial management, report writing and research coordination and monitoring. Central to her work is the design and management of large scale systemic assessments and high level data analysis using statistical methodologies such as RASCH analysis.



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