

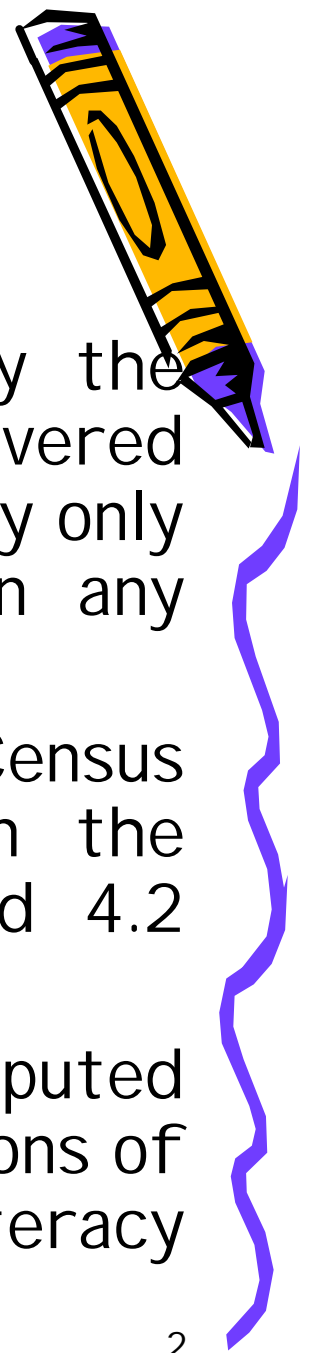


# **KENYA NATIONAL ADULT LITERACY SURVEY (KNALS)**

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Director of Statistics  
9<sup>th</sup> June 2006**



# Background Information



1. The last literacy survey carried out by the Central Bureau of Statistics in 1988 covered only rural areas and the concept of literacy only considered ability to read and write in any language.
2. The 1999 Population and Housing Census attempted to assess literacy status in the country and came up with an estimated 4.2 million adults as illiterate.
3. The estimates have however been disputed because they were based on self-confessions of those "never-attended school" and no literacy tests were administered



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4. The available data suffer large margins of error as they are based on the 1999 census and no test assessment was carried out..

5. There is therefore the need to :-

- obtain more accurate data that are derived from a proven scientific method.
- update the existing data on literacy levels since the last literacy survey was carried out over 10 years ago.
- Utilize new methodologies & approaches in conformity with UN principles and recommendations.



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# Objectives of KNALS



1. Provide valid, reliable, comparable and interpretable adult literacy and numeracy data at national level.
2. Provide a profile, levels and distribution of literacy and numeracy skills in the country.
3. Provide information on distribution of literacy skills by type of Adult Education Programme and by provider.



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# Objectives of KNALS(CONT



4. Obtain comprehensive data and information on adult literacy from all literacy providers and stakeholders in both public & private sectors
  - Determine the magnitude, levels and distribution of adult literacy for persons 15+
  - Identify gaps and issues of concern, which need to be addressed in the promotion of adult literacy.
  - Identify the causes of persistent illiteracy among adults and analyse the relative impact of each



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# Use and Importance of the Survey Data

1. Information from KNALS will be used by:-
  - Policy makers to plan for programs aimed at improving literacy skills
  - Regional and local stakeholders to enhance adult education and other programs
  - Provide information about similarities and differences in literacy programs offered by different providers
  - Private and public sectors to better understand the skills of the labour force and plan for programmes to address skill gaps



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2. National and International Development Partners will use literacy data as an indicator of achievement for Economic Recovery Strategy (ERS) & attainment of MDGs & EFA

3. Information generated by the Survey will provide policymakers with:-

- an accurate picture of the current literacy levels,
- an overview of skills in Kenya.

4. The information should also shed light on

- barriers to further improvement in education,

ways to improve literacy programs among adults and out of school youth.

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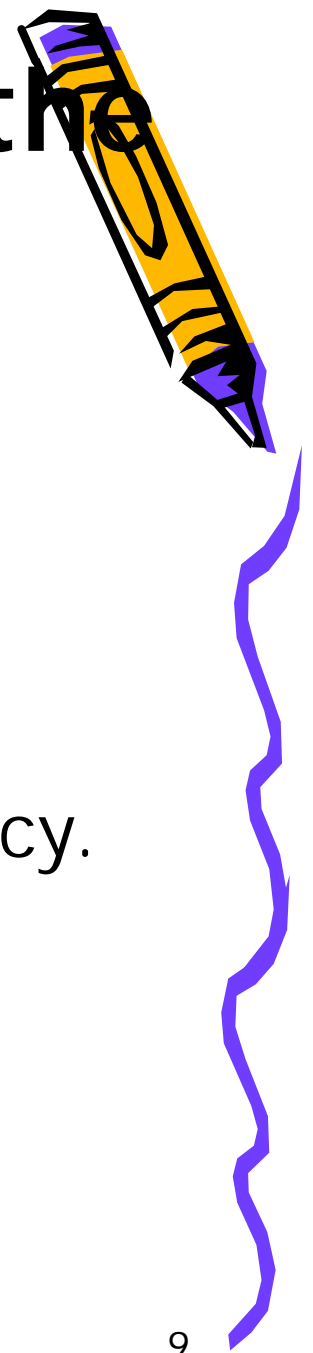
# Use and Importance of the Survey Data (Contd)



5. The Survey is also expected to improve on the measurement of literacy skills in society compared to previous methodologies that relied on proxy measurements and self-assessment that inevitably suffer large margins of error
6. With the benchmark data generated from the Survey, planners and policymakers should have access to quality information about the distribution of literacy skills in the country to help develop skill enhancement policies and programs.
7. Information from the Survey will be used to assess the Department of Adult Education's progress in meeting their objectives.



# Use and Importance of the Survey Data (Contd)



8. The Survey will equip Kenyan adult educators and CBS officials who will participate in the Survey with new and internationally proven and accepted methodologies of assessing adult literacy.



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# Administrative and Logistical Arrangements

- National Steering Committee to provide policy direction
- A Technical Committee Team responsible for the design and implementation of the survey
- A Working Group comprising staff from DAE and CBS to plan, develop and implement the technical aspects of the survey.



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# Composition of Technical Committee

- Directors of Departments of Statistics and Adult Education.
- Survey Methodologists
- Sampling Statisticians
- Literacy/adult education specialist/Advisor
- Data Collection Managers
- Language Experts
- Cartographers
- Development Partners
- Researchers



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# Definition of Literacy

## 1. Traditional definition

“Literacy is the ability to read and write simple sentences of everyday life in any language”

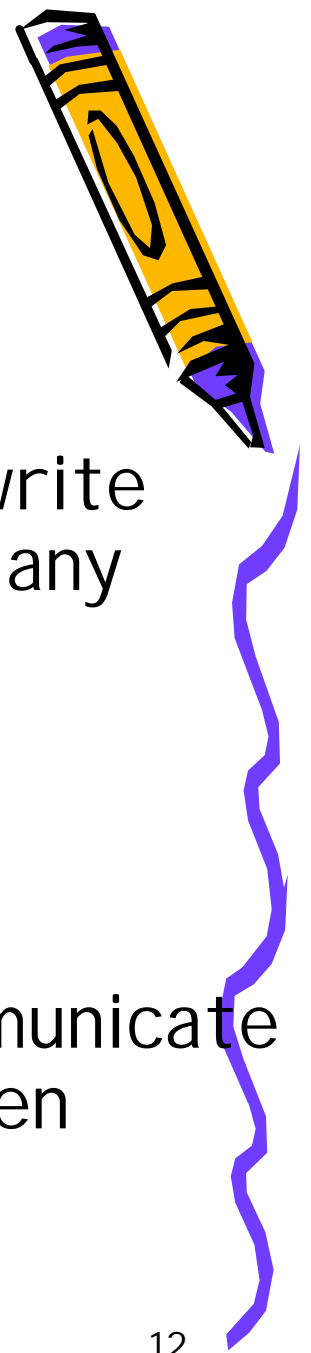
## 2. New definition

“Literacy is the ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, communicate and compute using printed and written materials”

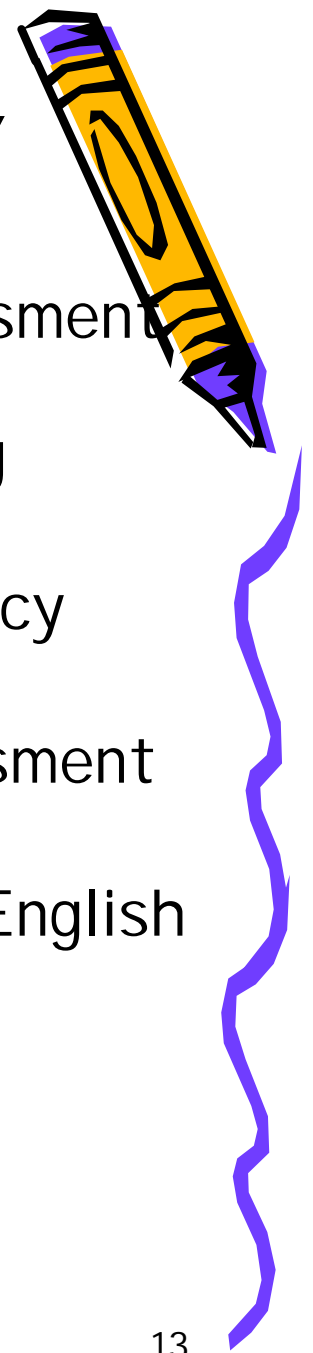


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# SURVEY METHODOLOGY



- The development survey instruments and assessment items are adapted from Literacy Assessment Monitoring Program (LAMP) and other emerging methodologies.
- LAMP is a new methodology for assessing literacy among persons aged 15 years and above.
- New approach uses both self- and direct assessment of individuals literacy.
- The Survey will be conducted in 20 languages (English and Kiswahili and 18 other main languages).



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# Survey Instruments

- A Background Questionnaire to collect Socio-Economic and demographic characteristics of Household members
- Individual Questionnaire to collect information on awareness, self assessment, use & application, sustainability & employment.
- An Institutional Questionnaire to collect information from Adult literacy Service providers.



• Literacy Assessment

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# Sample size

- A total of 18,000 households drawn from 1200 NASSEP IV clusters to be covered.
- 806 clusters are rural and 394 are urban clusters.
- 15 households will be selected from each cluster.
- Literacy estimates to be provided at National, Provincial, District, Rural/urban.



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# TEST ASSESSMENT ITEMS

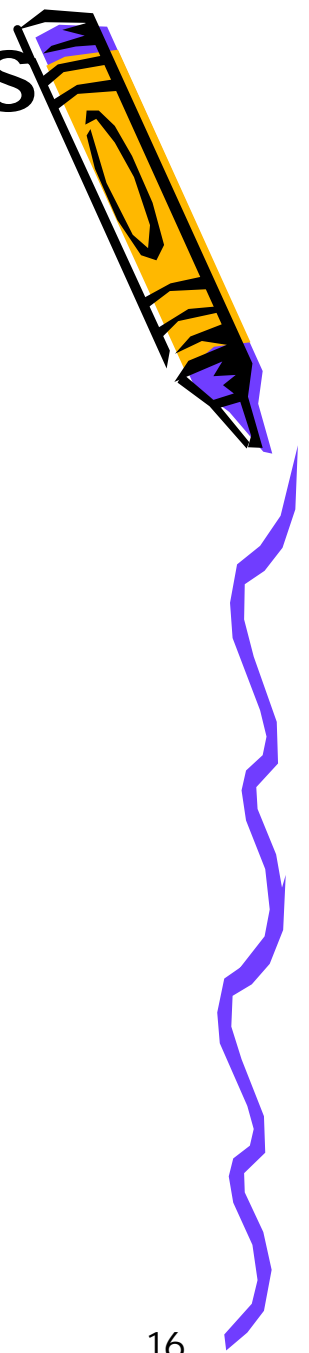
- The assessment will have three components: -  
Reading,  
Writing and  
Computing

## READING COMPONENT ITEMS

- Rapid letter/digit naming
- Word Recognition
- Rapid Word reading
- Word Decoding
- Vocabulary
- Sentence Processing
- Sentence construction
- Passage construction

(Score Guide will be provided to the assessor)

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# Writing and Numeracy Components

- **Document Items**

- Form
- Graph
- Table
- List/Combined/Nested

- **Prose Items**

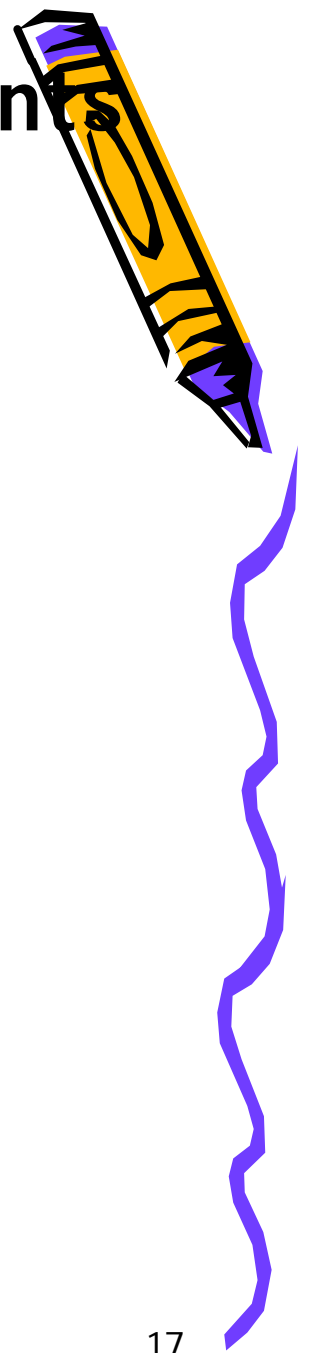
- Expository
- Injunctive
- Announcement
- Advertisement

- **Numeracy Items**

- Quantity
- Data
- Dimension/Type

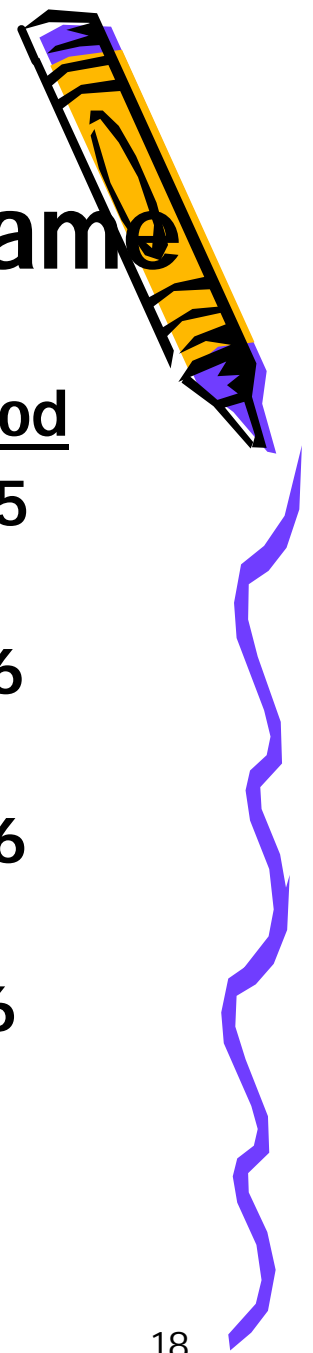


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# Way Forward

## Planned activities and time frame



- | <u>Activity</u>        | <u>Period</u>             |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Pilot Survey         | completed in Dec. 2005    |
| • Main Survey (launch) | 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2006 |
| • Data Collection      | June - Aug 2006           |
| • Dissemination        | Oct. 2006                 |



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