

SKILL DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES FOR THE OECS

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- The issue of how do we define the range of skills to be developed through our education systems... a lack of empirical data to drive action
- Low levels of attainment of core literacies by our student populations. A consequence of this is the streaming of 'high flyers' into academic streams and the 'non-academic' encouraged into 'technical' programmes.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES FOR THE OECS

- Perceptions of TVET vs the traditional academic core of subjects and a false dichotomy created between the 'academic' and the 'technical'.
- Seeing remediation as a short-term fix and allowing the problem to be perpetuated.

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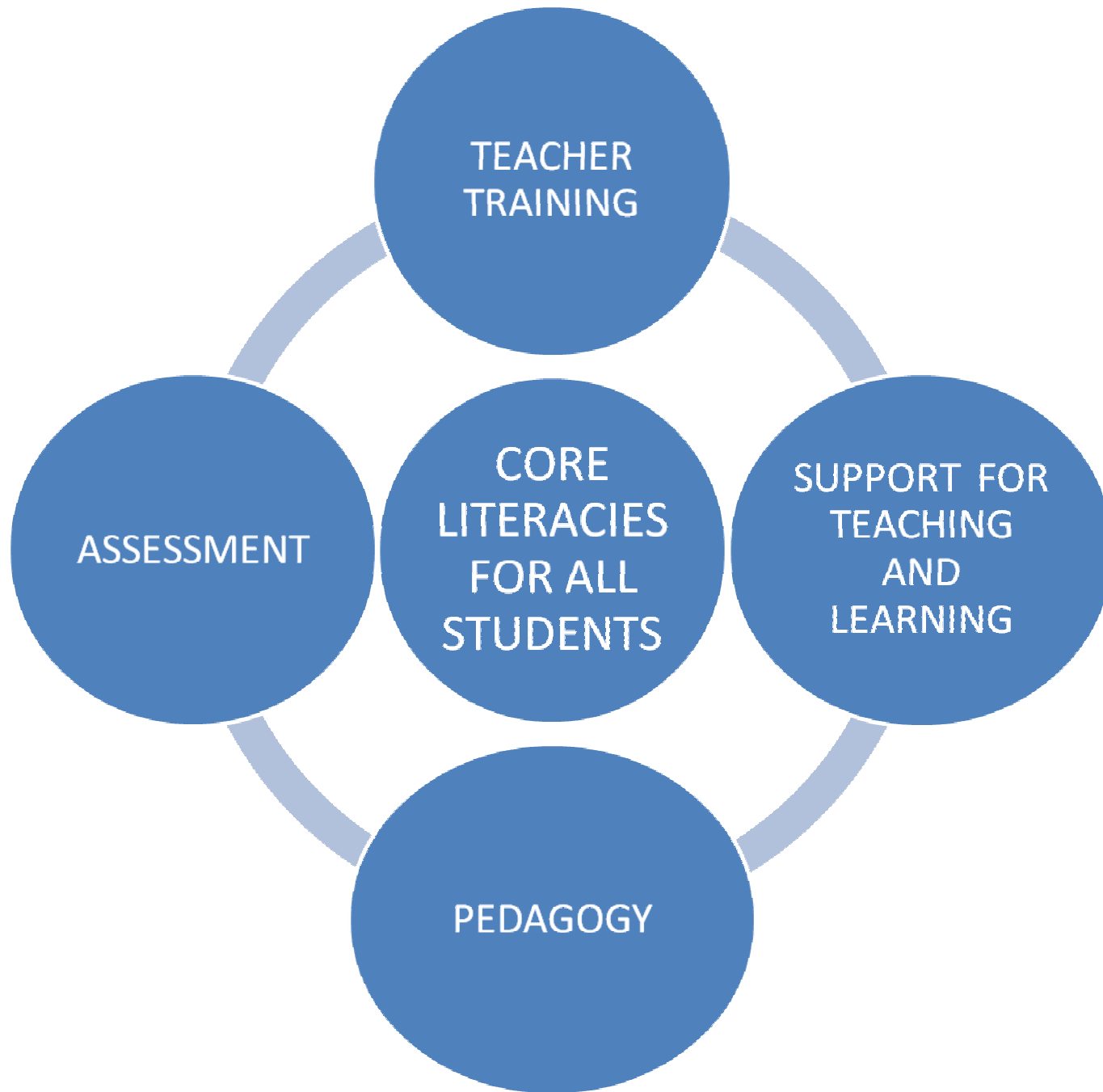
- Policy failure both in terms of development and implementation.
- Insufficient synergies across ministries of government Education, Finance, Labour, Human Resource Development in support of educational initiatives

POLICY RESPONSES

- Some attempt must be made to implement a LMIS
- Studies need to be conducted across the region to give data on trends and niche opportunities
- The articulation and development of a clear strategic vision for the sub-region of the OECS (Where do we see ourselves in the next 20 years in relation to the rest of the world?)

POLICY RESPONSES

- Refocusing of our education systems on the core literacies and making these the centre of our pedagogical practice. Implications of this are:



POLICY RESPONSES

- Public Education campaign to change peoples' perception and a change in the way we present skills programmes
- Mainstreaming of skills programmes in schools
- Modernize our skills facilities and develop state-of-the-art institutions

POLICY RESPONSES

- Assess existing policy documents and/or refashion in line with current realities
- Getting a strategic commitment to move implementation forward
- reater determination and commitment to synergize effort across ministries to achieve agreed OECS objectives

POLICY RESPONSES

- The importance of individual resolve and commitment to find ways to 'fix' the problems in education.

The end