Key LMIP research terms (2016)

Term	Explanation
Artisan	"A person that has been certified as competent to perform a listed trade in accordance with this Act" (Skills Development Act 97 of 1998). In general, it offers an on-the-job experience to a craftsman.
Credible institutional mechanism for skills planning	The core of an institutional mechanism for skills planning will comprise; i) management information systems ii) standardised frameworks for the assessment of skills supply, shortages and vacancies in the country iii) and mechanisms to interface operational systems. These essential components will ensure credibility, validity, utility and integrity of various data sources used for skills planning. Optimal functioning of the mechanism depends on an institutional context equipped with capacity to sustain it, and with the analytic skills to create information and intelligence from the data to support skills planning decisions.
Education Management Information System / EMIS	The Education Management Information System contains data relating to the conditions in, and performance of, the basic schooling system (grade 0 to grade 12).
Employment	"An activity in which a person is engaged for pay, profit, or family gain or a combination of any of the three" (Census 2001).
Further Education and Training Management Information System / FETMIS	The Further Education and Training Management Information System contains data relating to the condition in, and performance of, the FET colleges.
Higher Education Management Information System / HEMIS	The Higher Education Management Information System contains various kinds of data (student and staff numbers, curriculum, financial) relating broadly to the conditions in, and performance of, higher education institutions (e.g. number of graduates in different fields of study, signaling the supply of skills to specific sectors.)

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Indicator	In the context of skills planning, an indicator provides a quantitative measure of education or labour market conditions. It can be used to monitor and may afford insight into the future direction of conditions such as skills supply and demand.
Indicator system	A set of indictors that in combination can provide a coherent overview of the strengths and weaknesses of a system to inform decisions.
Management Information System for skills planning / MIS	An MIS is a structured system of information designed to support decision-making to maximise efficiency and effectiveness in achieving organisational goals. i.e. HEMIS.
National Development Plan / NDP	The National Development Plan is a document presenting a 2030 vision for South Africa and proposes how to deal with the triple challenges namely poverty, inequality, and unemployment. The National Planning Commission, an advisory body, was appointed by the President in May 2010 to draft a vision and National Development Plan. The Vision 2030 released by the National Planning Commission was embraced by political parties in parliament and by the ANC National Conference on 20 December 2012.
National Skills Fund / NSF	This fund was established in 1999 in terms of the Skills development Act, 1998, to finance activities of the National Skills Development Strategy (National Skills Fund Projects 2006-2009, 2).

Key LMIP research terms (2016)

Occupational Category	The terms 'job', 'occupation' and 'career' are often treated as interchangeable. However in the context of labour market analysis, an occupational category is defined as "a set of jobs whose main tasks and duties are characterised by a high degree of similarity (skill specialisation)." (Department of Higher Education and Training 2013, 6). At a highly aggregated level, 'professional' is an occupational category whereas at a disaggregated level, a particular professional might be a 'biomedical engineer'.
Occupational structure	'Occupational structure' refers to the overall distribution of occupations across different sectors of the labour market and also to the distribution of workers between these occupations. The occupational structure impacts on social inequality.
Panel study	A panel study involves collecting data on the same variables from the same group of households or individuals over time (i.e. repeated observations of the same group of graduates with long intervening periods of time). Panel studies can provide empirical evidence for the success or failure of a particular policy.
Post-schooling sector	The post-school sector is part of a national system of education and training. Broadly it refers to education institutions that meet the education and training needs of people who have moved out of the basic education system. This wide ranging and complex sector includes higher education (i.e. universities), further education (i.e. FET colleges), vocational education, occupational education, professional education, adult education and continuing education.

Key LMIP research terms (2016)

Priority sectors	Priority sectors have been prioritized for investment and growth in the Industrial Policy Framework, and the New Growth Path and related policy instruments. These sectors include agriculture, mining, manufacturing, tourism and high-level services with infrastructure development as the key driver cross-cutting different sectors with projects in energy, transport, communications, water, and housing.
Skills development in a South African context	The Skills Development Act seeks to empower the South African workforce with skills, ensure employees access more opportunities for skill acquisition; create space for the new entrants to the labour market to gain work experience, introduce transformative tools through training and education to redress unfair discrimination practises in the labour market against the disadvantaged groups. This Act emphasizes the provision and regulation of employment services to ensure its purposes are realised.
Skills forecasting	Skills forecasting involves using various data sources, including information on supply and demand for labour, to make long term projections that inform policy responses and strategies (i.e. education and training strategies in education sector).
Survey	A survey refers to a standardized procedure of gathering information from a fraction of the population being studied. The purpose of a survey is to systematically harvest information for analysis from which a researcher may make generalizations about the population.