

### One small step on a massive scale

Actuarial Society of South Africa Education Trust - Maths & Science Initiative

> Mike McDougall Chief Executive



#### Why

- · Opportunity for each child to strive for more
- · To grow and diversify the profession
- · To share our passion



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### **South African History**

• 1953 Bantu Education Act



"There is no place for [the Bantu] in the European community above the level of certain forms of labour ... What is the use of teaching the Bantu child mathematics when it cannot use it in practice? That is quite absurd. Education must train people in accordance with their opportunities in life, according to the sphere in which they live."

Dr Hendrik Verwoerd, South African minister for native affairs (prime minister from 1958 to 66), speaking about his government's education policies in the 1950s.



### **South African History**

• 1976 Soweto uprising



"No education before liberation"
School boycott slogan

"We shall reject the whole system of Bantu Education whose aim is to reduce us, mentally and physically, into 'hewers of wood and drawers of water'."

Soweto Students
Representative Council,
1976



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#### **South African History**

- 1989 Relaxation at margins in state schools
- 1994 No official segregation







### **Emerging Reality**

- · Vast differences between schools
- · Teachers ill equipped to teach curriculum
- · Curriculum meddling
- · Grade inflation







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### Impact on profession

- Clear that few Black students would be equipped for the rigor of the profession
- General decline in standard of student readiness for the profession
- Risk of a shortage of actuaries









## Response of the profession



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world" Nelson Mandela

"Ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country" JF Kennedy, 1961





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## Response of the profession



- 2001: Counsellor at one major university pilot project
- 2002: Actuaries on the Move
- 2011: Bona Lesedi
- 2013: Maths and Science initiative through the a Education Trust

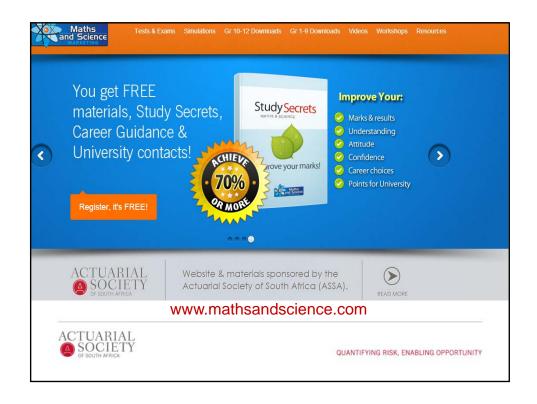


### Maths and Science initiative

- · In collaboration with top teacher
- 509 000 page views and 280 000 downloads in 9 months
- 75 000 unique visitors from 141 countries
- · Aimed at teachers and pupils
- · Full school maths syllabus and high school science syllabus
- Slides, workbooks, video clips, tests and exam papers







# Leverage & growth points

- · Teacher workshops
- · Media exposure
- · Website enhancement



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### **Funding**

#### **Current funders**

- · Actuarial Society member donations
- · Actuarial Society

#### **Potential co-funders**

- · Commercial sponsors
- · Philanthropic donors



### What can you do

- · Provide financial support
- · Connect us with potential donors



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### **Closing challenge**

Help us make a massive difference - one step at a time

