The HSRC’s Human Resources Development Data Warehouse project:
disseminating research information for government and for the public domain

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A web enabled database structure - called the “HRD Data Warehouse” - is currently under construction by the Human Sciences Research Council. The aim of the Data Warehouse is to facilitate the provision of data and information about human resource development (HRD) in South Africa to stakeholders which include government, researchers and research agencies, and other interested parties in the public domain.

The data stored in the Data Warehouse will record social and economic phenomena relevant to understanding HRD in South Africa. The targeted collection of data is informed by a coherent theoretical model of the complex dynamics at work in human resources and labour markets in the South African economy. Out of this procedure, approximately twenty-two key dimensions are identified, which cover both demand and supply sides of the labour market. Researchers will source primary data, conduct analyses and provide their datasets and analyses for publication on the HRD Data Warehouse website. Clients will have access to a full range of data tables from all of the twenty-two HRD dimensions. This data will be searchable, though there will not be the opportunity to query it dynamically. Access to the data will include drilling down through tables layered by level of aggregation. The website will also provide access to supporting documentation, metadata, relevant research documents, and links to other data holdings nationally and internationally. Through aggregating information on HRD the website is planned to develop as a vertical portal servicing the needs of information seekers on HRD.