

## Issues relating to the development of learning materials

Accessed from website in May 2008 [www.sasseta.org.za](http://www.sasseta.org.za)

It is important to consider the following key issues in relation to materials development:

- Who will fund the development of new learning materials?
- Who will hold the copyright to the materials?
- If learning materials are available, who will adapt or customise the material for the specific learnership and learner target group?
- Who will be responsible for ensuring that the material is outcomes-based and aligned to the unit standards?
- Will all providers have to develop their own learning materials?
- Will there be someone who checks the materials to ensure that they are appropriate?
- Is one institution willing to fund the development of all the learning material?
- How will learning material be made available to other providers?
- Will the material be sold to the other providers?
- Will training providers be willing to provide their materials (which many see as their competitive advantage) to other training providers, who could then also use it for other programmes outside the learnership?
- What material will be used for workplace learning?
- Who will develop the material for workplace learning?
- Who should be used as materials developers? The following people can assist in developing the learning materials:
  - subject matter experts from participating training providers
  - external subject matter experts contracted by the providers, and/or
  - materials developers from a number of providers, who could jointly develop material that they could all use.
- Who should fund the development of learning materials? There is no uniform approach to the development of learning materials for learnership implementation. Some SETAs fund the development of learning materials and make these available for the implementation of the learnership. However, many SETAs do not support this practice as they believe that this is the domain of training providers. Many training providers believe that their competitive edge lies in the quality of the learning materials that they have developed. Some learning materials are developed by training providers and subject matter experts and are then sold on the open market.