



higher education  
& training

Department:  
Higher Education and Training  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# **SUBJECT: MATHEMATICAL LITERACY**

## **LEVEL: 3**

## **MODULE 1 NUMBERS.**

# MAP AND SCALE.

After completing this topic, you will be able to: Read various maps using given scales. (smaller scale and greater scales)

- Identify variance in scales
- Manage and calculate distance using scale.

# Map reading.

## Content

- Using scale: On the map : Actual ground
- Conversion : mm  $\leftrightarrow$  cm  $\leftrightarrow$  km

# Smaller scale and large scale

- Maps are known as small scale or large scale.
- A small scale map shows a very large area. (1: 250 000 – 1: 7 500 00)
- A large scale map shows a small area in a lot of detail. (1:50 000)

# Calculation using scale

1: 250 000

The scale shows 1 cm on the map as 250 000 on the ground.  
This scale means 1 cm on the map = 250 000 cm on the actual ground.

1 cm on the map =  $\left(\frac{250\,000}{100 \times 1\,000}\right)$  km = 2,5 km on the actual ground.

# Class activity.

- 1. A map of South Africa has a scale of 1:5 000 000.
  - (a) Write this scale as 1 cm on the map = ----- cm on the ground.
  - (b) Write this scale as 1 cm on the map = ----- km on the actual ground.
  - (c) Molefe measured the distance between Umtata and Polokwane with a ruler as 16,65 cm. What is the distance on the ground?
- 2. Rakoma measured the distance between Washington and New York as 9,3 cm. Determine the distance on the ground using 1:3 500 000 as a scale.