

*Every child is a National Asset*

# NATIONAL SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMME

## Global Child Nutrition Forum 09 November 2020



# Overview of the National School Nutrition Programme

- On 23 March 2020, the SA President Mr Cyril Ramaphosa announced a **National Lockdown** starting midnight of 26 March 2020 to curb the spread of the Coronavirus

## Impact on the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP):

- Schools were closed thus the NSNP could not be implemented
- The NSNP is a key government Programme rolled out by the Department of Basic Education (DBE) aimed at providing daily nutritious meals to over 9.5 million learners in 21 000 schools
- Schools are classified in quintile system > allocated all government schools into one of five categories, with quintile 1 schools designating the poorest institutions while quintile 5 denoted the least poor public schools
- The NSNP mandate focus on mostly poorest schools which are mainly quintile 1 -3 primary, secondary, and special schools but also target learners in quintile 4-5 schools



# NSNP Implementation

- NSNP is government funded: 20/21 financial year R7.7 billion - National Treasury review the budget annually
- Conditional Grant Framework provide guidelines to implement the programme on all levels( National, Provincial, Districts and Schools)

## Key areas:

- Cooked nutritional meal is served consisting of a protein, starch and vegetable or fruit dishes
- Nutrition Education (hygiene practices and Deworming Programme)
- Food gardens and procurement of fresh produce from small-scale farmers

## Implementation:

- Dept of Basic Education as well as all 9 provinces has a NSNP team to implement the programme
- Monitoring system call Monitoring , Report and Response (MRR) is in place that rate the effective implementation of the NSNP with KPI "Nutritious meals is served on time"
- Job creating opportunities > 56 000 Volunteer Food Handlers that prepare and cook the meals as well as Service providers (SMEs)

# COVID-19 Impact on NSNP

April to May 2020: No Schooling


- The DBE supported the Department of Social Development (DSD) applying for Disaster Relief Funds to provide food parcels to households. The food parcel content was determined DoH, DSD and DBE
- Social partners were requested to support with donations e.g. food or funding to Community Nutrition Centers in support of DSD


# DBE Response to COVID-19



- 8 June 2020: The reopening of schools > phased approach beginning with grades 7-12 (risk adjusted school calendar)
- 24 August 2020- All learners return to Schools
- DBE developed COVID-19 Schools Protocols and DoH Guidelines (strict adherence 1.5 m social distancing, masks and sanitized on entering school grounds)
- Schools implemented rotational timetables and some learners can study from home on request that must be approved
- **The following NSNP Conditional Grant Framework changes were made:**
- Provinces submitted amended business plans
- Feeding days were adjusted to an amended school calendar
- Menus to be adjusted to include food parcels for far-flung schools
- To respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, provinces may use Grant funds for additional sanitisation in food preparation and distribution areas and the provision of personal protective equipment (PPEs) for Volunteer Food Handlers (VFHs)
- Training on COVID safety measures for VFHs





 db\_e\_za ...

 db\_e\_za The National School Nutrition Programme in action in Limpopo..  
#NSNP #DBE  
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JULY 31

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**Dep. Basic Education** @DBE\_SA · Aug 5  
The National School Nutrition Programme in action in Alfred Nzo East, Eastern Cape

#NSNP #DBE



Hubert Mathanzima Mveli and 3 others  
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#NSNP #DBE



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# Gauteng High Court Judgement: Equal Education and Others versus the Minister of Basic Education

- 17 July 2020 (structural interdict) judgement against Minister and 8 MECs on breach of their constitutional and statutory duty to ensure that the National School Nutrition Programme [NSNP] provides a daily meal to all qualifying learners whether they are attending school or studying away from school as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic



# Court case continue...

## DBE Actions required:

Three weekly reports submitted to the Gauteng High Court on:

- Statistics on learners receiving daily meals
- Meals distribution – cooked meals, collection of cooked meals and food parcels
- Update on approved provincial amended business plans

## Challenges:

- Not all learners collect meals on days not attending school >
- Food wastage
- Scholar transport access as per normal routes and schedules - not adjusted to take learners home after collecting meals
- Schools not reporting accurately
- Paper-based reporting

## Way Forward:

- Department seeking technology based daily school reporting mechanism on learners receiving meals



Dep. Basic Education @DBE\_SA · Jul 29

The NSNP in action at Ubuhlebomvoti Special School, Umzinyathi District, in Kwa-Zulu Natal. It's incredible to see how this has become so much more than just a feeding scheme.

#NSNP



Elijah Mhlanga and 3 others

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Dep. Basic Education @DBE\_SA · Jul 1

Today we were at Kgato Primary School to monitor the NSNP. Learners in quintile 1-3 schools receiving their daily meals, including those from grades that are still not back at school. About 600 000 learners benefit from this programme #NSNP #QualityEducationForAll @MECtateMakgoe



Elijah Mhlanga and 2 others

21 12 53

The NSNP is fully operational in Katlehong in Gauteng

#NSNP



Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) and 3 others

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*Every child is a National Asset*

*Thank you!*

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callcentre@dbe.gov.za

callcentre: 0800 202 933