



**MPUMALANGA PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT**

**Report to Minister: Department of Basic Education**

**On**

**Progress on Meeting the Requirements of Norms  
and Standards as at End of November 2020  
(Seventh Anniversary)**



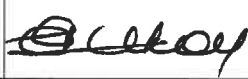
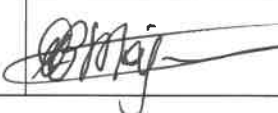
**Mpumalanga Department of  
Education**

***30 November 2020***

***Prepared by:***

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**ABBREVIATIONS**

ASIDI	Accelerated Schools Infrastructure Delivery Initiative
DBE	Department of Basic Education
DPWRT	Department of Public Works Roads and Transport
EFMS	Education Facilities Management System
EMIS	Educational Management Information System
IA	Implementing Agent
IDMS	Infrastructure Delivery Management System
IDIP	Infrastructure Delivery Improvement Programme
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
IPMP	Infrastructure Programme Management Plan
MDOE	Mpumalanga Department of Education
MEC	Member of the Executive Committee
NEIMS	National Education Infrastructure Management System
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
U-AMP	User-Asset Management Plan

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report responds to the requirement of Clause 4 (6) (a) that "A Member of the Executive Council must, within a period of 12 months after the publication of the regulations and thereafter annually on a date and in the manner determined by the minister, provide the Minister with detailed plans on the manner in which the norms and standards are to be implemented as far as schools referred to in sub-regulation (1) are concerned". The report gives the status for Mpumalanga Department of Education towards meeting the targets as at the end of November 2019, the sixth anniversary of the Norms and Standards.

The objectives of the Regulations Relating to the Minimum Uniform Norms and Standards for Public Schools Infrastructure are given as;

- a) To define the minimum uniform norms and standards for the school infrastructure.
- b) To ensure that there is compliance with these norms and standards in terms of design and construction of new schools, additions, alterations and improvements to the existing schools.
- c) To provide timeframes within which school infrastructure backlogs must be eradicated.

The table below gives the summary of the Department's total budget total allocations for the respective years starting 2013/14 financial year to 30 November 2020.

No.	Financial Year	Total Final Budget Appropriation ('R000)	Total Expenditure ('R000)	(Over) / Underspending ('R000)
1	2013/14	695 335	707 811	(12 476)
2	2014/15	1 059 479	811 303	248 176
3	2015/16	1 069 672	1 013 229	56 441
4	2016/17	946 354	773 266	173 088
5	2017/18	929 144	841 125	88 019
6	2018/19	1 239 433	1 185 727	26 584
7	2019/20	1 216 533	1 210 147	6 386
8	2020/21	975 266	tba	tba

Against the budget allocations in the table above, below is a high level summary of the infrastructure provided during the same period of 2013/14 financial year to 30 November 2020.

The Department has managed to complete a total of 1 231 sanitation, water and electricity projects as from 2013/14 financial year to 30 November 2020 as shown in the table below.

Financial year	Basic Services		Construction Cost ('R000)
	Description	Number	
2013/14	Water	17	73 345
	Sanitation	17	
	Electricity	28	
2014/15	Water	13	31 754
	Sanitation	12	
	Electricity	30	
2015/16	Water	49	96 664
	Sanitation	60	
	Electricity	4	
2016/17	Water	48	325 638
	Sanitation	166	
	Electricity	10	
2017/18	Water	77	205 825
	Sanitation	121	
	Electricity	7	
2018/19	Water	87	307 166
	Sanitation	82	
	Electricity	1	
2019/20	Water	143	465 403
	Sanitation	149	
	Electricity	0	
2020/21 (up to 30 November 2020)	Water	119	490 639 (including uncompleted projects)
	Sanitation	128	
	Electricity	0	
<b>TOTAL ACHIEVED</b>		<b>1 368</b>	

Not only has the Department provided only basic services that are a 3-Year target according to the Norms and Standards, The Department has also managed to attend to some 7- 10 and 17-Year targets backlogs as summarized in the table below,



Item	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Completed by 30 November 2020	TOTALS
Completely New Schools (other than boarding & special schools)	1	4	4	2	1	1	1	0	14
Boarding Schools (New)	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	5
Replacement of Unsafe Structures	11	13	5	0	5	3	4	0	41
Special Schools (New Only)	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Scheduled Maintenance (incl. renovations)	6	2	2	1	9	11	58	180	269
Corrective Maintenance (Storm Damage and Arson)	29	34	17	31	47	32	3	1	194
Upgrades and Additions (with other facilities over & above basic services)	19	17	8	-	2	7	0	0	53
Grade R Facilities	11	13	12	1	3	8	22	0	48
Dinaledi (New and Renovation of Laboratories)	-	4	11	-	-	-	-	0	15
Additional Classrooms	130	270	367	196	104	179	283	0	1 529

The table below gives a summary of the targets and their delivery timeframes as spelt out in the Norms and Standards.

Target Timeframe	Description of Target	Target Date
3 Year	a) Any Form of Water Supply b) Any Form of Electricity Supply c) Any Form of Sanitation d) Eradication of Inappropriate Materials or Structures	2016
7 Year	a) Appropriate Fencing b) Eradication of Overcrowding c) Electronic Connectivity	2020
10 Year	a) No Library or Media Centre b) No Laboratories	2023
17 Year	a) Inappropriate materials maintenance and growth (New Schools) b) Appropriate provision of sports facility, kitchen, school halls/forums, car parks, multi-purpose centres.	2030

Mpumalanga Department of Education has not achieved the 3-year targets and there are indications that it will also not meet the 7-year target. The Department's current focus is on the eradication of basic services (sanitation) backlogs. 10 and 17-year targets are being addressed mainly on new and replacement schools.

The following table summarizes the estimated budget at present value, required to eradicate the respective target backlog for Mpumalanga Department of Education. A total of R20,96 billion (at current value) is required to eradicate the backlogs. However, the figure excludes the estimated budget required for maintenance, both scheduled maintenance and corrective maintenance that covers mainly repairing of storm damages.

No.	Norms and Standards Target and Target Description	Stipulated Target Date	Estimated Cost for Backlog Eradication ('R000)
1	3-Year - a) Any Form of Water Supply b) Any Form of Electricity Supply c) Any Form of Sanitation d) Eradication of Inappropriate Materials or Structures	2016	1 242 980
2	7-Year - a) Appropriate Fencing b) Eradication of Overcrowding c) Electronic Connectivity	2020	7 637 499
3	10-Year - a) No Library or Media Centre b) No Laboratories	2023	3 648 862
4	17-Year - a) Inappropriate materials maintenance and growth (New Schools) b) Appropriate provision of sports facility, kitchen, school halls/forums, car parks, multi-purpose centres.	2030	7 475 266
<b>Total</b>			<b>20 004 607</b>

The advent of Covid-19 pandemic that disturbed the economic, social fronts worldwide has also had some impact on the Department's plans on infrastructure provisioning. Basic hygiene is a paramount requirement for fighting the spread of the corona virus. Thus eradication of basic services' backlogs (in particular water and sanitation) to schools became more urgent than before. However, the other requirements pertaining to Covid-19 personal protective elements like masks and sanitizers resulted in the reduction of infrastructure budget required to eradicate capital infrastructure backlogs. The Department's 2020/21 original budget allocation and the adjustment due to Covid-19 non-infrastructure requirement is indicated in the table below.

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>2020/21 Original Budget Allocation</b>	<b>2020/21 Budget Adjustment Resulting from Covid-19 Requirements</b>	<b>Adjustment</b>
EIG	R 1 021 301 000	R 757 309 000	-R 263 992 000 (-26%)
EIG - INCENTIVE	R 73 380 000	R 73 380 000	R0
EQUITABLE SHARE	R 135 000 000	R 141 921 000	+R 6 921 000 (+5%)
EPWP	R 2 265 000	R 2 265 000	R0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>R 1 231 946 000</b>	<b>R 974 875 000</b>	<b>R 257 071 000 (-21%)</b>

The 2020/21 Education Infrastructure Grant (EIG) budget was reduced by 25,75%, while Equitable Share (ES) budget allocation was increased by 5% resulting in an overall budget reduction of 21%. In response to COVID-19 pandemic, the Department reprioritized through bringing forward basic services projects planned for 2021/22 to 2020/21 in order to fast track the provisioning of water and sanitation that are a key Covid-19 hygiene requirement.

The infrastructure budget cut was done to enable cater for funding for Personal Protective Equipment and screeners in schools.

In response to the infrastructure budget reduction, Mpumalanga has intervened with two programmes aimed at improving the hygiene conditions in the schools through provision of water and sanitation as follows;

- a) Emergency sanitation provisioning to 77 schools funded through dedicating R124 921 000 of the Equitable Share Allocation to sanitation.
- b) Borehole and associated water storage provisioning to 247 schools to ensure sustainability of water supply at a budget of R74 million, being implemented by the Department of Human Settlements to whom the programme budget was allocated.

The 2020/21 financial year, due to Covid-19 pandemic has also resulted in basic services programmes that did not necessarily provide new capital sanitation facilities, but rather involved the maintenance and deep cleaning of sanitation facilities in order to meet Covid-19 hygienic

requirements. There was also a surge in vandalism to school basic infrastructure facilities during the lockdown. Addressing the vandalized school infrastructure also required a budget allocation.

The table below gives an overview of the sanitation infrastructure programmes allocated budget during the 2020/21 financial year, including the progress of the same as at 30 November 2020.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1. Background**

The Minimum Uniform Norms and Standards for Public School Infrastructure, hereinafter referred to as the Norms and Standards, were promulgated on 26 November 2013 aimed at addressing the uneven development with respect to provisioning of basic school infrastructure to all public schools in order to provide relevant, effective, responsive and sustainable teaching and learning environment.

It is a requirement in terms of Clause 4 (6) (a), that "A Member of the Executive Council must, within a period of 12 months after the publication of the regulations and thereafter annually on a date and in the manner determined by the minister, provide the Minister with detailed plans on the manner in which the norms and standards are to be implemented as far as schools referred to in sub-regulation (1) are concerned".

This report gives the status for Mpumalanga Department of Education herein referred to as the Department, towards meeting the targets as at the end of November 2020, the seventh anniversary of the Norms and Standards.

### **1.2. Objectives of the Regulations**

The objectives of the Norms and Standards are the following:

- a) To define the minimum uniform norms and standards for the school infrastructure.
- b) To ensure that there is compliance with these norms and standards in terms of design and construction of new schools, additions, alterations and improvements to the existing schools.
- c) To provide timeframes within which school infrastructure backlogs must be eradicated.

### **1.3. Description of Targets and Timeframes**

**Table 1.1** below gives a summary of the targets and their delivery timeframes as spelt out in the Norms and Standards. This forms the baseline of the infrastructure delivery.

**Table 2.1: Norms and Standards Targets and Timeframes**

<b>Target Timeframe</b>	<b>Description Of Target</b>	<b>Target Date</b>
3-Year	a) Any Form of Water Supply b) Any Form of Electricity Supply c) Any Form of Sanitation d) Eradication of Inappropriate Materials or Structures	2016
7-Year	a) Appropriate Fencing b) Eradication of Overcrowding c) Electronic Connectivity	2020
10-Year	a) No Library or Media Centre b) No Laboratories	2023
15-Year	a) Inappropriate materials maintenance and growth (New Schools) b) Appropriate provision of sports facility, kitchen, school halls/forums, car parks, multi-purpose centres.	2030

## 2. MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S BASIC SERVICES' BACKLOG AS AT THE PROMULGATION OF THE NORMS AND STANDARDS

### 2.1. First Audit of Basic Services Backlog as at the Promulgation of the Norms and Standards in November 2013

At the time of the promulgation of the Norms and Standards, the Department identified its basic services' backlog as presented in Table 2.1 below:

**Table 2.1: Baseline for Basic Services Backlog as at the Promulgation of the Norms and Standards (November 2013)**

No.	Infrastructure Facility	Baseline Backlog as at November 2013
1	Water	182
2	Sanitation	566
3	Electricity	110
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>858*</b>
<i>*Due to one school having a backlog of more than one of the facility, the total number of schools with basic services backlogs is 772.</i>		

The baseline in terms of schools constructed entirely out of unsuitable materials, the Department had a total of four (4) schools that were asbestos schools in Nkangala district. The four schools are listed in Table 2.2 below.

**Table 2.2: Baseline Backlog of Schools Constructed of Entirely Inappropriate Material at Promulgation of the Norms and Standards (November 2013)**

No	School	EMIS	District	Circuit	Municipality
1	Ekuphakameni Primary	800093277	Nkangala	Libangeni	Dr JS Moroka
2	Duvha Primary	800002980	Nkangala	eMalahleni 3	eMalahleni
3	Vulamehlo Primary	800024950	Nkangala	T/Fontein N	Thembisile Hani
4	Bonginhlanhla Primary	800001388	Nkangala	eMalahleni 3	eMalahleni

Progress towards addressing the baseline sanitation backlog as well as that of schools constructed entirely out of inappropriate material is given in the ensuing chapter.

## 2.2. Second Audit of Basic Services Backlog (May 2018)

Following the incident of a 5-year old girl learner falling into a pit toilet in Mbizana, Eastern Cape, in March 2018, the Department responded to the presidential call to eradicate all plain pit toilets in schools by carrying out an audit of its sanitation backlog. The Department carried out a detailed audit of its sanitation backlog per district in terms of the following categories:

- a) Schools with pit toilets only
- b) Demolish pit toilet on schools provided with acceptable sanitation
- c) Overall inadequate sanitation (with or without demolishing)
- d) Provision of fit for purpose Grade R sanitation (retrofit)

The overall summary of the department's backlogs as May 2018, for categories a) to d) above are given in the ensuing **Table 2.3** below:

**Table 2.3: Overall Department's Sanitation Backlog Summary as Per May 2018 Audit**

No.	Sanitation Backlog	No of schools	No. of Toilet Seats
1	Schools with Pit Toilets Only	127	2450
2	Demolish Pit Toilet on Schools provided with Acceptable sanitation	154	1748
3	Overall inadequate sanitation( with or without demolishing)	1088	10359
4	Provision of fit for purpose Grade R sanitation (Retrofitting)	1047	9232

The May 2018 sanitation backlog audit was an update of the 2013 baseline sanitation backlogs. The Department's progress in eradicating sanitation backlog is thus measured against the May 2018 backlog figures. Progress in addressing the backlogs is given in Chapter 3 of this report.



### 3. DEPARTMENT'S PROGRESS MADE IN INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY FROM 2013/14 FINANCIAL YEAR TO 30 NOVEMBER 2020

#### 3.1 Historic Infrastructure Budget Allocations for the Years 2013/14 to 2020/21

The **Table 3.1** below gives the summary of the Department's total budget total allocations for the respective years starting 2013/14 financial year to present. The total budget comprises of all the funding sources (Education Infrastructure Grant, Equitable Share and Expanded Public Works Programme).

From the table it can be noted that;

- a) There is a general underspending on the yearly budget allocation attributed among other things, by the Department having a single implementing agent for its infrastructure programme.
- b) The main source of infrastructure funding in the province is the Education Infrastructure Grant.

**Table 3.1: MDoE's Historic Infrastructure Budget Allocation and Expenditure**

No.	Financial Year	Total Final Budget Appropriation ('R000)	Total Expenditure ('R000)	(Over) / Underspending ('R000)
1	2013/14	695 335	707 811	(12 476)
2	2014/15	1 059 479	811 303	248 176
3	2015/16	1 069 672	1 013 229	56 441
4	2016/17	946 354	773 266	173 088
5	2017/18	929 144	841 125	88 019
6	2018/19	1 239 433	1 185 727	26 584
7	2019/20	1 216 533	1 210 147	6 386
8	2020/21	975 266	Tbc	tbc

#### 3.2 Department's Progress in Delivery of Basic Services (3-Year Target)

Basic services are a 3-year target, thus were supposed to have been eradicated in November 2016. To date the Department has not eradicated the sanitation backlog. The Department has however since 2013/14 to November 2020 managed to deliver a total of 1 368 basic services (water, sanitation and electricity) projects as indicated in the table below. The list of sanitation projects delivered in from 2013/14 to date is attached as Annexure B to this report.

**Table 3.2: Progress on Infrastructure Provision of Basic Services (3-Year Target) From 2013/14 to 30 November 2020 (7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Norms and Standards)**

Financial year	Basic Services		Construction Cost ('R000)
	Description	Number	
2013/14	Water	17	73 345
	Sanitation	17	
	Electricity	28	
2014/15	Water	13	31 754
	Sanitation	12	
	Electricity	30	
2015/16	Water	49	96 664
	Sanitation	60	
	Electricity	4	
2016/17	Water	48	325 638
	Sanitation	166	
	Electricity	10	
2017/18	Water	77	205 825
	Sanitation	121	
	Electricity	7	
2018/19	Water	87	307 166
	Sanitation	82	
	Electricity	1	
2019/20	Water	143	465 403
	Sanitation	19	
	Electricity	0	
2020/21 (up to November 2020)	Water	119	490 639 (including uncompleted projects)
	Sanitation	128	
	Electricity	0	
<b>TOTAL ACHIEVED</b>		<b>1 368</b>	

### 3.3 Department's Progress Made in Eradicating Backlogs of Schools Constructed Completely on Inappropriate Material (3-Year Targets)

Schools built of entirely inappropriate material (mud, asbestos, timber and metal) are a 3-Year Target. The Department had four such schools as given in **Table 3.3** below. The Department has not completely eradicated backlogs on all the four schools.

As at 30 November 2020, the department had fully addressed two (2) schools (Duvha Primary and Bonginhlanhla Primary) while two (2) (Ekuphakameni Primary and Vulamehlo Primary, are still having some structures constructed of inappropriate material.

It is prudent to point out that the one of the changes in the proposed amended Norms and Standards include making schools with some of their infrastructure facilities being built out of mud, asbestos, metal and timber fall in the 3-Year Target, same as the schools built entire out of in-appropriate material.

The impact of the revised Norms and Standards will add 88 schools with some structures built of inappropriate asbestos material this 3-Year Target. The Department has not been able to meet the targeted deadline. The advent of the Covid-19 pandemic that has seen all resources being re-directed to the pandemic's hygiene requirements.

The Department however has a unique backlog of old and dilapidated schools constructed by the communities in Bohlabela District requiring eradication. The Department is addressing these through the replacement of unsafe structures programme.

**Table 3.3: Summary Progress on Eradicating Backlogs for Schools Constructed of Entirely Inappropriate Material as at 30 November 2020**

No	School	District	Progress as at 30 November 2020
1	Ekuphakameni Primary	Nkangala	Partially inappropriate materials still exists.
2	Duvha Primary	Nkangala	The school was replaced and relocated in 2017/18 financial year and was funded by the department and in partnership with donor funding from Eskom.
3	Vulamehlo Primary	Nkangala	Partially inappropriate materials still exists.
4	Bonginhlanhla Primary	Nkangala	The asbestos structures were eradicated in 2017/18 (sanitation) by the Department and 2018/19 (other structures) through donation from Eskom, Sasol and Exxaro. The second phase of additional new facilities being provided to the school is on-going in 2019/20.
5	88 Various schools with some asbestos structures	Various	All 88 still have not been addressed.

### 3.4 Overview of the Department's Infrastructure Delivery of the 7-, 10-, and 17-Year Targets

**Table 3.4** below gives a summary of the 7-, 10- and 17-Year Targets infrastructure provided from the promulgation of the Norms and Standards in November 2013 to 30 November 2020. From Table 3.2 and 3.3, it is evident that the Department is prioritizing the basic services projects in line with the prescripts of the Norms and Standards.

The Department has not made much progress with regards to provision of facilities that facilitate minimum functionality at schools due to focus on provision of basic services. However, the Department has from 2013/14 to 30 November 2020 managed to deliver 1 529 additional classrooms to alleviate overcrowding, replacement of unsafe structures to 44 schools, constructed 14 new schools and 5 boarding schools to replace small and unviable farm schools, rehabilitation of 194 storm damaged schools which occurs yearly, carried out planned maintenance to 269 schools.

From 2013/14 financial year, the department added classrooms as well building new schools to alleviating overcrowding in existing schools. **Table 3.4** Below gives the progress made on terms of providing facilities required for minimum functionality, i.e. additional classrooms.

It is important to note that during 2020/21 financial year, up to 30 November 2020, was not

**Table 3.4: Summary of 7-, 10-, and 17-Year Targets Provided From 2013/14 to 30 November 2020 (7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)**

Item	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Completed by 30 November 2020	TOTALS
Completely New Schools (other than boarding & special schools)	1	4	4	2	1	1	1	0	14
Boarding Schools (New)	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	5
Replacement of Unsafe Structures	11	13	5	0	5	3	4	0	41
Special Schools (New Only)	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Scheduled Maintenance (incl. renovations)	6	2	2	1	9	11	58	180	269
Corrective Maintenance (Storm Damage and Arson)	29	34	17	31	47	32	3	1	194
Upgrades and Additions (with other facilities over & above basic services)	19	17	8	-	2	7	0	0	53
Grade R Facilities	11	13	12	1	3	8	22	0	48
Dinaledi (New and Renovation of Laboratories)	-	4	11	-	-	-	-	0	15
Additional Classrooms	130	270	367	196	104	179	283	0	1 529

#### **4. PLANS TO ADDRESS INFRASTRUCTURE BACKLOGS IN LINE WITH THE NORMS AND STANDARDS**

##### **4.1 General Overview of Addressing the Basic Services (3-Year Target)**

The department's status regarding meeting the Basic Services Backlogs (3-Year Targets) in line with the Norms and Standards is as follows:

##### **i. Sanitation**

- a) The Department as at end of November 2020, had not met the 3-Year basic services targets.
- b) The Province does not have a school that does not have any form of sanitation facilities. However plain pit toilets as well as dilapidated sanitation infrastructure is available and requires eradication as part of the 3-year target.
- c) The Department managed to address 126 out of 127 schools that had only plain pit toilets as their form of sanitation by the end of 2019/20 financial year with the remaining one (1) school (Narishe Primary School) being earmarked for completion in 2020/21 financial year.
- d) The Department however has plain pit toilets still existing in some schools that also have acceptable forms of sanitation facilities. These plain pit toilets are in the Department's plans for eradication during 2020/21 and 2021/22 financial years.
- e) It is also important to note that there are some waterborne toilets that have also reached their design life and require replacement or maintenance.
- f) Based on the May 2018 backlog audit, the Department had 1088 schools with inadequate sanitation facilities including schools with a mixture of acceptable (VIP, Enviro loo, Waterborne toilets) and unacceptable (plain pit toilet) standard of toilets. The Department considers that schools that have a shortage of 1 to 5 seats (less than 25% shortage) as having adequate sanitation facilities as this is affected by annual enrolment fluctuations. Therefore, it reduces the backlog baseline from 1088 to 476 after deducting schools addressed in 2019/20 financial year, and 2020/21 financial year up to 30 November 2020. The sanitation backlog is indicated in **Table 4.1** below:
- g) There are 257 schools that have inadequate sanitation, however requiring 1 to 5 toilet seats to meet the Norms and Standards requirements these schools will not be addressed at the present moment due to fluctuating enrolment, thus continuous review of the condition of the toilets and the enrolment will be conducted to ensure that these schools are implemented when the time arise.
- h) Furthermore, due to the reduced backlog on sanitation the province's current plans include the substitution of unsafe structure (dilapidated and classrooms built with unacceptable material) and this programme include provision of Grade R Centres which incorporate toilets that are fit for purpose. As a results schools will be advised to consider

the fitting of current toilet facilities with the Grade R seat and the step to assist with reach whilst the department is in the processes of providing Grade R facilities.

**Table 4.1: Sanitation Backlog Eradication Plan for 2020/21 and 2021/22 Financial Year**

No.	Schools with Inadequate Sanitation	No. of Schools	Backlog as at Nov 2020
1.	Schools with inadequate toilets seat ranging between 1 and 5 toilet seats due to enrollment fluctuation and do not need intervention (Dependent on the condition of the facilities and increase in enrollment will affect prioritization).	257	0
2.	Schools with a mixture of acceptable and unacceptable (plain pit toilets) as part of their sanitation facilities, that received toilets from 2018/19 to 2019/20.	233	0
3.	Schools with a mixture of acceptable and unacceptable (plain pit toilets) as part of their sanitation facilities, that are receiving toilets in 2020/21 and are fully funded.	200	200-128 = 72
4.	Schools with a mixture of acceptable and unacceptable (plain pit toilets) as part of their sanitation facilities, that are receiving toilets in 2020/21 but not fully funded.	191	191
5.	Schools with toilets ( waterborne and VIPs ) that have reached their lifespan and need Replacement that are receiving toilets in 2020/21 but not fully funded.	71	71
6.	Schools with acceptable but inadequate sanitation facilities that will be planned and designed only in 2020/21 and implemented in 2021/22.	81	81
7.	Schools with acceptable but inadequate sanitation facilities that will be addressed in the 2021/22 Financial Year.	55	55
<b>Totals</b>		<b>1088</b>	<b>476*</b>

\*The 476 sanitation backlog continues to under construction in 2020/21 and the remainder will be completed in 2021/22 financial year. Thus, the sanitation backlog is targeted for eradication by end of 2021/22 financial year.

## ii. Water Supply

The Department's status regarding addressing water supply as at 30 November 2020 is as follows:

- No school in the Province does not have any form of water supply. However, water supply to some of the schools is erratic and unreliable.
- Thirty-two (32) schools provided with waterborne sanitation still have water supply that may be erratic due to various reasons like drying of boreholes (draught) and shortfalls from the municipal connections/supplies.



- 247 schools are under the boreholes and associated water storage provisioning under a programme being implemented and funded through the Department of Human Settlements. As at 30 November 2020, a total of 102 schools were provided with boreholes, complete with testing and commissioning. In the whole province. Refer to **Annexure B** for the List of schools benefitting from the Department of Human Settlements Programme
- The Department Human Settlements borehole programme is meant to ensure permanent sustainability of water supply to mainly rural schools in the province.
- The Department continues to augment water supply in all schools receiving new waterborne and enviroloo sanitation facilities.

### iii. Inappropriate Material

The province's status regarding structures constructed entirely out of inappropriate materials is as follows:

- As at 30 November 2020, the Department still had Ekuphakameni Primary and Vulamehlo Primary with some structures constructed of inappropriate material. These will be addressed at the same time as the other 88 schools with some asbestos structures.
- There are a total of 88 schools with some structures built of inappropriate asbestos material. This was a 7-Year target now moved to a 3-Year Target following the judgement on the Norms and Standards. Eight (8) of the schools are planned and designed in 2020/21 for construction in 2021/22 financial year. The Department targets eradicating the asbestos structures in 2022/23 financial year.
- The Department however has a unique backlog of old and dilapidated schools constructed by the communities in Bohlabela District requiring eradication. The Department is addressing these through the replacement of unsafe structures programme.

**Annexure C** attached to this report gives the list of the 90 schools that are still having some asbestos structures as part of their infrastructure.

### iv. Electricity

There is no school in the province that does not have access to any form of power supply. The Department however continues to address general and vandalism damages through the routine maintenance programme.



## 4.2 Status and Plans to Address 7-Year Target Backlogs (Appropriate Fencing, Overcrowding and Electronic Connectivity)

### 4.2.1 Backlog of the 7-Year Target

The backlogs are informed by the NEIMS Condition assessment carried out during the 2016/17 and uploaded unto the EFMS at the end of the 2017/18 financial year.

Core education spaces are school facilities which contribute directly to the teaching and learning on a daily basis. As part of the 7 year target the following facilities must be provided including classrooms, Grade R classrooms, fencing, universal access (ramps, rails and disabled toilets) and schools built with partly inappropriate material.

A total of 1 101 schools in the province still have fencing backlog, thus they either have no fence at all, dilapidated diamond mesh fence, concrete and steel palisade fences as well as wells as brick walls or a combination of the above.

The **Table 4.2** below indicate the current backlog on facilities required for minimum functionality and the associated costs. It is prudent to note that the insufficient basic services are going to be addressed as indicated above.

**Table 4.2: Backlogs to be Eradicated Within 7-Years After Promulgation of Norms and Standards**

District		Minimum Functionality (7 Year Target)				
		Classrooms (Ordinary) @ R581 000	Classrooms (Grade R) @ R1 397 000	Inappropriate Structures (Classrooms + Ablution)	Fence @R2 200 00	Total Cost '000
Bohlabela	No.	401	414	13	224	1 334 420
	Cost (R'000)	232 981	577 944	30 695	492 800	
Ehlanzeni	No.	703	470	12	234	1 596 026
	Cost (R'000)	408 443	656 120	16 663	514 800	
Gert Sibande	No.	363	426	55	317	1 676 645
	Cost (R'000)	210 903	594 696	173 646	697 400	
Nkangala	No.	365	456	31	326	1 643 017
	Cost (R'000)	212 065	636 576	77 176	717 200	
Total No.		1 832	1 766	111	1101	6 250 108
Total Cost		1 064 392	2 465 336	298 180	2 422 200	

The Department in the 2020/21 financial could not focus on provision of Grade R classrooms and replacement of classrooms built with inappropriate material alongside the focused scope of providing additional sanitation facilities due diverting of infrastructure budget to the Covid-19 hygiene requirement. Thus, the focus on 7-Year Target is being moved to 2021/22 onwards.

#### 4.2.2 Plans to Meet the 7-Year Target Backlogs

Table 4.2 above gives the 7-Year target backlogs in 2020/21 financial year. A total of R7,637 billion (at the present day value) is required to eradicate the 7-Year target infrastructure backlog. These are to continue being addressed with focus being given from 2022/23 after the sanitation backlog has been addressed.

### 4.3 Mpumalanga's Status on the 10-Year Target (Laboratories and Libraries/Media Centres)

#### 4.3.1 Backlog of the 10-Year Target

A school environment is considered to meet optimum functionality if it learners and teachers have access to specialist rooms such as laboratories, libraries/ media and computer center. Every school must have access to these facilities in 10-year after the promulgation of the Norms and Standards. These spaces enhance school performance, though the school can function adequately without. Because of the nature of these spaces, basic safety and core educational spaces take precedence over optimal functional spaces, in prioritization and implementation.

**Table 4.3: Backlogs to be Eradicated Within 10-Years After Promulgation of Norms and Standards**

District		Optimum Functionality (10 Year Target)					Total Cost (R'000)
		Classrooms (Multipurpose)	Library & Multimedia Centre (library and computer function)	Laboratories	Computer Labs	Inappropriate Structures (Education Space)	
BOH	No.	154	192	310	151	2	896 990
	Cost (R'000)	181 247	206 131	343 035	166 311	266	
EHL	No.	185	183	290	169	6	909 017
	Cost (R'000)	218 665	186 509	317 988	184 790	1 065	
GS	No.	179	144	304	133	19	836 442
	Cost (R'000)	209 311	146 264	331 056	144 571	5 241	
NKA	No.	180	206	363	161	6	1 006 413
	Cost (R'000)	210 480	223 040	395 307	175 007	2 579	
Total No.		698	725	1 267	614	33	3 648 862
Total Cost		819 703	761 944	1 387 386	670 679	9 150	

### 4.3.2 Progress Made on Meeting 10-Year Target

The Department aims at meeting optimum functionality for all schools within the Norms and Standards prescript of 2023. From 2013/14 to end of November 2019, a total of 39 libraries (including 1 media centre constructed at Tsakane Special School on Bohlabela district) and 24 laboratories. **Table 4.4** below shows the number of schools provided with the 7-Year Target infrastructure facilities.

The provision of these optimum functionality (10-year target) facilities decreased over the past three financial years due to the Department's more focus on eradicating basic services facilities. The provision is mainly sustained through the provision of new schools.

In 2015/2016 financial year, the Department through the Dinaledi programme, renovated 9 laboratories over and above providing 7 new laboratories and 7 new libraries.

**Table 4.4: Schools Provided With 10-Year Target Facilities (Libraries/Media Centre and Laboratories) From 2013/14 to 30 November 2020**

Item	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21 projection	TOTALS
Libraries	5	15	7	4	1	2	1	8	35
Laboratories	4	8	7	2	1	0	1	2	23

### 4.3.3 Plans to Meet the Optimum Functionality (10-Year Target)

**Table 4.3** above indicates that a total of **R3,649 billion** is required to clear the optimum functionality facilities backlog. The Department envisages to concentrate with this target beyond 2022/23 after all plain pit toilets have been eradicated.

## 4.4 17-Year Targets (Education Support Areas)

### 4.4.1 Backlogs of the 17-Year Targets

Education support areas forms part of the 17-year target as per the Norms and Standards and these include Administration block, school halls, kitchen, sports field and car parking. There are administration spaces such as school halls which is critical at secondary schools for writing Grade 12 examinations, however these are currently provided only in new secondary schools. The same as administration block these are critical spaces for teachers for lesson preparations and administration work but also it is only provided in new school currently until such time that the department fully eradicate basic safety and minimum functionality. The Department decided to no longer provide school halls in primary schools since they are underutilized and taking into account the current backlog and limited financial resources. The Department's 17-year backlog and cost estimates are provided in the table below.

Most of the schools constructed before 1994 and before 2000 in the former homelands only had a principal's office only and thus were without administration building especially those built by communities.

Progress has been made in addressing the 17 –year target facilities only at new and replacement schools. New and replacement schools are constructed are complete schools meeting optimum functionality as well as having education support facilities. Only school halls/ forum are not provided for primary schools.

**Table 4.5** below gives the Department's backlogs to be eradicated within 17-Years from promulgation of Norms and Standards.

**Table 4.5: Backlogs to be Eradicated Within 17-Years of the Promulgation of Norms and Standards**

District		Optimum Functionality (17-Year Target)							
		Admin Areas	Support Areas: Nutrition Centers	Support Areas: Parking Bays	Inappropriate Structures (Admin Space)	Inappropriate Structures (Hostels)	School Hall / Forums	Sports fields	Total Cost '000
<b>Bohlabela</b>	No.	335	292	319	36	0	486	499	1 700 247
	Cost (R'000)	1 079 549	525 272	79 271	16 155	0	2 388 146	419 160	
<b>Ehlanzeni</b>	No.	350	191	327	19	1	346	340	1 612 990
	Cost (R'000)	1 127 887	353 568	118 354	13 131	50	1 664 606	285 600	
<b>Gert Sibande</b>	No.	434	237	405	94	9	167	171	2 039 912
	Cost (R'000)	1 398 579	426 974	95 455	73 540	45 364	803 437	143 640	
<b>Nkangala</b>	No.	468	254	432	98	4	482	515	2 122 117
	Cost (R'000)	1 508 145	458 724	103 088	51 873	286	2 318 902	432 600	
<b>Total No. of Backlogs</b>		<b>1587</b>	<b>974</b>	<b>1 483</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1 481</b>	<b>1525</b>	<b>7 475 266</b>
<b>Total Cost Estimate</b>		<b>5 114 160</b>	<b>1 764 538</b>	<b>396 168</b>	<b>154 699</b>	<b>45 701</b>	<b>7 125 091</b>	<b>1 281 000</b>	

## 5. MDOE's CHALLENGES AFFECTING INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY TO MEET NORMS AND STANDARDS AND PROPOSED REMEDIAL ACTIONS

### 5.1 MDOE's Challenges Affecting Infrastructure Delivery

The following are challenges facing project delivery and performance, including the mitigation measures.

No	Challenge	Proposed Improvement Strategy	Progress Made on the Improvement Strategy
<b>Category A – Covid-19 Affecting the entire globe</b>			
1.1	Part of EIG budget used for Covid-19 PPE and payment of screeners.	Reprioritization of the infrastructure plans to give priority to basic services that are a direct contributor of Covid-19 hygiene requirements	The IA issued with the adjusted infrastructure plan.
1.2	Stoppage of on-going projects due to lockdown and shortage of construction material	Implementing agent engaging the contractors and ensuring that invoices submitted for work done need to be paid timeously to avoid project delays.	Engagements are on-going
<b>Category B – MDOE Challenges</b>			
1	Infrastructure planning deficiencies resulting in non-compliance with Infrastructure Delivery Management System (IDMS) prescripts requiring :		
1.1	Needs raised outside the department's business processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen Community feedback mechanisms through Education stakeholders' consultation as well as broader community consultations pre and post planning phases (vis. During the municipal IDP processes and District Management meetings)</li> </ul>	The Department developed circulars as part of communication and feedback strategy to communicate projects for 2019/20 and draft plan for 2020/21 since meetings with district and circuits didn't materialized.
1.2	Delayed infrastructure delivery due to site identification and confirmation. Or cases where a site was identified at pre-planning stage, site is invaded by communities at time of commencing with construction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internally ensuring that land is identified in line with the department's needs as identified U-AMP and IPMP.</li> <li>Developing and management of land bank in line with Municipal Spatial Development Frameworks and Municipal IDPs.</li> </ul>	The Department continues to engage municipalities in fast growing towns where new schools re required, regarding acquiring land for the schools.
2	Non-credible Infrastructure Plans leading to inadequate budget spending		



No	Challenge	Proposed Improvement Strategy	Progress Made on the Improvement Strategy
2.1.	In-year Cancellation of projects against the approved plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use the NEIMS conditions assessments to verify infrastructure needs identified through the prioritisation process.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The NEIMS Conditions assessments carried out in 2016/17 were captured onto the Department's EFMS in 2017/18 financial year. The Department is using this latest database. The next NEIMS condition assessment is planned for commencement in 2020/21 to 2021/22. Bid specification for the NEIMS Condition Assessments are under preparation.</li> </ul>
3.	Inadequate programme monitoring and management due to limited monthly travel kilometres per official.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved districts' capacity to closely monitor the projects by recruiting works inspectorate personnel (Works inspectorate mentorship by TA, IDMS Introductory to all DoRA technical posts by TA &amp; Provincial Treasury, NEIMS Condition Assessment by DBE, IRM training to all new DoRA head office officials by Provincial Treasury</li> <li>Conducting in-house training and mentorship sessions in partnership with DBE and Provincial Treasury.</li> <li>Developed project monitoring and evaluation tool used for early identification and reporting of problematic projects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programme monitoring has been improved through urgent filling in of vacant works inspectorate posts as and when they fall vacant as well as training the and mentorship provided to the works inspectors.</li> </ul>
4	High staff turnover on DoRA funded technical posts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immediate recruitment and appointment once posts are vacated.</li> <li>Retention strategies include continuous training and mentorship as well as availing tools of trade, decent office space and furniture.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Department is progressing with head-hunting the professional vacant positions.</li> <li>The Department continues to provide tools of trade (computers, protective clothing and furniture) to all infrastructure personnel as a retention strategy. Only office</li> </ul>

No	Challenge	Proposed Improvement Strategy	Progress Made on the Improvement Strategy
			space is still an on-going challenge.
<b>Category C– Implementing Agent (IA) Related Challenges</b>			
5	Late Appointment of Service Providers by the IA leading to Under spending on the infrastructure programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring that MDOE is submitting the Infrastructure Plans (U-AMP, IPMP and Construction Procurement Strategy) to the IA in line with the timeframes stipulated by the Division of Revenue Act and the Education Infrastructure Grant Framework (EIG)</li> <li>Request for additional Implementing Agent capacity in the Province through submitting a memo to EXCO requesting for the same.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Department has submitted the 2020/21 infrastructure plans to the Implementing Agent within timeframes prescribed in the Division Revenue Act.</li> <li>The Department still relies on Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport as its Implementing Agent.</li> </ul>
6	Slow and late commencement with construction works after site hand over and disruptions by communities and other interest groups.	The IA to engage relevant stakeholders to engage communities on the issue of the 30% local content.	The Implementing Agent has appointed Community Facilitators on projects under implementation. However, success has been registered as these disruptions are also politicised.

## 6 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Honourable Minister: Basic Education, takes note of Mpumalanga Provincial Department's progress in addressing the Norms and Standards as at the end of the seventh anniversary of the promulgation of the Norms and Standards and provide further support to the Department regarding infrastructure provisioning.



## **ANNEXURES**

**Annexure A: LIST OF SANITATION PROJECTS COMPLETED  
FROM 2013/14 TO 30 NOVEMBER 2020**

**Annexure B: LIST OF 247 SCHOOLS UNDER THE BOREHOLE  
PROGRAMME FOR SUSTAINABLE WATER  
SUPPLY**

**Annexure C: LIST OF EIGHTY-EIGHT (88) SCHOOLS STILL  
HAVING SOME ASBESTOS STRUCTURES**

## **ANNEXURE A:**

### **LIST OF SANITATION PROJECTS COMPLETED FROM 2013/14 TO 30 NOVEMBER 2020**