



MPUMALANGA PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**Report on Progress Made Towards
Meeting the Requirements of Norms and
Standards**

**Mpumalanga Department of
Education**

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

The Minimum Uniform Norms and Standards for Public School Infrastructure 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 that 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 is giving the plans for Mpumalanga Department of Education as at the end of 2017/18 financial year.

1.2. Objectives of the Regulations

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.

1.3. Description of Targets and their Timeframes

The table 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.

	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
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. c)	2030

2. OVERVIEW OF MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S STATUS REGARDING MEETING THE NORMS AND STANDARDS

The department's status regarding meeting the Norms and Standards is as follows:

- a) The department as at the end of 2017/18 financial year (31 march 2018) had not fully met the target in terms of the three year basic services target as it still had:
 - 127 Schools with plain pit toilets.
 - 154 schools provided with acceptable sanitation facilities, but still have plain pit toilets.
- b) The province has now eradicated structures constructed wholly by inappropriate materials. However, the department has old and dilapidated schools constructed by the communities in Bohlabela District as a different backlog category.
- c) There is no school in the province that does not have access to any form of power supply. Some of the schools however require addressing general and vandalism damages. Thus it is more of electrical maintenance.
- d) There is no school that does not have access to any form of sanitation. The province however, has schools with ordinary pit latrines in both good and dilapidated states. Once these toilets are full, the school status becomes that of a school with no sanitation facilities at all.
- e) In terms of water supply, some form of water supply to schools is available. It is however the reliability if such supplies that are a concern. Even schools with complete water infrastructure, supply of the water may be erratic due to various reasons like drying of boreholes (draught) and shortfalls from the municipal connections/supplies.

3. OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISIONING FROM 2013/14 TO DATE AND THE OVERALL INFRASTRUCTURE BACKLOG STILL TO BE ADDRESSED

3.1. MDOE's Progress in Infrastructure Provisioning from the Promulgation of the Norms and Standards

Table 3.1 below gives an overall summary of the infrastructure provided from the promulgation of the Norms and Standards in November 2013/14 to the end of 2017/18 financial year.

Table 3.1: Overall Summary of Infrastructure Provided from 2013/14 to 2017/17 Financial Years

Item	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19 (Projected)
Basic Services (water, sanitation & electricity)	62	55	113	224	205	179
Completely New Schools (other than boarding & special schools)	1	4	4	2	1	2
Boarding Schools (New)	1	1	0	1	0	1
Replacement of Unsafe Structures	11	13	5	0	5	2
Special Schools (New Only)	1	1	1	0	0	1
Scheduled Maintenance (incl. renovations)	6	2	2	1	9	25
Corrective Maintenance (Storm Damage and Arson)	29	34	17	31	47	43
Upgrades and Additions (with other facilities over & above basic services)	19	17	8	-	2	10
Grade R Facilities	11	13	12	1	3	3
Dinaledi (New and Renovation of Laboratories)	-	4	11	-	-	-

3.2. MDOE's Progress in Infrastructure Provisioning from the Promulgation of the Norms and Standards

Table 3.2 below gives the department's costed infrastructure backlog to be eradicated for effective schools by the year 2030. MDOE presented the plan which was approved by EXCO in 2017-18 on the framework for effective schools, where part of the presentation looked at infrastructure required towards effective schools.

The plan advocated for an ideal case scenario towards infrastructure development when all required funding is made available within the norms stipulated target dates factoring in the current infrastructure plans (Table B5) and assuming the outstanding 3yr Target projects are completed by November 2020.

The approved plan projected the following:

- R1.118 billion needed to alleviate backlogs including mainly the basic services from 2018-19 until 2021-2022
- R7 186 billion needed to eradicate backlogs including basic services, unsafe structures, overcrowding etc. from 2018-19 until 2021-2022.
- The detailed plan is hereby indicated in **Table 3.2** below:

3.3. Analysis of Progress on Infrastructure Provisioning & Backlogs

- a) From 2013/14 to 2017/18 financial year, the department has provided acceptable basic services (water, sanitation and electricity) to a total of 629 schools.
- b) As at the beginning of 2018/19 Financial Year, the Department still has school infrastructure backlogs to be eradicated by 2030 to a value of R43,3 billion.
- c) With the current annual budget of the magnitude of R1,1 billion, the department is not in a position to eradicate the R43,3 billion backlog by 2030 in line with the Norms and Standards.
- d) The department has a boarding school programme aimed at providing quality education and conducive teaching and learning environment to the small unviable farm schools. From 2013/14 financial year the Department has provided five (5) boarding schools that replaced 36 farm schools.
- e) In summary, against the set norms and standards, the Department is still behind in meeting its targets towards the provisioning of education infrastructure, with the most affected target being the provision of basic services as the Department had to attend to unforeseen and unplanned disasters like storm damages and arson related damages.

Table 3.1: Costed Backlog

YEAR	FINANCIAL YEAR BUDGET FOR 3 YR TARGET (R'000)	FINANCIAL YEAR BUDGET FOR 7 YR TARGET (R'000)	FINANCIAL YEAR BUDGET FOR 10 YR TARGET (R'000)	FINANCIAL YEAR BUDGET FOR 17 YR TARGET (R'000)	TOTAL BUDGET PER FINANCIAL YEAR FOR BACKLOG ERADICATION (R'000)	FINANCIAL YEAR BUDGET FOR CONDITION PRIORITY (MAINTENANCE) (R'000)	FINANCIAL YEAR BUDGET FOR OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE DEMANDS (R'000)	TOTAL BUDGET PER FINANCIAL YEAR FOR BACKLOG ERADICATION (R'000)
2017/2018		312 373	-	-	602 337,75	120 536	363 291	1 086 165
2018/2019	289 719	162 199	-	-	451 918,02	162 770	584 318	1 199 006
2019/2020	363 102	85 204	-	-	448 306,03	165 340	652 668	1 266 314
2020/2021	300 102	6 070 018	37 788	-	6 407 903,01	175 261	117 646	6 700 810
2021/2022	165 373	868 866	1 511 520	1 172 551	3 718 310,57	185 776	133 958	4 038 045
2022/2023	-	-	1 322 580	2 098 063	3 420 643,22	195 065	152 505	3 768 213
2023/2024	-	-	906 912	2 607 869	3 514 781,16	204 818	73 341	3 792 941
2024/2025	-	-	959 604	2 738 263	3 697 866,61	215 059	31 863	3 944 789
2025/2026	-	-	-	3 175 176	3 175 175,75	225 812	56 573	3 457 561
2026/2027	-	-	-	3 333 935	3 333 934,53	237 105	80 251	3 651 288
2027/2028	-	-	-	3 500 631	3 500 631,26	248 958	78 115	3 827 704
2028/2029	-	-	-	3 675 663	3 675 662,82	261 406	176 402	4 113 471
2029/2030	-	-	-	3 036 657	3 036 657,00	274 476	183 923	3 495 056
PRE-ESCALATION TOTAL	952 923	6 317 416	3 778 801	17 255 116	28 304 256,03			
TOTALS INCL ESCALATION	1 079 715	7 145 345	4 738 405	25 338 807	38 171 800	2 551 844,98	2 321 562,34	43 255 197,03

4. PROGRESS MADE ON BASIC SERVICES INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISIONING FROM 2013/14 TO DATE

MDOE's progress on basic services provisioning against the baseline, from the promulgation of the norms and standards in 2013/14 to 2017/18 is as shown in Table 4.1 below:

Table 4.1: Schools Provided with Basic Services From 2013/14 to Date

No.	Item	Baseline	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
1	Water	772	17	13	49	48	77	54
2	Sanitation		17	12	60	166	121	120
3	Electricity		28	30	4	10	7	5
	TOTALS	772	62	55	113	224	205	179

5. MDOE's SANITATION BACKLOG AND PLANS FOR ITS ERADICATION

5.1 MDOE's Audited Sanitation Backlog

The department's 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 backlogs per district are given in the ensuing table:

Table 5.1: Sanitation backlog Per District for Inadequate Sanitation Facilities and Fit For Purpose Grade R Toilets

SANITATION STATUS	DISTRICT	No. OF SCHOOLS	No. OF REQUIRED SEATS PER NORMS & STANDARDS
Schools with Inadequate Sanitation (No Pit Toilets)	Ehlanzeni	150	1 594
	Bohlabela	146	1 579
	Gert Sibande	233	2 192
	Nkangala	164	1 506
	Sub-total	693	6 871
Schools with Inadequate Sanitation With Pit Toilets to be Demolished	Ehlanzeni	94	914
	Bohlabela	118	1 200
	Gert Sibande	47	345
	Nkangala	136	1 029
	Sub-total	395	3 488
Overall Inadequate Sanitation	TOTAL	1 088	10 359
Provision of fit for purpose Grade R sanitation	Ehlanzeni	225	2 348
	Bohlabela	234	1 940
	Gert Sibande	315	2 576
	Nkangala	273	2 368
	TOTAL	1 047	9 232

Table 5.2: Sanitation backlogs for Schools With Pit Toilets Only and Pits Toilets to be Demolished Where Acceptable Sanitation Facilities have been Provided

SANITATION STATUS	DISTRICT	No. OF SCHOOLS	No. OF EXISTING SEATS	No. OF REQUIRED SEATS PER NORMS & STANDARDS
Schools with Pit Toilets Only	Ehlanzeni	7	88	197
	Bohlabela	29	347	816
	Gert Sibande	31	60	176
	Nkangala	60	747	1261
	TOTAL	127	1242	2450
Schools provided with sanitation but pit toilets not demolished	Ehlanzeni	37	385	0
	Bohlabela	38	399	0
	Gert Sibande	26	152	0
	Nkangala	53	542	0
	TOTAL	154	1748	0

The Department's overall costed sanitation backlog as at the end of 2017/18 Financial Year is as shown in Table 5.3 below:

Table 5.3: Overall Department's Sanitation Backlog Summary

Sanitation status	No of schools	No. Of toilet seats	Estimated cost (r'000)
Schools with Pit Toilets Only	127	2450	R365 050
Demolish Pit Toilet on Schools provided with Acceptable sanitation	154	1748	R33 880
Overall inadequate sanitation(with or without demolishing)	1088	10359	R1 474 781
Provision of fit for purpose Grade R sanitation (Retrofitting)	1047	9232	R360 048
TOTAL BUDGET REQUIRED			R 2 233 759

5.2 MDOE's Intervention/Plan to Eradicate Sanitation Backlog

5.2.1 Overview of the Department's Sanitation Backlog Eradication Strategy

The sanitation backlog eradication intervention is divided into 3 categories namely:

- a) Short Term (2018/19 FY),
- b) Medium Term (2019/20 FY) and
- c) Long Term (2020/2021 FY)

For the short term (2018/19) intervention plan, a total budget of R 291 million has been set aside for the Basic services and Sanitation Programme for implementation in 2018-19 FY disaggregated as follows:

- The amount includes R 46,3 million for closing out of all completed sanitation projects from carried over from 2017/18.
- The balance of R 244,7 million shall be used for planning, designs, construction and completion of all on-going sanitation projects in the 2018/19 financial year.
- Medium Term (2019/20) intervention plan will require a budget of R918,91 million.
- Long Term (2020/21) intervention Plan will require R1, 318 billion.

5.2.2 Details of Short Term (2018/19 Financial Year) Plan

The Short term plan is summarized as per the Table 5.4 below:

Table 5.4: Details of Short Term (2018/19 Financial Year) Plan

Category	Description	Number of identified schools	Budget Allocation 2018/19 (R'000)	Earliest Start Date	Latest Completion Date
Planning and design only	Projects identified for only assessment, planning and design in the 2018/19 financial year	84	23 923	1-Apr-19	31-Oct-19
Planning, design and construction	Projects that will be planned, designed, constructed within the 2018/19 financial year	13	40 691	30-Sep-18	30-Mar-19
Carry over projects from 2017/18 financial year	Projects continued from 2017/18 financial year including final accounts	248	226 458	6-Jun-17	23-Aug-18
TOTAL		345	291 072		

5.2.3 Details of Mid-Term (2019/20 Financial Year)

The roll-out plan for the mid-term period is shown in Table 5.5 below.

Table 5.5: Details of Medium Term (2019/20 Financial Year) Plan

KEY SANITATION CHALLENGE	MID-TERM PLANS (2019/20)						
	District	Funded Projects*		Unfunded Projects		Total	
		Schools	Budget	Schools	Budget	Schools	Budget ('000)
Schools with Pit Toilets Only	Ehlanzeni	7	R 14 070,32	0	R -	7	R 14 070
	Bohlabela	15	R 41 568,00	14	R 40 242	29	R 81 810
	Gert Sibande	13	R 26 159,00	18	R 51 739	31	R 77 898
	Nkangala	60	R123 481,29	0	R -	60	R 123 481
	Total	95	R205 278,60	32	R 91 981	127	R 297 260
Demolish Pit Toilet on Schools provided with Acceptable sanitation	Ehlanzeni	0	R -	37	R 8 140	37	R 8 140
	Bohlabela	0	R -	38	R 8 360	38	R 8 360
	Gert Sibande	0	R -	26	R 5 720	26	R 5 720
	Nkangala	0	R -	53	R 11 660	53	R 11 660
	Total	0	R -	154	R 33 880	154	R 33 880
Overall Inadequate Sanitation (With or Without Demolishing)	Ehlanzeni	17	R 34 344	0	R -	17	R 34 344
	Bohlabela	0	R -	0	R -	0	R -
	Gert Sibande	4	R 5 855	0	R -	4	R 5 855
	Nkangala	95	R 187 524	0	R -	95	R 187 524
	Total	116	R 227 722	0	R -	116	R 227 722
Provision of fit for purpose Grade R sanitation (Retrofit)	Ehlanzeni	0	R -	225	R 77 374	225	R 77 374
	Bohlabela	0	R -	234	R 80 469	234	R 80 469
	Gert Sibande	0	R -	315	R 108 324	315	R 108 324
	Nkangala	0	R -	273	R 93 881	273	R 93 881
	Total	0	R -	1047	R 360 048	1047	R 360 048

GRAND TOTAL**R 918 910****5.2.4 Details of Long-Term (2020/21 Financial Year)**

The Long Term roll-out plan for the 2020/21 Financial year is shown in Table 5.6 below:

Table 5.6: Details of Mid-Term (2019/20 Financial Year)

KEY SANITATION CHALLENGE	2020/21 FY PLANS		
	District	Schools	Budget ('000)
Schools with Pit Toilets Only*	Ehlanzeni	0	R -
	Bohlabela	0	R -
	Gert Sibande	0	R -
	Nkangala	0	R -
	Total	0	R -
Demolish Pit Toilet on Schools provided with Acceptable sanitation*	Ehlanzeni	0	R -
	Bohlabela	0	R -
	Gert Sibande	0	R -
	Nkangala	0	R -
	Total	0	R -
Overall Inadequate Sanitation (With or Without Demolishing)	Ehlanzeni	227	R 307 698
	Bohlabela	264	R 357 851
	Gert Sibande	276	R 374 117
	Nkangala	205	R 277 877
	Total	972	R1 317 543
Provision of fit for purpose Grade R sanitation (Retrofit)*	Ehlanzeni	0	R -
	Bohlabela	0	R -
	Gert Sibande	0	R -
	Nkangala	0	R -
	Total	0	R -
GRAND TOTAL	972	R 1 317 543	

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

6.1 MDOE's Challenges Affecting Infrastructure Delivery

The following are generic challenges facing project delivery and performance.

1. Late appointment of service providers by the Implementing Agent (IA).
2. Poor project and construction management practices by the Implementing Agent resulting in the following:
 - a. Late /non submission of the invoices on monthly basis for work done: This results in the Department experiencing high influx of invoices during the month of March beyond the departmental capacity to process, thus resulting in accruals as demonstrated in the historic expenditure trend indicated in slide 7.
 - b. Delays in the submission of the Final Accounts due to delays and non-attendance to snag lists to ensure project closures.
 - c. Poor Monitoring of service providers' performance viz. contractors and Principal Agents to ensure compliance and adherence to the general conditions of contracts.
 - d. Non-implementation of consequence management on poorly performing service providers.
 - e. The general deficiencies on programme management ((a) to (d)) points to the IA's capacity in implementing the department's large infrastructure portfolio together with other client departments. Thus having only one IA for the province is a challenge.
3. Deficiencies on the Department's Infrastructure Planning Business Process Flow Mapping leading to;
 - a. Some identified and prioritized needs are found not to be required at the time of implementation.
 - b. The process of cancellation of needs in a) and replacement with other shelf projects requires time affecting the actual targeted implementation targets and projected expenditure.
4. Inadequate budget allocation.
5. Funding of natural disasters like storm damages, diverting money from the basic services.

6.2 Mitigation Against Challenges

- a. Through the DORA Funding, the MDoE has been able to increase its in-house technical capacity through the appointment of professionally registered personnel, with only 5 professional posts that still need to be filled.
- b. The Service Level Agreement between the Client and Implementing Department have been reviewed to strengthening areas of cooperation, project implementation and contract and construction management.
- c. The Implementing Agent should finalize the Community Facilitation Strategy to guide project facilitation and engagement.
- d. Project oversight committees are in place to ensure programme delivery such as Premier's Provincial Infrastructure Coordinating Committee, Joint Operations Committee and Programme Operations Management Meeting.
- e. The Department is in the process of submitting a request to the EXCO seeking approval for considering multiple implementing agents for the department's portfolio.
- f. The updated schools' infrastructure database uploaded on the Education Facilities Management Systems (EFMS) is now used for confirmation of needs validity.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Honourable Minister of Basic Education, takes note of Mpumalanga Provincial Departments progress in addressing the norms and standards and provide further support.