



National School Nutrition Programme

Annual Report

2012/2013



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





National School Nutrition Programme 2012/13 Annual Report

Government of the Republic of South Africa

Department of Basic Education

NATIONAL SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMME (NSNP) ANNUAL REPORT

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Department of Basic Education

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Acknowledgements

This report is dedicated to the 9 159 773 million learners in the 21 400 schools on the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) programme, for their love and dedication to learn. Their hope for a better future radiates on their faces, inspiring us to work even harder to improve their experience of school.

This report has been made possible by the dedication of school principals, educators, support staff and school governing bodies that manage and implement the programme in schools. Of special note is the selfless efforts of Volunteer Food Handlers and Gardeners, who work tirelessly to prepare and serve daily meals to learners, with love, care and dedication.

We are further grateful for the consistent support that the district and circuit coordinators as well as monitors render to schools throughout the year, often achieving more with limited resources. The management role of the Department of Basic Education and provincial coordinators in providing valuable guidance to districts and schools is also noted with appreciation. This annual report is made possible by their quarterly reports and other reports.

Lastly, we are thankful to our private, civil society and public sector partners, who contribute immensely to our shared vision of a better National School Nutrition Programme and improved quality of education.

Message from the Minister



Since 1994, the Government has prioritised the improvement of the quality of basic education. The signing of the Delivery Agreement for Outcome 1: 'Improved quality of basic education' places basic education at the apex of the priorities of the current administration. The recognition that effective learning and teaching cannot happen if learners are hungry has placed the National School Nutrition Programme at the centre of the pro-poor package of the intervention we implemented to intend the impact of poor nutrition on learner performance.

I am pleased to present the NSNP Annual Report for the 2012/13 financial year. This report provides a summary of the many activities carried out by officials of the Department of Basic Education (DBE) as well as the Programme's achievements, challenges and opportunities.

In the period under review, we provided over nine million learners with daily nutritious meals on all school days. Meals served to learners have greatly improved. This was achieved by revising the provincial menus and ensuring meals comply to these at all times.

Whilst learners are being provided with nutritious meals, they are also taught to establish and maintain good eating and lifestyle habits for life. Nutrition Education also provides educators with resource materials to support curriculum and to make every school a healthy school.

Schools are also encouraged to establish food gardens from which they obtain fresh produce (vegetables/fruit) to supplement the menu in line with South African Food Based Dietary Guidelines. Learners, teachers & parents are provided with skills to grow their own food contributing towards long-term household food security. The gardens are also used as a teaching and learning resource and to beautify the environment.

While recognising the achievements of the Programme thus far, there is still room for improvement. We will strive to improve even further in the year ahead, including strengthening the programme in special schools in line with our focus on Inclusive Education. I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all officials, communities and partners that have supported us towards the success of the Programme.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A M Motshekga'.

**Mrs A M Motshekga,
MP Minister of Basic Education**

January 2014

Executive Summary

In the 2012/13 financial year, the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) made a tremendous contribution to the Departmental goals of improving learner performance and access to education by providing daily nutritious meals to 9 159 773 learners nationally. Compared to the previous year, the number of learners reached is 132 354 more.

The central focus for the NSNP is continued improvement in the quality of meals served to learners. In this regard, the Department has conducted a total of 351 capacity building workshops for Volunteer Food handlers (VFHs), School Governing Bodies (SGBs), Educators, NSNP Officials, Learners and Gardeners.

The Eastern Cape and Limpopo Provinces continued to receive special support from the National Department throughout the 2012/13 financial year. Programme implementation has stabilised and expenditure patterns have greatly improved in both provinces.

Programme monitoring played a vital role in ensuring compliance to the Conditional Grant Framework as well as setting standards for the implementation of the NSNP. To support schools, NSNP officials visited a total of 155 schools across the 9 provinces.

The National Nutrition Week was successfully celebrated in the second week of October at Makhambane Primary (Kwa-Zulu Natal) and Nyorwe Primary (North West) respectively in partnership with Nestlé SA.

In the quest to promote food gardens in schools and communities, the 2012/13 financial year has seen the establishment of 5 917 gardens as well as the distribution of resource materials to provide schools with information of food production.

Partnerships continued to play a critical role in supporting the implementation of the NSNP. We continue to be indebted to the various partners which include the Tiger Brands Foundation, Nestlé SA, Departments of Water Affairs and Health and various NGOs.

Acronyms

CSTL	Care and Support for Teaching and Learning
CGF	Conditional Grant Framework
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
DBE	Department of Basic Education
DWA	Department of Water Affairs
EC	Eastern Cape Province
EPWP	Expanded Public Works Programme
FS	Free State Province
FUEL	Feed Uplift Educate Love
GDARD	Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
GP	Gauteng Province
IDT	Industrial Development Trust
KOOR	Katolieke Onwikkeling Oranje Rivier
KZN	KwaZulu-Natal Province
LP	Limpopo Province
LWCs	Local Women Cooperatives
MEC	Member of the Executive Council
MP	Mpumalanga Province
NC	Northern Cape Province

NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NNW	National Nutrition Week
NSNP	National School Nutrition Programme
NW	North West Province
PED	Provincial Education Department
PSNP	Primary School Nutrition Programme
SADC	South African Developmental Countries
SEDA	Small Enterprise Development Agency
SFPS	Sustainable Food Production in Schools SGBs School Governing Bodies
SMMEs	Small, medium and micro enterprises
SASA	South African Sugar Association SAPS South African Police Services
TBF	Tiger Brands Foundation
VFHs	Volunteer Food Handlers
WC	Western Cape

Definition of Terms

Volunteer Food Handler: Aparent/community member (usually female) who volunteers to offer services in the preparation, cooking and serving of meals to learners, in return of a monthly stipend.

Quintile: A system of ranking and funding schools taking into account the socio-economic circumstances of learners (inequality and poverty). For example, the poorest quintiles (1 and 2) receive more funding in terms of the Norms and Standards for Funding Schools.



Table of Contents

Acknowledgements3

Message from the Minister4

Executive Summary.....5

Acronyms.....6

Definition of Terms8

Introduction..... 11

Background 11

PART A: NATIONAL PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW 14

1. What is it about? 14

2. At what cost? 14

3. What it takes? 14

4. What we’ve achieved?..... 14

5. Winning Partnerships 19

PART B: PROVINCIAL NARRATIVE REPORTS.....23

Eastern Cape.....23

Free State.....26

Gauteng.....29

KwaZulu - Natal32

Limpopo.....35

Mpumalanga.....	38
Northern Cape.....	42
North West.....	44
Western Cape.....	46

Introduction

This Annual Report is presented to give an account of the National School Nutrition Programme's (NSNP) performance for the 2012/13 financial year and to give credence to the many activities carried out by all implementers at national, provincial, district and school level. It is based as an account to the Ministry of Basic Education's Delivery Agreement for Outcome 1: "Improved quality of basic education" which is often referred to as the apex priority of the South African government. The Department's Action Plan To 2014 gives more meaning to this programme as part of the 38 indicators of the sub-output in the Delivery Agreement, viz. "a percentage of children who enjoy a school lunch every school day", the Strategic Plan 2011-15 and NSNP's 2012/13 Operational Plan clearly articulates this programme's key role in contributing towards the Department's overall goal of "quality education". This report provides an opportunity to reflect on the Programme's achievements, challenges and focus for the year. The report is intended for anyone with interest in the Programme, be it partners, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Business, Communities or Government Departments.

The report is divided into two (2) parts:-

Part A presents a national overview on the performance of the programme highlighting key achievements, partnerships that supported programme implementation as well as plans for the next financial year.

Part B provides a synopsis of performance per province.

Background

The Department of Basic Education has adopted the Care and Support for Teaching and Learning (CSTL) programme to address barriers to learning. Hunger and malnutrition are amongst the barriers to optimum participation in education. The CSTL has thus identified Nutritional Support as one of the nine (9) key priority areas. It is a common adage that effective learning is not possible on an empty stomach; hungry learners are easily distracted and are unable to concentrate in class. It is against this background that the democratic government established the Primary School Nutrition Programme (PSNP) in 1994, which was later renamed the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP). The first 10 years of its implementation was managed by the Department of Health. However in 2004, the programme was transferred to the then Department of Education.

The objectives of the NSNP are to:

- Improve children's learning ability through school feeding;
- Promote healthy lifestyles through nutrition education; and
- support development of food gardens in schools. Partnerships are key in the achievement of all three objectives.

The Programme is funded through a Conditional Grant that is transferred to provincial education departments in accordance to relevant Acts and Policies as well as the NSNP Conditional Grant Framework which specify, amongst others, the following minimum feeding requirements:

- provision of nutritious meals to all learners in quintile (Q) 1 – 3 primary and secondary schools as well as identified special schools on all school days.
- cost per meal per learner per day at:
 - R 2. 56 for primary and identified special schools; and
 - R 3. 46 for secondary schools (inclusive of cooking fuel and honorarium).
- compliance with recommended food specifications and approved menu.

Meals provided to learners follow the South African Food Based Dietary Guidelines derived from the Department of Health, which provide for a variety of food items including fresh vegetables and fruit.

Over the three year period from 2009, the programme was extended to secondary schools in a phased manner. Indicate the present quality and key intervention in this regard.

The quality of the school meal has improved has consistently improved due to the deliberate and unswerving focus on this over three past years.

Interventions include the following:

- Menus revised;
- Mnandi 4 sure recipe book developed;
- Training;
- Intense monitoring and support;
- Soya improvement project;
- Menus made public;
- Support of social partners to report problems including non-compliance; and
- Getting learners' views on the programme.



PART A: NATIONAL PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

1. What is it about?

The National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) is a key government programme whose aim is to enhance children's active learning capacity and provide an incentive for children to attend school regularly and punctually. The overall purpose of the NSNP is to enhance access to education by providing daily nutritious meals on all school days to learners across the country.

2. At what cost?

As already mentioned, the NSNP is funded through a Conditional Grant. For the period under review, the budget for the implementation and monitoring of the programme was allocated at R4.9 billion. During the 2012/13 financial year, learners were fed at an average cost of R 2.45 for primary and special school learners and R 3.36 for secondary schools; this was inclusive of gas and honorarium. The NSNP has engaged the services of Volunteer Food Handlers (VFHs), to prepare, cook and serve nutritious meals to learners on all school days. VFHs received a stipend of R 720.00 per month.

3. What it takes?

At National level, a team of twenty one (21) dedicated officials are responsible for providing policy direction, the management and monitoring of the programme which are a core responsibilities. To help the programme perform

optimally, this team is comprised of individuals with a variety of specialised skills in the fields of Finance, Research, Nutrition, Education, Agriculture, Information Technology as well as Fine Art. In this regard, guidance is provided through consultation with Provincial Managers/Coordinators during inter-provincial meetings held twice per annum.

Provincial human resource capacity is discussed in **Part B** of this report.

4. What we've achieved?

- *Learners Reached*

For the period under review the programme has performed exceptionally well reaching a total of 9 159 773 targeted learners nationally, i.e. 132 354 more than the previous year. These were provided with nutritious meals on an average of 195 school days.



Learners enjoying meals

- *Maintaining Quality*

Programme monitoring on a regular basis was a vital activity in compliance to the Conditional Grant Framework as well as to the set standards for the implementation of NSNP. NSNP officials undertook monitoring visits to a total of 155 schools across the 9 provinces. The purpose of these visits was to monitor and support programme implementation at the school, district and provincial level. Best practices observed during these monitoring visits include learners served meals in classrooms under the supervision of educators; productive food gardens with a variety of produce such as spinach and bananas; as well as collaboration with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the development of food gardens.

- *Support to Provinces*

Throughout the 2012/13 financial year, Eastern Cape (EC) and Limpopo (LP) provinces received additional support from the National Department. General findings reveal that in both provinces programme implementation has stabilised and expenditure patterns improved. Significant changes were observed notably how the programme was implemented with no interruptions.

Eastern Cape (EC)

There were remarkable changes were noted which attributed to among other; timeously facilitating transferring of funds to schools to ensure that learners are fed on a daily basis, appointment of an Acting NSNP Director, successful payment of outstanding accruals as well as procurement of vehicles to monitor the programme.

Limpopo (LP)

Achievements in LP include amongst others addressing the backlog on payment of service providers which resulted in great improvement on expenditure patterns, piloting of the school based procurement model in 25 schools as well as addressing the problem of inconsistencies in claims for honoraria.

- *Ensuring Quality*

The quality of meals offered in schools has been the central focus in the year under review. Behind all this has been the Department's effort to provide training in Meal Planning, how to develop Food Garden and Financial Management. Training was facilitated by varied talent and expertise drawn from a team of talented and professionals within the unit. A total of 351 workshops were conducted across provinces for Volunteer Food handlers (VFHs), School Governing Bodies (SGBs), Educators, NSNP Officials, Learners and Gardeners. Full details are covered in Part B of this report.

- *Learning Through Fun*

The Department successfully celebrated the National Nutrition Week (NNW) in October 2012 at Makhambane Primary (Kwa-Zulu Natal) and Nyorwe Primary (North West) in partnership with Nestlé SA under the theme **“I am High on Life, I eat, learn and play for Health”**. The purpose of the National Nutrition Week (NNW) is to raise awareness on healthy eating and physical activity/exercise as a way of living healthily. The highlight of these events was the industrial theatre cast portraying the importance of healthy eating and physical exercise.



Celebrating the National Nutrition Week, October 2012

- *Growing our Own (SFPS)*

Schools are encouraged to establish food gardens for learning purposes as well as to supplement the NSNP. In the year under review, 5 917 schools had food gardens. Support in maintaining and sustaining these food gardens is achieved through partnership with other stakeholders to provide necessary equipment and other resources.



Learners learning skills on food production at Piet N Aphanie High School, Limpopo



Learners at Elandsrivier Primary School, Western Cape

- *Sharing Knowledge*

Resource materials which will provide the schools with information on vegetable production were distributed to all the districts and provincial offices. These included 72 files and 13 124 CDs of the Horticulture Manual: A guide to establish and sustain food gardens in schools and 63 044 vegetable production posters (How to grow your own).

5. Winning Partnerships

The Department has gathered increasing support for the National School Nutrition Programme towards improvement.

Tiger Brands Foundation (TBF)

Extended the School Breakfast Programme to 60 schools in 4 provinces; viz, i.e. GP, KZN, LP, MP and WC. These schools were also provided with eating utensils.

Nestlé SA

Continued partnership with the NSNP Directorate in celebration of the NNW and proved the following items: Healthy Kids Learner's Resource, a support material for Life Orientation educators, activity/workbooks, skipping ropes, pencil cases, bottled water, ready-to-drink Milo and fruit.

Department of Water Affairs (DWA)

Provided 738 water tanks to 537 schools in 6 provinces; viz; EC, FS, GP, KZN, MP and NC. These are to assist schools to harvest rain water to assist with maintaining the garden and for domestic use.



Water tanks provided by the Department of Water Affairs

Department of Public Works (DPW)

Through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), employed a total of 798 gardeners in 3 provinces (i.e. MP, NC and WC) to support the schools in establishing and maintaining school vegetable gardens; and 705 School Based Monitors in LP for monitoring and administration of the programme.

PART B: PROVINCIAL NARRATIVE REPORTS

Eastern Cape

Free State

Gauteng

Kwa-Zulu Natal

Limpopo

Mpumalanga

Northern Cape

North West

Western Cape



Eastern Cape

2012/13 Budget and Policy Speech, Vote 6, Education Eastern Cape MEC for Education and Training, Honourable Mandla Makupula in the Provincial Legislature 22 March 2012



"In the 2012/13 financial year the School Nutrition Programme will be expanded to include 108 schools previously in Quintiles 4 and 5, but now re-ranked, and all special school learners in addition to schools in the first three quintiles currently benefiting. A further 32 schools have received kitchens. The new community based model will contribute to one of the five priority areas of government namely job creation, by creating a market for local small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) and prioritising Agricultural Parks where schools procure food for their learners."

MEC Mr. Mandla Makupula

Feeding Nutritious Meals

The programme performed exceptionally well reaching an average of 1 571 872 learners in Q1 – 3 public primary and secondary schools as well as identified special schools. There's also been great improvement in the quality of meals, as some schools in the province have added meat or minced-meat to the menu. Furthermore, the majority of schools in Uitenhage districts are providing learners with two vegetables instead of one. Finally, menu improvement in schools is also attributed to the innovation and creativity of school principals, educators and SGBs in NSNP implementation.

One of the major activities within the Provincial Education Department (PED) in the 2012/13 period has been the establishment and sustaining of school vegetable gardens. To date there are 1 881 school vegetable gardens within the province and these are maintained with the assistance and support of various stakeholders. Major highlights for the period under review include a potato production project in ten (10) schools in Fort Beaufort districts, thirty seven (37) schools in Keiskama circuit trained on sustainable food production by Siyakholwa Development Centre as well as the Annual School Garden Competition held in the Port Elizabeth District.



Food production lessons, Ekhazeni Cluster (PE)

To promote and advocate for healthy lifestyles, Nutrition Education materials have been distributed to schools, through all districts. The celebration of the National Nutrition Week (NNW), in raising awareness on the benefit of eating healthy, was held in eight (8) schools in three districts; viz Mbizana, Qumbu and Libode.

Procurement and Community Involvement

The PED uses the school based procurement model to procure food, cooking equipment and eating utensils. Funds were transferred to schools in four tranches. It is the responsibility of the School Governing Bodies (SGBs) and the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) team to ensure that food is procured and that schools have adequate cooking equipment and eating utensils. In the period under review, 444 service providers were contracted to procure and deliver food to schools. The programme engaged the services of 11 570 Volunteer Food Handlers (VFHs) to prepare and serve nutritious meals to learners. VFHs are recruited from within the schools communities and they received a stipend of R720.00 pm.

Development and Support

A total of 129 officials are employed both at provincial and district levels within the province to manage and support NSNP implementation. To ensure that the programme is implemented effectively and efficiently, the PED conducted capacity building workshops in the period under review. The focus was on financial management, meal planning and preparation, hygiene as well as sustainable food production. These workshops targeted financial clerks, school principals, VFHs, gardeners, educators and learners.

Winning Partnerships

Department of Environmental Health: Assisted in training Volunteer Food Handlers on personal hygiene, food storage, food handling and taking care of utensils. They also supported capacity building workshops on food safety conducted for 200 VFHs in Mt Frere District.

Mtati Training Center: provided training for learners in establishing food gardens in the Ngqushwa circuit (King Williamstown district).

Siyakholwa Development Center: provided training on Agriculture in thirty seven (37) schools in the Keiskama circuit.

Spar Store (Lukhanji Mall, Queenstown District): assisted with training of VFHs on food safety and preparation. The volunteers were from schools that procure foodstuffs from the store.

Mngazi Lodge: donated food items to Vukandlule Junior Secondary School in Libode district.

Kwa-Ntu Game Reserve: provided meals to learners on Thursdays at Masakhane Farm School in Grahamstown district.

Tiger Brands Foundation: has extended a School Breakfast Programme to twenty seven (27) primary schools in Lady Frere District.

Free State

Budget Vote speech by the Honourable MEC for Education: Mr P H I Makgoe in the Free State Provincial Legislature 22 Mar 2012



“...The National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) not only supports needy learners, but it also plays a critical role in job creation and poverty alleviation. Together with the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environment Affairs we have registered 200 Local Women Cooperatives (LWCs). About 90 of these cooperatives are already servicing our schools. We will continue to ensure that registered cooperatives become functional.”

MEC Mr P H I Makgoe

Feeding Nutritious Meals

For the period under review, the Provincial Education Department (PED) is estimated to have reached a total of 523 575 learners in Q1-3 primary and secondary schools as well as identified special schools. Learners were provided with nutritious meals on 189 schools days. Meals served to learners were compliant to the menu options as stated in the Conditional Grant Framework (i.e. the plate comprised of the three recommended food groups for the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) namely; starch, protein and fresh vegetable/fruit). To address the challenge of provision of fresh vegetables in farm schools, the PED has resorted to dehydrated vegetables for these schools.

To date 765 schools have food gardens. To support and assist schools in sustaining food gardens, the Department of Water Affairs has provided 86 schools with 125 rain water harvest tanks. These assist schools to harvest rain water to supplement water supply for schools, which is used for the irrigation of food gardens.

In raising awareness on good nutrition and advocating for healthy lifestyles, the PED developed and printed posters which were delivered to schools in all five (5) Districts. The National Nutrition Week (NNW) was successfully celebrated in twenty seven (27) farm schools in 4 Districts.



Vegetable tunnel at Mpekulu Primary, Free State

Procurement and Community Involvement

The programme was implemented using both the centralised and decentralised model to procure meals, cooking equipment and eating utensils for schools. The centralised model is used in Q1-3 primary and secondary schools in the townships and identified special schools, as well as section twenty one (21) farm schools. Funds were transferred to schools for meals, procurement of cooking fuel/gas and payment of honorarium to Volunteer Food Handlers who are responsible for cooking and serving learners. For farm schools, the decentralised model is used; at the beginning of the financial year funds for feeding are allocated to districts. Only funds for procurement of gas and payment of honorariums are transferred directly into farm schools' bank accounts.

271 service providers were appointed to procure and deliver food stuff to schools. The programme engaged the services of 3 013 Volunteer Food Handlers (VFHs) who are responsible for cooking and serving meals to learners. These are parents of learners from surrounding areas within the school community and are engaged on six (6) months rotating agreements. The VFHs received a stipend of R720.00 per month.

Human Resource Capacity

The PED employed a staff of forty five (45) officials; five (5) at provincial and forty (40) at district level, who manage and administer the implementation of the NSNP. The PED conducted twenty four (24) capacity building workshops in the year under review which focused on Meal Planning and sustainable food production, targeting mainly educators.

Winning Partnerships

Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF): supplied Katleho Primary School in Thabo Mofutsanyane district with milk.

Arcon Foundation in partnership with **Ellerines Furniture Group:** erected two (2) vegetable tunnels in two (2) schools (Fezile Dabi District). These schools were also provided with seedlings.

Department of Water Affairs (DWA): provided 125 schools with rain water harvesting tanks.

Gauteng

Budget Vote speech by the MEC for Education: Ms Barbara Creecy in the Gauteng Provincial Legislature 01 June 2012



"During the 2012/13 financial, year, we will be expanding the school nutrition programme to cover all newly declared no fee schools. In total over 1,004 million learners are benefiting from this programme. The conditional grant allocation for this programme in 2012/13 is R 548, 7 million for this financial year."

MEC Ms Barbara Creecy

Feeding Nutritious Meals

The province has performed exceptionally well in the period under review. During the course of the financial year, the programme was extended to 78 additional schools, thus bringing the average number of learners reached in the province to 1 235 781, which was 197 900 more than the target. The quality of the soya served has greatly improved and this can be attributed to the fact that the Provincial Education Department (PED) has ensured that service providers adhere to the specifications as provided by the National Department. This action has also resulted in improved meals as well as reduced wastage in the majority of schools within the province.

The PED, in collaboration with the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD), procured 140 irrigation systems and gardening tools in preparation for 140 new school gardens. Plans are afoot to resume the project in the 2013/14 financial year.



Boschkop Farm School, Gauteng

Procurement and Community Involvement

The PED has contracted 135 service providers for the procurement of food, cooking equipment, eating utensils, gas equipment & installation. Service providers were appointed through an open tender system.

Unemployed parents of learners within the community were recruited as Volunteer Food Handlers (VFHs) on rotational basis for twelve (12) months and received a stipend of R 720.00 a month. Their responsibilities are to prepare, cook and serve nutritional meals to learners on a daily basis. The PED has established a relationship with Afrox Gas to supply gas cylinders to all schools within the province. This has guaranteed consistent supply of gas in schools without disruption in school feeding.



A Volunteer Food Handler chopping fresh vegetables

Human Resource Capacity

At provincial level, the programme is administered by eleven (11) full-time officials. At district level, Institutional Development Support Officials (IDSOs) are responsible for monitoring schools. Plans to fill the fifteen (15) vacant posts at district level in the 2013/14 financial year are in progress.

Winning Partnerships

Feed Uplift Educate Love (FUEL) Trust: assisted the PED in creating a school based menu that will assist VFHs with meal planning and preparation in relation to correct quantities.

Tiger Brands Foundation (TBF): provided breakfast to thirteen (13) schools in Alexandra Township to enhance learning capacity. A research study was also commissioned to assess whether the programme was having the desired impact, with a view to extend the programme to other schools.

Danone-Clover and Food Garden Foundation: provided aftercare service and supported forty (40) selected schools in Johannesburg Central District. Food gardens were also established in these schools.

KwaZulu - Natal

Budget Vote speech by the MEC for Education: Mr. E.S. Mchunu in the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Legislature 22 June 2012



“Part of the aim of the NSNP is to help with poverty alleviation in local communities. Therefore community-based gardening projects have been identified in all districts in the province and training of 75 members of these projects will commence... Furthermore, the department together with Ilembe District Municipality is piloting a model that will empower co-operatives that will supply schools with locally-produced fresh vegetables. If successful, this model will be replicated throughout the province.”

MEC Mr. E.S. Mchunu

Feeding Nutritious Meals

For the period under review, the Provincial Education Department (PED) has reached an average of 2 035 034 learners, which included learners in quintile 4 and 5 schools. Meals served to learners complied with the menu options as provided by the provincial office and this can be attributed to the fact that the PED has standardised menu for the schools. In further ensuring that learners were served with quality meals, schools were provided with names of compliant brands of soya products, so as to be matched against what was supplied by service providers. To prevent menu fatigue, the PED changed the menu into a two-week cycle that allows a variety of meals to be served. Finally, eggs and chicken stew were introduced to have variations in animal protein.



A learner enjoying their school meal, Empiseni Primary School, KwaZulu-Natal

Schools within the province were encouraged to develop schools gardens for learning, skills development and to augment the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) menu. The annual Siyazimela Schools Garden Competition is used by the province to encourage learners to get involved in school food gardens. To date, a total of 489 schools have established food gardens. To address the challenge of water scarcity, the Department of Water Affairs through its implementing agent the Industrial Development trust (IDT) donated 250 water harvesting tanks to 125 schools in the four (4) districts; viz Zululand, Othukela, Uthungulu and Umzinyathi.

In advocating and promoting healthy lifestyles among learners and school communities, the PED has partnered with the South African Sugar Association (SASA) and MIET to develop workbooks on Nutrition to supplement the curriculum. Workbooks for Foundation and Intermediate phases have been developed and translated into IsiZulu.



Educators serving learners in a classroom at Paulpietersbrg Primary School, KwaZulu-Natal

Procurement and Community Involvement

The PED uses the quotation system. The programme has contracted 1 782 SMMEs and 261 Local Women Cooperatives (LWC) to supply foodstuff to schools. 10 476 Volunteer Food Handlers (VFHs) were also contracted by School Governing Bodies (SGBs) and they are responsible for preparing, cooking and serving meals to learners. VFHs are paid a stipend of R 720.00 per month.

Human Resource Capacity

The programme is managed and administered by 115 officials, twenty (20) at provincial level and ninety five (95) in districts. Their roles include monitoring of the implementation of the programme, nutrition education as well as sustainable food production initiatives in schools. The payment of service providers' claims is the responsibility of district officials.

A total of fifty one (51) capacity building workshops were conducted throughout the province. The focus was on Programme Implementation, Meal Planning and development of School Vegetable Gardens. The targeted audience for training were the members of School Governing Bodies (SGBs), Volunteer Food Handlers and educators.

Winning Partnerships

Department of Water Affairs and its implementing Agent, **Industrial Development Trust (IDT)**: donated 250 – 5000L water harvesting tanks to 125 schools in Zululand, Othukela, Umzinyathi and Uthungulu districts.

Game Chain Stores: provided twenty (20) schools with mobile kitchens to schools, which has improved cooking facilities and hygiene standards.

Limpopo

Limpopo Department of Education Budget Speech vote 3 delivered by MEC for Education Namane Dickson Masemola, 29 March 2012 at Lebowakgomo Legislature



“...each learner will be provided with a plate and a spoon. The process will proceed for three consecutive years until all primary school learners have eating utensils as school property. Schools are encouraged to have vegetable gardens which will continue to supplement learner’s meals.”

MEC Mr. Namane Dickson Masemola

Feeding Nutritious Meals

The Provincial Education Department (PED), in the period under review, has reached an average of 1 586 343 learners. The Department has adhered to the prescribed menu consisting of three (3) basic nutrients daily, i.e. carbohydrate, protein and fresh vegetable/fruit. The vegetables are alternated between green and yellow. The PED worked in close collaboration with Feed Uplift Educate Love (FUEL), a non-profit organisation, to encourage schools to comply with prescribed menu. A new monitoring tool was developed and shared with districts and schools under a project called “Di aga mmele”, which compels each school to comply to daily standardised meals.

Food production in schools, one of the key pillars of the NSNP, has been strengthened. For the maintenance and development of new food gardens, district offices supported schools by providing seedlings, capacity building workshops and gardening tools. A total of 1 911 school food gardens were established in the 2012/13 financial year.

Nutrition Education is another important pillar of this programme where schools are encouraged to practice good standards in food safety and to prepare meals in hygienic conditions. Districts support schools through the provision of capacity building workshops.



Tshilambuvhe Primary school, Limpopo

Procurement and Community Involvement

The NSNP is implemented using the centralised procurement model where service providers are appointed using the tender system. A total of 311 service providers were contracted to procure food, equipment and utensils for schools. The PED is piloting the decentralised model of procuring goods and services in twenty five (25) schools across the five (5) Districts.

The province has contracted the services of 9 084 Volunteer Food Handlers (VFH) to prepare and serve daily nutritious meals to learners on all school days. These are unemployed members of the community recruited into the programme by School Governing Bodies (SGBs) on a rotational basis. VFHs received a stipend of R 720.00 per month.

Development and Support

The programme has employed 142 officials. Four (4) officials are employed at province, sixteen (16) officials at district and 122 officials at circuit levels. To ensure compliance and the smooth running of the programme in schools, the province was provided with an Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) grant to employ 705 school based monitors on contract.

To build the capacity of school principals, VFHs, gardeners, educators and learners, a total of eighty (80) workshops were conducted on how to establish and maintain a food garden, meal planning and preparation as well financial management.

Winning Partnerships

FUEL: conducted a workshop on programme monitoring for NSNP officials

Tiger Brands Foundation: provided breakfast in three schools in Waterberg District, i.e. Maokeng, Dagbreek and Modimolle Primary Schools

Policy Clearing Committee Forum: assisted the province to develop a guideline on programme implementation.

The Department of Agriculture: supplied seeds and fertilizers to sixty (60) schools in Vhembe district.

EPWP: Employed 705 officials to monitor the implementation of the programme.

Department of Agriculture: conducted training for educators and gardeners on vegetable production and poultry in Sekhukhune District.

Department of Health: trained NSNP officials on hygiene and safety

Mpumalanga

2012/13 Policy and Budget Speech Vote 7 delivered by the Mpumalanga MEC for Education, Mrs Reginah Mhaule, 14 May 2012.



"835 444 learners from quintile 1 to 3 primary and secondary schools will continue to receive a meal each school day through the National School Nutrition Programme.

This is to ensure that learners are cognitively alert throughout the school day. R475 million has been set aside to achieve this.

823 food gardens will be established and maintained to supplement this programme in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Land Administration.

We urge our schools to ensure that once these gardens have been established, they should be maintained."

MEC Mrs. Kakgabo Regina Mhaule

Feeding Nutritious Meals

In the period under review, the province reached an average of 821 442 learners. Learners were provided with cooked and compliant meals on every school day consisting a starch, protein and fruits/vegetables. To curb the challenge of menu fatigue, the Provincial Education Department (PED) has added fresh milk served with cooked maize meal to add variety to the menu.

Schools integrate Nutrition Education in their lessons. Learners are taught about the nutrients of the food served at school. Learners are encouraged to eat more vegetables and fruit.

Learners are equipped with skills to develop vegetable gardens at school. The Department provided schools with garden tools and seedlings to establish vegetable garden. A total of 823 school gardens were established.



Produce from Evulingqondo Primary School, Mpumalanga

Procurement and Community Involvement

The Provincial Education Department (PED) uses a tender system to contract suppliers to deliver food to schools. A total of 63 service providers were contracted by the department for this purpose. The province transferred money to thirty three (33) primary schools in Nkangala to purchase eating and cooking utensils.

The PED has engaged the services of 4 752 Volunteer Food Handlers (VFHs) to prepare and serve meals.



Correct packing and storage of food, Camden Combined School, Mpumalanga

Development and Support

The province has employed thirty four (34) officials, four (4) at the provincial office and thirty (30) at district level are responsible to manage and monitor the programme.

A total of 104 workshops were conducted for school principals, VFHs, gardeners, educators and learners. The areas of focus were on meal planning and preparation, hygiene and safety, as well as food production.

Winning Partnerships

Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA): conducted training for NSNP officials on the development of Cooperatives and assisted Volunteer Food Handlers to register as Cooperatives.

Food and Trees for Africa (Eduplant): conducted training food garden workshop in Bohlabela, Gert Sibande, Ehlanzeni and Nkangala districts.

Department of Agriculture: conducted food production workshops and provided irrigation systems to Lindani and Harmony Hill in Sabie circuit.

Department of Health: evaluated food and environmental safety conditions in Mukhuhlu, Lehukwe and Marite circuit in Bohlabela District.

Tiger Brands Foundation: provided breakfast to Entokozweni, Mthayiza and Gutywa Primary schools in Ntsikazi circuit.

Arc for Africa: built a kitchen and a classroom at Nhlengelo primary in Bohlabela district.

Penreach: donated R70 000 to build a kitchen at Hlanganani school in Enhlanzeni District as well as garden tools, seeds and a wired fence for the garden.

Yebo Yes (MTN): built a kitchen and donated a Jo-Jo water tank at Schoemansdal Primary school in Enhlanzeni District.

Northern Cape

Feeding Nutritious Meals



The National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) feeds learners in order to provide them with sufficient energy to enhance concentration and attentiveness in class and to keep learners healthy. The programme has reached an average of 186 167 learners in quintile 1 to 3 primary and secondary, as well as identified special schools.

A total of 387 schools have food gardens, which are used for learning purposes as well as to supplement the NSNP meal. To encourage schools to establish and sustain vegetable gardens, the province held a competition to award schools with the best food gardens. A total of 49 schools participated in the competition. Three (3) best schools were identified and rewarded with trophies, cash, garden equipment as well as starter packs.

MEC Ms. Grizelda Cjiekella

Two hundred and sixty-three (263) Nutrition Education posters were received from the Department of Basic Education and distributed to schools.

Procurement and Community Involvement



Training of Volunteer Food Handlers (VFHs) on meal planning and preparation, Frances Baard district , Northern Cape

Money is transferred directly into the school bank account each quarter. The schools have the responsibility to buy food, fuel and pay Volunteer Food Handlers (VFHs). Prospective suppliers submit their quotations to the school and the School Governing Bodies (SGBs) select the preferred suppliers as per the guidelines provided by the Northern Cape Department of Education. A Memorandum of Understanding is then signed between the SGB and the supplier

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A total of 280 suppliers were appointed by schools to supply foods. The province has engaged the services of 1 409 VFHs, who prepare and cook food for learners in 456 schools. They receive a stipend of R720.00.

Development and Support

The programme is managed and monitored by twenty four (24) officials; ten (10) officials are employed at the provincial office and twenty four (24) officials at the district office. This number includes nine (9) officials who are employed on contract.

A total of fifty one (51) workshops were conducted. The focus was on meal planning and preparation, financial management and programme implementation. The workshop targeted VFHs, NSNP school co-ordinators and SGB members.

Winning Partnerships

Karsten Farms: sponsored the Annual Food Garden Competition in the Siyanda and Namaqua districts. They also provided some schools with fully equipped mobile kitchens and assisted with maintaining and sustaining the vegetable gardens.

Katolieke Onwikkeling Oranje Rivier (KOOR): assisted schools in the Keimoes area to maintain their vegetable gardens as well as provided seedlings.

South African Police Services (SAPS): assisted two schools (i.e. Rosendal and Kalksloot Intermediate Schools) to maintain vegetable gardens.

North West

Department of Education and Training Budget Speech 2012 presented by Hon Louisa Lorato Mabe (MPL), MEC for Education and Training, 21 May 2012



“...in his State of the Nation Address, the Honourable President reported that more than eight million learners benefitted from government’s school feeding scheme countrywide. To that figure, the North West contributed almost a half a million learners.”

MEC Ms. Louisa Mabe

Feeding Nutritious Meals

The programme reached an average of 576 985 learners in primary, secondary and identified special schools. Learners are provided with cooked meals on all school days. Schools comply with the menu options provided by the provincial office. Food served to learners consisted of three major food groups, i.e. protein, carbohydrate and a fresh vegetable/fruit.

There are 717 functional food gardens in the province. The gardens were kept and maintained by volunteers from communities and in some instances, gardens were established by learners as part of their learning area. The produce from food gardens is used to supplement National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) and to raise funds to purchase more seeds and/or buy other school necessities.

Nutrition Education is integrated into the curriculum, i.e. Life Orientation. Posters and pamphlets received from the National Department of Basic Education have been distributed to schools and in the majority of schools and displayed on classroom walls.

Procurement and Community Involvement

The PED uses the decentralised procurement system where funds are transferred directly into the school’s bank account. The schools have the responsibility to buy food, gas and pay Volunteer Food Handlers (VFHs). Most schools buy food from local supermarkets and engage local community members to transport food from the supermarket to schools.

Learners are served nutritious meals on a daily basis by the Volunteer Food Handlers (VFHs). These are unemployed women recruited from the school community. They received a stipend of R 720.00 per month. A total of 1 409 are engaged by the province.



Vegetable tunnel at Mokasa Primary School, North West

Development and Support

The programme is managed and monitored by fifty (50) officials; this number includes officials employed on contract basis. Seven (7) officials are employed at head office, eight (8) at district and thirty five (35) at circuit levels.

Workshops were conducted on meal planning and preparation, food production, hygiene & safety and financial management. The workshops were intended to equip VFHs with basic knowledge on personal hygiene, meal preparation, food safety, gas safety and serving portions. School principals and administration assistants were trained on basic financial management of the programme.

Winning Partnerships

Gift of the Givers: provided a kitchen to Motlhatwa Primary School in Ngaka Modiri Molema District.

Royal Bafokeng: continued to support Bafokeng schools with breakfast, maintenance of vegetable gardens and employing additional VFHs.

SANLAM: provided Maphoitsile Primary School in Taung with three water tanks to harvest rain water.

Western Cape

Department of Education and Training Budget Speech 2012 presented by Hon Donald Grant (MEC for Education and Training), 23 March 2012



"...there is no doubt that poverty has a severe impact on learning. A hungry child cannot learn or function properly. Basic nutrition is a prerequisite for a quality learning experience. This government is therefore committed to expanding the rollout of our nutrition programme in schools serving the province's poorest communities."

The Western Cape's nutrition programme remains one of the better run in the country and provides warm nutritious meals to over 430 000 young, poor and vulnerable learners across the province every day."

MEC Mr Donald Grant

Feeding Nutritious Meals

The Provincial Education Department (PED) provided meals to an average of 413 138 learners in primary, secondary and identified special schools on daily basis. To ensure that learners are served food in a dignified manner, the province has purchased food buckets and trolleys to distribute meals to various classrooms so that learners are seated when eating. Learners are also provided with breakfast 3 days per week. The breakfast is served before the school starts.

Three hundred and fifty seven (357) gardeners in 331 schools were appointed by Expanded Public Works (EPWP) on a one year contract in order to maintain the gardens at schools. These gardeners receive a monthly stipend. The PED has established and maintained 374 vegetable gardens.

Three hundred and sixty five (365) posters were supplied by the Department of Basic Education and distributed to schools.



Learners at Bontebok Primary School, Western Cape

Procurement and Community Involvement

The Western Cape Education Department (WCED) procures services of foodstuffs through a centralised procurement model. Three (3) service providers are contracted to offer services to all targeted schools for the National School Nutrition Programme. The province has engaged 1 021 Volunteer Food Handlers (VFHs) to prepare and serve meals to learners in 456 Schools. They each receive a stipend of R750.00 per month.

Development and Support

Eighteen (18) officials, i.e. three (3) at provincial and fifteen (15) in district offices are employed by the department to manage and monitor the programme; this number includes ten (10) officials that are employed on contract at the district level.



Learners at St Paul Primary and Swartberg Secondary Schools enjoying breakfast, Western Cape

Winning Partnerships

The Heidelberg Nature Reserve Eco-school Project and **Cape Nature Reserve** helped schools in Somerset West and Langeberg areas by giving lessons on the environment organise field trips for learners and helped in setting up vegetable gardens.

Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) distributed fruit trees to nine (9) primary schools in the Central Karoo district.

Notes

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Notes





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