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SOUTH AFRICA'S NATIONAL SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMME (NSNP)



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The NSNP in Context

- NSNP- govt's flagship pro-poor programme
- Initiated in 1994 new dispensation, by late President Mr N Mandela – (political will)
- Aligned with National Development Plan (NDP) to eliminate poverty and support food security – 2030
- Goal 25 – Action Plan 2020, Towards Schooling 2030, Learner well-being
- Care & Support for Teaching and Learning Framework – rights based approach to protect, addresses barriers to learning

Legal Framework

- South African Constitution
 - section 28 (1) (c) the right to basic nutrition
 - section 27 (1) (b) the right to have access to food
- National Development Plan (NDP)
 - a blueprint, aims to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality by 2030
- Division of Revenue Act > determination of each province's equitable share (allocations)
 - NSNP Conditional Grant Framework, gazetted annually

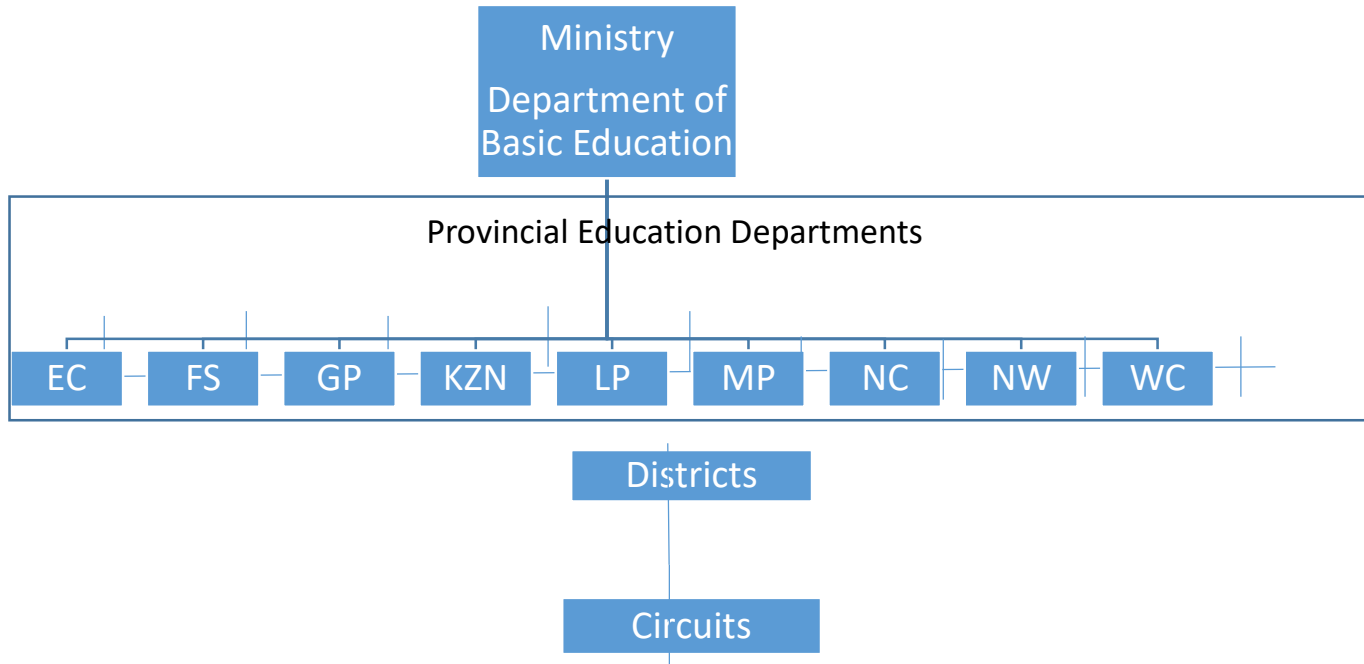
Key objectives

- To provide nutritious meals to enhance children's learning capacity and wellbeing for improved educational outcomes.
- To promote nutrition knowledge and healthy lifestyles
- To implement the National Deworming Programme to optimise the benefits of meals

Key Pillars of the NSNP



Programme Structure



Funding

- National Treasury > allocates from the fiscus
- A specific purpose Conditional Grant i.t.o the Division of Revenue Bill > enacted and reviewed annually
- 2021/21 financial year, the Grant is allocated at R8.2 billion (€483 million)



Procurement Models

- Centralised
 - Tranches (funds) transferred to Provincial Department of Education (PEDs)
 - Open tender (bid system) > outsourcing
 - Bid evaluation > adjudication > awarding to local suppliers
- Decentralised
 - PEDs transfer funds directly to schools
 - Schools procure food items from small medium enterprises

Quality Standards-School Menus

- Feeding requirements > daily nutritious meal which constitute a protein, starch and fruit or vegetable to address malnutrition and overweight/obesity
- South African Food Based Dietary Guidelines by the Department of Health e.g fortified maize (vitamin A) and related Regulations
- Over 9,7 million learners in approximately 21 000 schools benefit from the Programme.

NATIONAL SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMME

THE SOUTH AFRICAN GUIDELINES FOR HEALTHY EATING AND FOOD GUIDE



FACTORY MONITORING

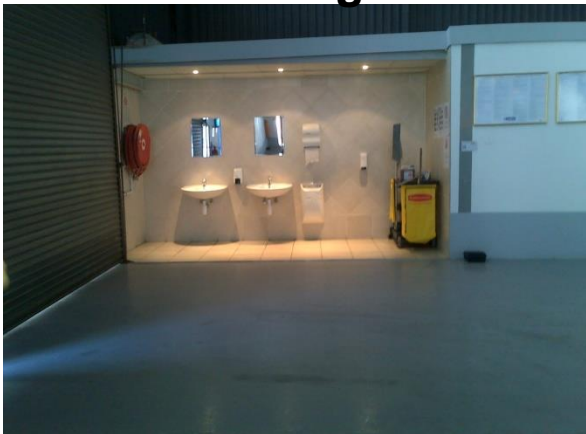
Protective clothing



Sterile clean factory



Hand washing area



Lab for quality assurance



Sensory evaluation





PARTNERSHIPS

- Inter-sectoral collaboration
 - The National Food & Nutrition Security Plan > an integrated and coherent plan to address food insecurity
 - Role players – Depts. Health, Social Development, Agriculture & Forestry, Monitoring, Planning and Evaluation.
- Various business and non-governmental partners support breakfast, monitoring etc.

Key Challenges and Mitigation

- Infrastructure
 - Poor preparation facilities – e.g classrooms, corrugated iron shelters; only proportional allocation to improve kitchens, equipment and utensils in targeted schools
 - Kitchen non-compliance – no Certificate of Acceptability > a health hazard. Continuous training of Food Handlers on health, hygiene and food safety

Conclusion

The unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic has strengthened the Ministry's resolve to continue the School Nutrition Programme to address food insecurity in our communities.



Every child is a National Asset

Thank you!

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