

# UPDATE ON THE EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT (ECD) FUNCTION SHIFT

Select Committee on Basic Education  
7 September 2022



# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Purpose
- Background
- Function Shift Progress, challenges and mitigations
- Delivering the function
- Function improvement

# PURPOSE

To present to the Select Committee an **update; challenges and mitigations** on the Early Childhood Development (ECD) **function shift.**

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

FAQ	Responses
What is a function Shift?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An administrative process of shifting a function from one department to another</li><li>• Function received 'as is' and is being implemented 'as is'</li><li>• 2022 – a transitional year used to plan for improvements in ECD</li></ul>
Concerns about barriers to registration for ECD Programmes, among other administrative challenges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The department has continued with the registration of ECD programmes. Vangasali project is used as a mechanism for registration massification.</li><li>• We have also finalised incorporating comments into the Children's Second Amendment Bill. The amendments seek to address barriers to registration.</li></ul>
Will ECD practitioners with no qualifications be recognised for years of experience?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A special engagement of the Inter-sectoral Forum sub-committee set up to streamline the process of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).</li></ul>
Subsidy: Are all provinces paying the same subsidy amount of R17 per child?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• For standardization, the department developed the subsidy guidelines to guide provinces on the implementation of the above subsidies. All provinces pay R17 for the subsidy.</li></ul>
Improved funding and access under DBE	<p>We have developed a business case and costing for ECD using data from the ECD Census, Thrive by Five Index and the draft ECD Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (PEIR) which we submitted to National Treasury. Through this funding will be able to provide a minimum package of resources and to improve nutrition</p>

# BACKGROUND

- A Cabinet memorandum on the function shift served in Cabinet in March 2022.
- On 1 April 2022, the Minister of Social Development, Hon. Ms Lindiwe Zulu, MP, officially handed over the ECD function to the Minister of Basic Education, Hon. Mrs Angie Motshekga, MP.
- The launch marked a partnership between the DBE and DSD as well as other State departments, NGOs, civil society, partners and other entities to ensure that all children, including those with disabilities are provided with access to quality ECD.
- The handover marked achievement of the commitments of the NDP, ANC's 54<sup>th</sup> National Conference and the National Integrated ECD Policy in terms of policy and programme shift.

# DATA-DRIVEN PLANNING

## ACCESS: CURRENT STATUS



# ECD IS THE ENGINE FOR HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

- Early childhood is a sensitive phase of human development.
- The physiological capital accrued in the first 1 000 days of life provides the scaffold for human growth and development.
- ECD represents the most powerful investment in human capital that a country can make.
- We estimate that investing in universal access to ECD programmes represents an opportunity to:
  - Improve skills and working conditions among the workforce already working in the ECD sector;
  - Allow women to participate in the labour market by freeing up children’s primary caregivers;
  - Stimulate local economies by creating both direct and indirect jobs in communities and stimulating the purchase of local goods and services;
  - Grow South Africa’s GDP in the long term by improving returns from basic education and therefore the literacy of our working population.

# CURRENT ACCESS TO EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMMES

	All children			Children in Q1-3		
	Baseline	Universal Access Target	Universal Access Gap	Baseline	Universal Access Target	Universal Access Gap
Total number of children aged 0-5	7 022 446			5 358 204		
Children aged 0-5 attending an ELP	1 660 317	4 587 013	2 926 696	1 257 329	3 507 006	2 249 677
Estimated number of ELPs	42 420	117 616	75 196	32 239	89 923	57 684
Registered or conditionally registered ELPs	16 968	117 616	100 648			
Number of subsidised ELP places	NA			626 575	3 507 006	2 880 431
Estimated practitioner and management workforce servicing these programmes	165 438	458 701	293 263	125 733	350 701	224 968
Number of woman caregivers able to participate in the labour market	1 373 175	2 766 484	1 393 310	903 750	2 061 181	1 157 431
Children aged 0-2 who receive home-visiting	NA			unknown	1 028 072	
Estimated CHW workforce				~50 000		

Sources: calculations based on 2020 General Household Survey and 2021 ECD Census

# AT A GLANCE- ECDs, ENROLMENT & ATTENDANCE



**ECD Census 2021**  
because children count

**42,420**  
ECDs



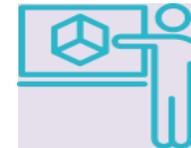
Enrolment  
**1,660,317**



Ave. Children  
per Programme  
**39.1**



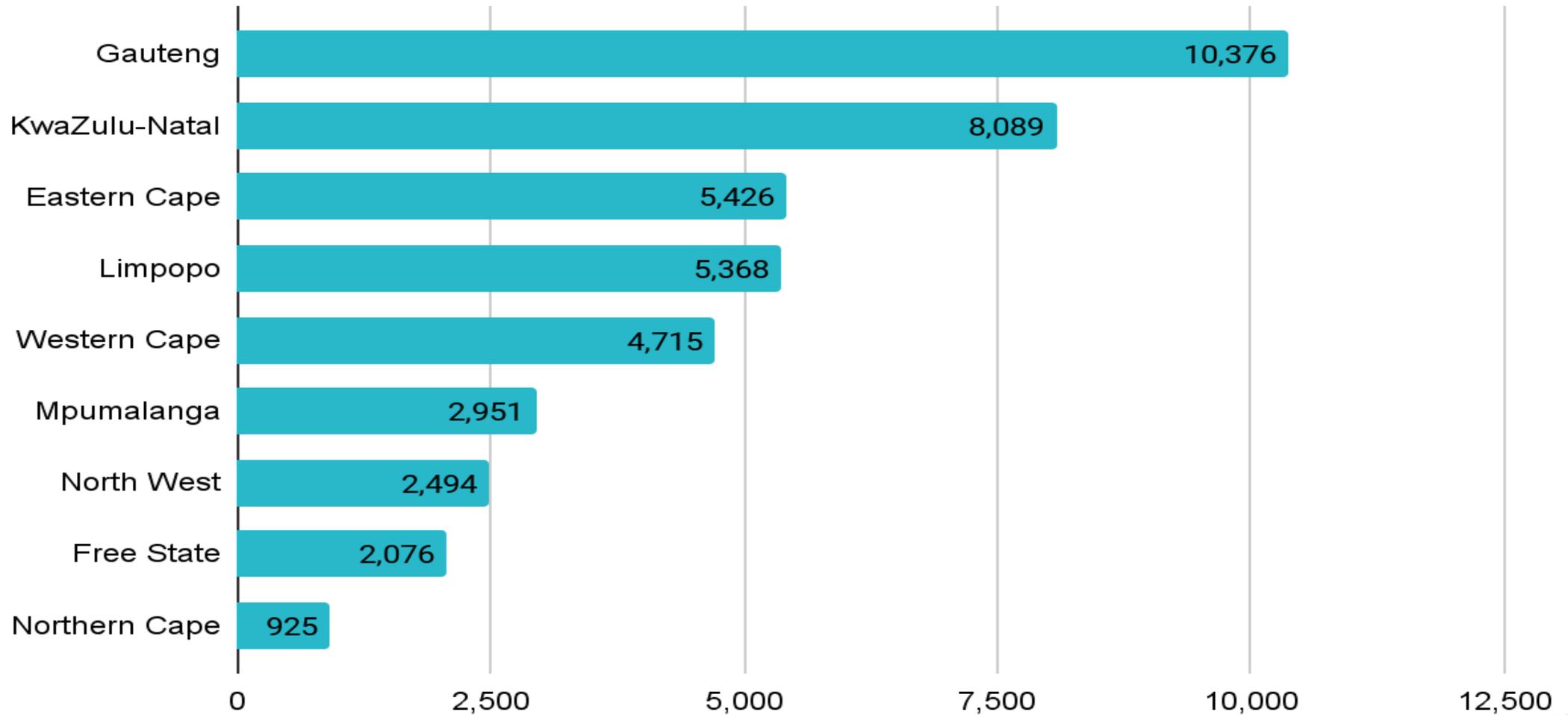
Staff Count  
**198,361**



Ave. Staff per  
Programme  
**4.7**

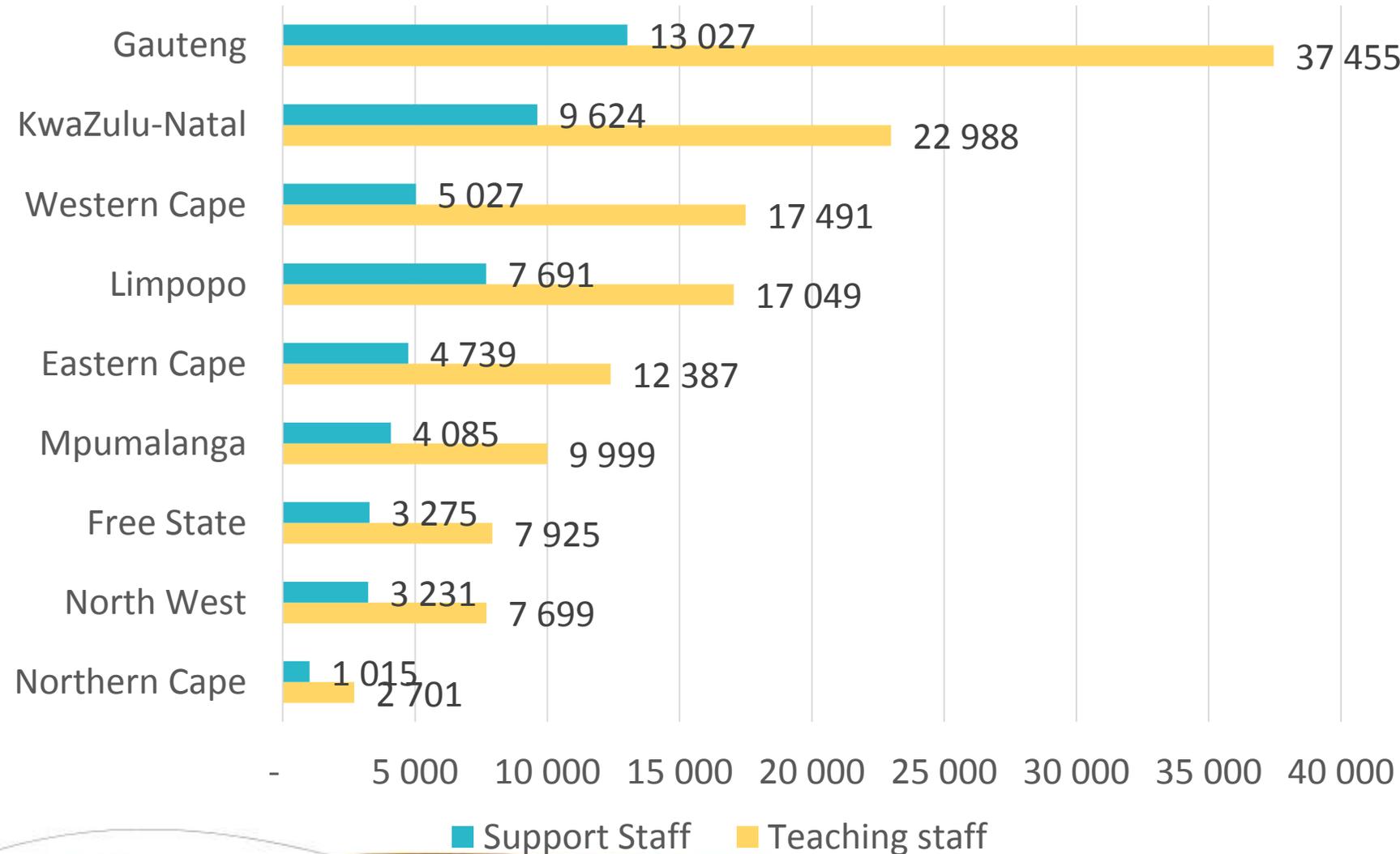


# ECD CENSUS DATA : PROVINCIAL BREAKDOWN



# ALL STAFF

## TOTAL NUMBER OF STAFF PER PROVINCE



**198,361**

Total staff who work in ECD programmes across the country

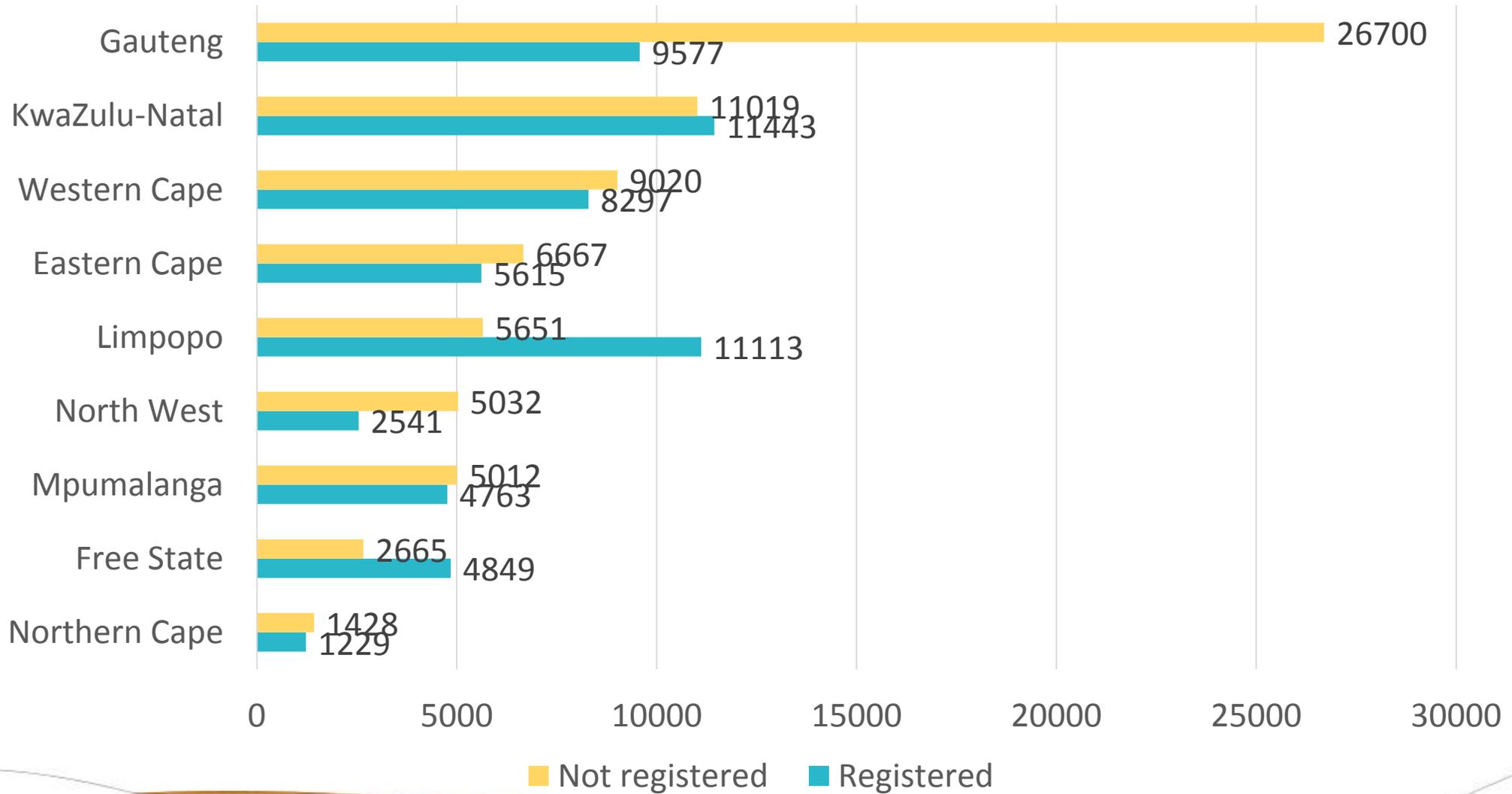
**165,059**

teaching staff work in ECD programmes



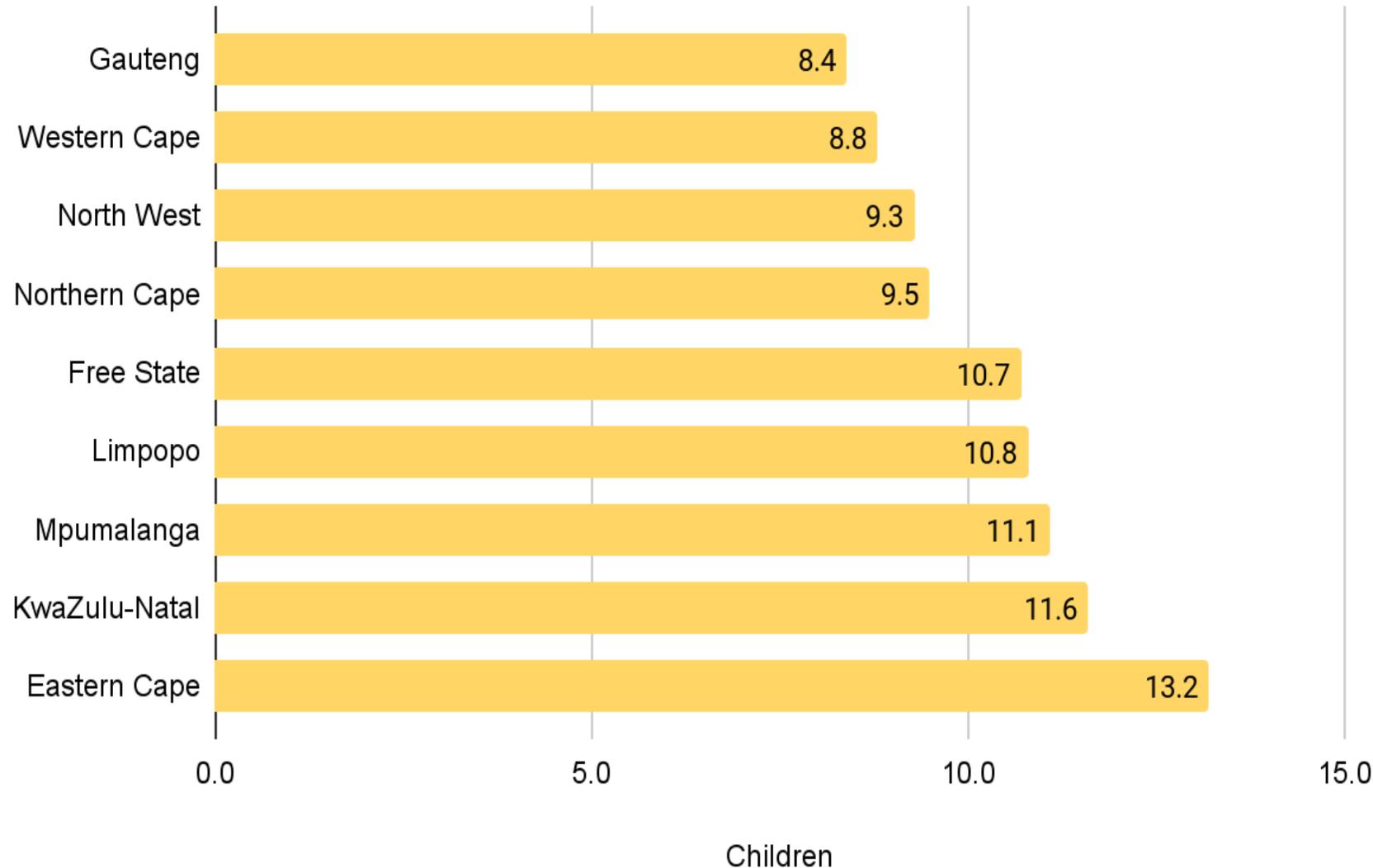
# TEACHING STAFF

## NUMBER OF TEACHING STAFF IN REGISTERED AND UNREGISTERED PROGRAMMES, PER PROVINCE



# TEACHING STAFF

## AVERAGE RATIO ENROLLED CHILDREN PER TEACHING STAFF BY PROVINCE



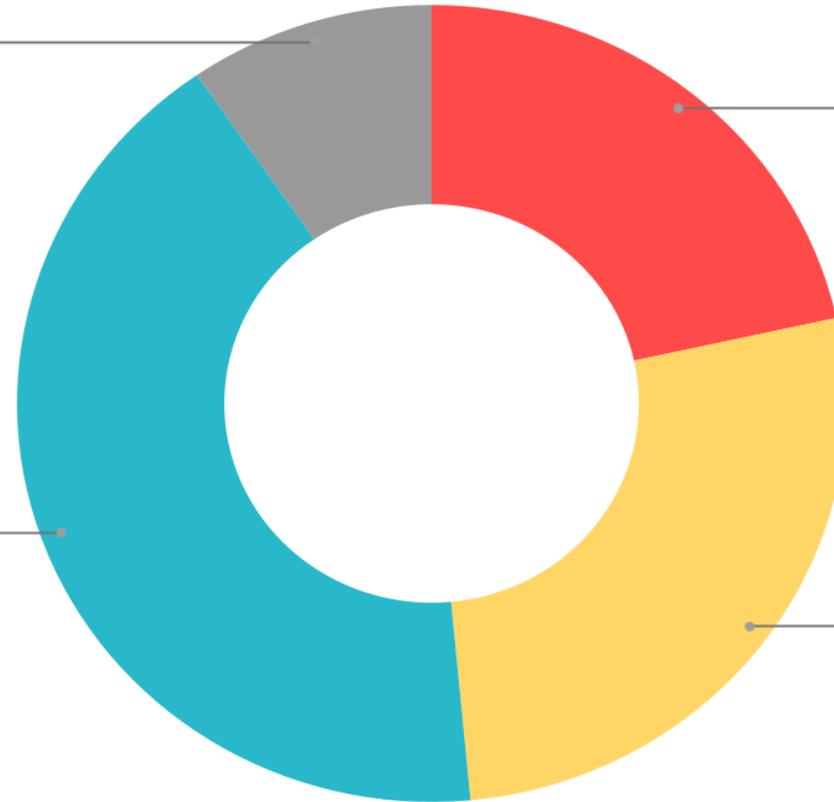
**Eastern Cape**  
has the highest  
practitioner:child  
ratio

# TEACHING STAFF

## QUALIFICATION LEVELS

NQF 6-9  
9.6%

NQF 4-5  
41.9%



**21.6%**

has **no** ECD specific qualification

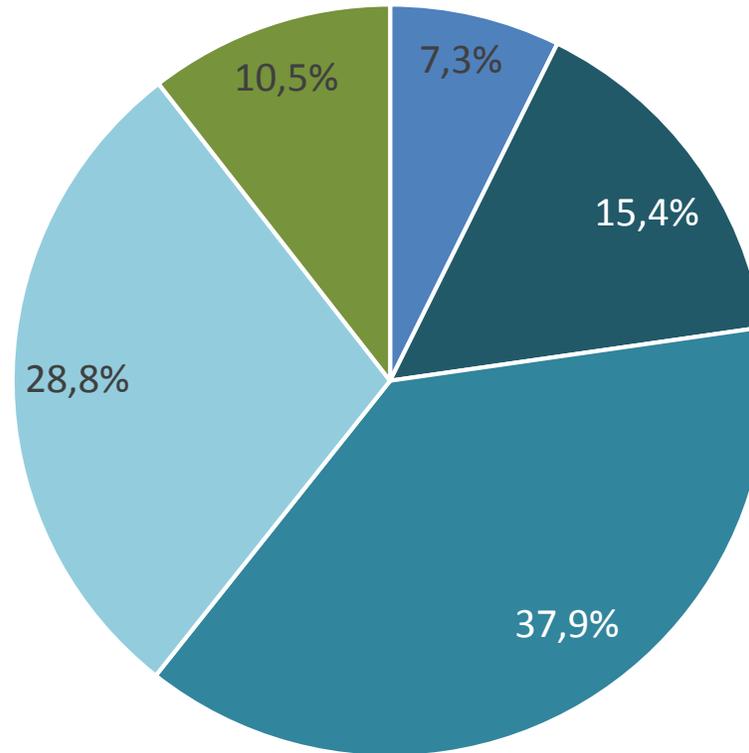
Skills Programme  
27.0%

# TEACHING STAFF

## SALARY LEVELS (BASELINE ASSESSMENT DATA)

**89.5%**

of all ECD practitioners responded that they received **less than minimum wage** (R3500 per month for a 40-hour work week)



■ Less than R500 ■ R500-R1000 ■ R1001-R2000 ■ R2001-R3500 ■ More than R3500

# thrive<sup>5</sup>

thrive by five | INDEX

**Measuring what matters most.  
Are South Africa's young  
children set up for success?**



ECD **measure**

Sponsored by |



The final weighted sample allows us to reliably report on the % **children** aged 4 to 5 years enrolled in ELPs in SA who are at the **age-appropriate level** in key areas of development.

**5,139**  
**children**



### Early Learning:

1. Gross Motor Development
2. Fine Motor Coordination & Visual Motor Integration
3. Numeracy & Mathematics
4. Literacy & Language
5. Cognition & Executive Functioning

### Physical Growth:

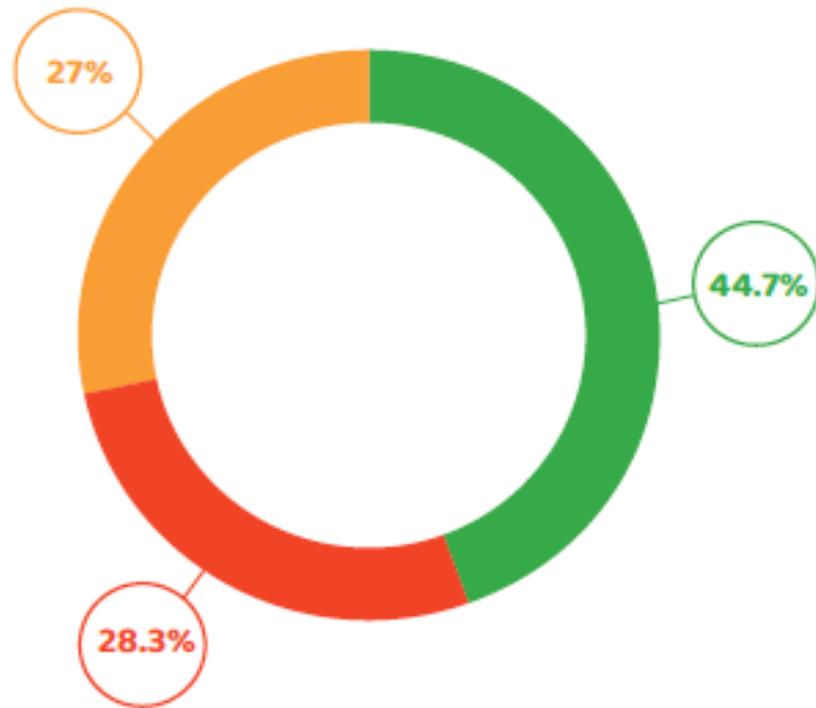
6. Height for age - Stunting

### Social-Emotional Functioning:

7. Social Relations with Peers & Adults
8. Emotional Readiness for School



# Early Learning - total score for all 5 learning domains



**44.7%** of children attending ELPs are **On Track** overall for learning and are able to do the tasks expected of children their age

**27%** are **Falling Behind** and will need support to help them catch up

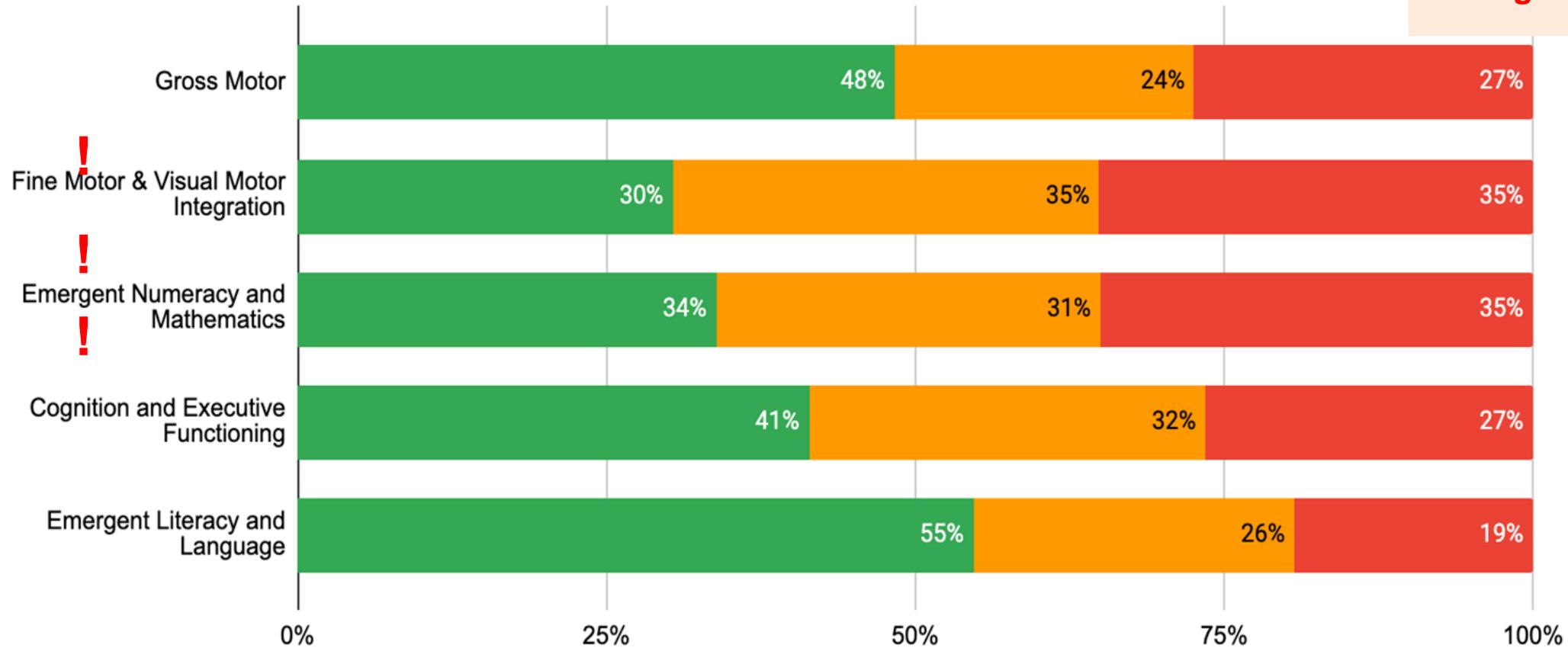
**28.3%** are **Falling Far Behind** and will need intensive intervention



# Learning Domains

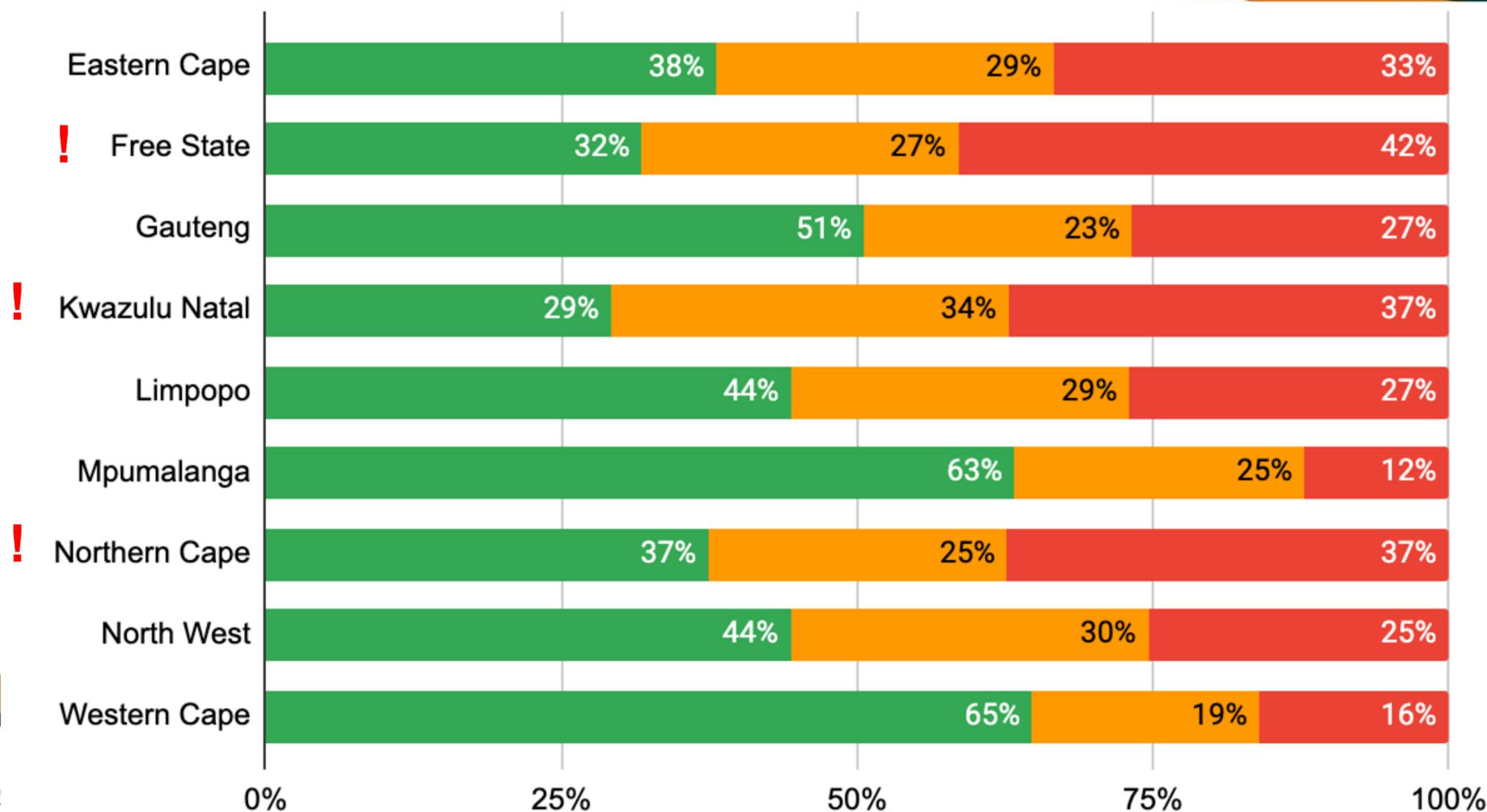
Every child is a National Asset

On Track  
Falling Behind  
Falling Far Behind



# Early Learning - total score by province

Every child is a **On Track** National Asset  
**Falling Behind**  
**Falling Far Behind**



# DATA-DRIVEN PLANNING AND PROVISIONING

- The recently *Thrive by Five Index* and the *ECD Census* have helped us to understand the gaps in the system in regard to quality and access for our children.
- **Thrive By Five** is SA's first Early Years Index which measured the proportion of children 4-5 year olds who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being. This has huge bearings on future success in school and in life
- Data from the Index will also benefit other key Departments, NGOs, and Civil Society to ensure that all children including those with disabilities are provided with resources relevant for their holistic development.
- The ECD Census has been useful in telling us about the levels of access to ECD programmes (**42,420 ECD Centres**)

# TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS



## TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The governance structures that have been overseeing the function shift process continue to meet in the 2022/23 financial year to ensure that there is a smooth transition.

The Programme Management Teams are continuing to meet on a monthly basis at both national and provincial level.

## TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

Some provinces have entered into Memoranda of Understanding to ensure that the outstanding administrative processes are finalised and to enable other arrangements like sharing of office space.

PMTs at both levels monitor that the commitments agreed upon during the preparations for migration have been actioned. These include the provision of tools of trade, signing of Service Level Agreements (SLAs), payments of subsidies and that the organograms are finalised.

# TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

- The continued use of Vangasali while we're busy with the design of the DBE system
- The capacity building workshops we're running with provinces
- Using the Census Masterlist while we're planning to develop an ECD EMIS
- The partnerships that are currently supporting us by providing capacity while we are stabilizing the function

# FUNCTION IMPROVEMENT

## POINT OF DEPARTURE: NATIONAL INTEGRATED EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT POLICY (NIECDP)



# OBJECTIVES

## The purpose of the Policy is:

1. To provide an overarching multi-sectoral enabling framework of early childhood development services, inclusive of national, provincial and local spheres of government;
2. To define a national comprehensive early childhood development programme and support, with identified essential components;
3. To identify the relevant role players and their roles and responsibilities for the provision of the various components of early childhood development services; and
4. To establish national integrated early childhood development leadership and coordinating structure.

# ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES AS PER THE NIECDP

## Parents

- Primary caregiver
- Creating nurturing environment for holistic development of children

## Government Departments

- National
- Provincial
- Local

## Non-Governmental Organisations

- Contracted for relevant services.
- Enter partnership with government departments.



# THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT POLICY...



EARLY LEARNING



HEALTH



NUTRITION



SOCIAL PROTECTION



PARENT SUPPORT



FOOD SECURITY

## ...provides for a comprehensive programme



PLAY, SPORT & CULTURE



ECD COMMUNICATIONS



WATER, SANITATION, ENERGY



# FUNCTION IMPROVEMENT



# TOWARDS FUNCTION IMPROVEMENT: ACTIONS

Improvement area	Actions & Immediate Plans
Revising the regulatory framework for ELPs to remove unnecessary barriers to registration	Established a Task Team which is drafting the Second Children's Amendment Bill.
Developing a national Management Information System for ECD	Masterlist design has been completed and have loaded the 2021 Census data on the DBE EMIS.
Improve administration of the ECD subsidy	Revisions to the ECD Subsidy Guidelines is underway. Orientation on key areas for standardisation provided to PEDs in 2022. In depth training on approval of revised guidelines planned to resume immediately the Guidelines are approved.
Improve funding for ECD	A business case and costing for ECD using data from the Census, Thrive by 5 and the draft ECD Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (PEIR) has been submitted to National Treasury.
Improve implementation systems for the infrastructure component of the ECD Conditional Grant	Training provided to PEDs on the maintenance grant delivery management cycle and improvements in procurement processes and models were completed in 2021. Work has begun to design the appropriate systems for providing infrastructure support to ECDs

# TOWARDS FUNCTION IMPROVEMENT: PLANNED ACTIONS

Improvement area	Progress
Developing a Quality Assurance and Support System (QASS) to support improved quality in ELP quality	Design of the draft has been completed. Field testing is planned for 2022.
Develop an appropriate skilling strategy for ECD practitioners	2021 ECD Census provides a clearer picture of the workforce. Data will be used to inform the development of a strategy in collaboration with non-government partners.
Develop systems for supporting the start-up phase for new programmes to achieve universal access	To work with our non-government partners to design and test approaches over the next five years. Significant information is available within non-government partner networks to support the design and costing.
Payment systems for ELPs and funding model	Work planned to explore appropriate payment systems to effectively reach ELPs with funding support.

# APPROACH TO SERVICE DELIVERY: THREE MODALITIES FOR OFFERING ECD

There are three (3) modalities proposed to provide flexibility for parents / caregivers and children through three (3) programme options:

1. **centre-based programmes;**
2. **play groups;** and
3. **home-based programmes.**

These programmes will be complemented and supported by **training** of caregivers and those working in ECD centres and playgroups on the NCF; **mobile ECD programmes** and **toy-libraries.**

- Improved **resource** provisioning by providing a minimum package of resources containing:
  - Teacher guides, Toys, LTSM, playground equipment;
- Strengthen the provisioning of **nutrition** at ECD Programmes

# ECD SERVICE DELIVERY MODEL: THE VISION FOR ECD

The Service Delivery Model (SDM) is premised on the following:

- **Increasing access** through an upscaling model;
- Strengthening the focus on **integrated nurturing care, early stimulation and learning**, and **universal curriculum** provision;
- **Strengthening collaboration** with the other Departments to ensure the holistic support and development of the child; and
- Reviewing the **current funding models through the Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (PEIR)** which will inform our funding model. This review is being finalised.

**The five strategies of the SDM for improving the quality of ECD in South Africa:**

1. Curriculum-based **early learning** for all children birth to 5 years – implementing the NCF.
2. Quality early childhood development **programmes** for all children birth to 5 years
3. **Training** and development for all those working in ECD – career paths, with intensive but flexible training opportunities.
4. **Coordination & integration** of all early childhood development services.
5. A flexible **funding and provisioning** framework.

# Strategy 1: Curriculum-based early learning for all children birth to 5 years – implementing the NCF

The NCF provides guidance for those working with children from birth to age 4 (training organisations, universities, practitioners, parents and other care-givers) on developing programmes to enhance and improve children's learning experiences and development.

## Progress to date:

- Currently finalising NCF guidelines in partnership with the UNICEF;
- Partnering with UNICEF and the LTSM unit for the development of resource packs for NCF implementation;
- The Provincial trainings of the ECD practitioners on the implementation of the NCF are continuing
- Support from UNICEF to appoint IT consultant to assist with the management of PLAY Online and ECD Mobi (***these are digital training and resource platforms for practitioners and parents***);

## Next Steps:

- Continue to capacitate ECD practitioners/educators on the NCF; this will create a continuous flow should a curriculum be developed from the NCF;
- Development & provision of a minimum package of resources integrated into a learning through play programme including capacity building on making resources from raw & waste material;
- Leverage existing tools such as the PLAY online and ECD Mobi App to reach ECD practitioners and parents;
- Supported by UNICEF, we are developing a concept note to map what a common curriculum underpinned by the NCF may look like.



Implementation of NCF will be supported by a ***quality assurance and monitoring system***; including findings of the **ECD Census 2021** and ***Thrive By Five***.

# Strategy 2: Registration of ECD Programmes

***The ECD Census has identified 42 420 ECD programmes spread throughout the country. It is indicated that only 40% of these programmes are either fully or conditionally registered.***

- The department has continued with the registration of ECD programmes.
- Vangasali project is used as a mechanism for registration massification. Vangasali is a Tsonga word that means “leave no one behind”.
- Through Vangasali, the process map with timelines has been developed to guide provinces on the steps to follow when doing registrations.
- The jamborees are used as a platform where ECD programmes are called to an information session and guided on how to do their registration and documents to be attached to the registration form.
- The registration packs have been developed and given to programmes to take home for easy preparations and reference.
- Trained 390 officials in six (6) who are dealing with registration on Vangasali. The three remaining provinces are planned to be trained in July. WC indicated that they do not need training as they did that virtually in the previous year.

# Registration System

- To improve and fast track registration, the department developed the online registration management tool which gives reliable data and tracking of registration progress.
- This was aligned to the registration framework which outlines the norms and standards on the levels of registrations.
- The registration framework allows programmes to register conditionally which give them the opportunity for development towards full registration.
- All ECD centre and non-centre based programmes are expected to register.
- To increase this, provinces have planned jamboree sessions on registration.
- The online registration management tool provides the results in terms of decision on the level of registration which promotes standardization for all provinces.
- With the function shift, the Vangasali online registration management tool is being used for the current financial year.
- The process of developing the ECD system using the WC NPO system is underway, led by the EMIS Directorate.
- This process is supported by LEGO Foundation while the development is led by Nelson Mandela Foundation and Data Innovators

# Strategy 3: Training and development for all those working in ECD

- The competency of ECD practitioners and educators directly determines the quality of ECD programmes.
- Over the next year, the DBE will develop an **ECD Human Resource Workforce Plan** that will include:
  - Articulating the qualifications at different levels;
  - Continuing professional development and in-service training, including recognition of prior learning;
  - Guidelines for early learning and development (caregivers);
  - Registration with SACE for ECD educators and practitioners; and
  - Norms and Standards for admin and other support staff.
- The Strategy will build on two policy documents:
  - *The Human Resources Development Strategy for Early Childhood Development (based on the National Integrated Early Childhood Development Policy) (2018); and*
  - *The Policy on Minimum Requirements for Programmes Leading to Qualifications in Higher Education for Early Childhood Development Educators.*

# Training and development for all those working in ECD

## Progress to date:

- **The Training, Curriculum and HRD sub-committee: Partnering with UNISA - 2022**  
UNISA presented a *response to the Diploma in ECCE to support ECD practitioners towards professionalisation*.
- A special engagement of the sub-committee set up to streamline the process of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).
- **Human Resource Development Plan:** The identification of officials and sector representatives who will participate in the inter-sectoral task team has been completed.
- A draft HRD Plan concept note has been developed.

# Strategy 4: Coordination & integration of all early childhood development services

Inter-Ministerial Committee



National Interdepartmental Committee



South African Inter-Sectoral Forum for Early Childhood Development



Policy and Legislation Sub-committee

Infrastructure and Registration Sub-Committee

Monitoring and Evaluation sub-committee

Training, Curriculum and HR

Communication and Advocacy Sub-committee

ECD Donor Sub-committee

Health and Nutrition

Social Protection

# Coordination & integration of all early childhood development services

DBE has begun to play its coordinating role and to strengthen sector collaboration to ensure the delivery of integrated ECD services by planning sessions for the different forums:

FORUM	DATE
NATIONAL INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE (NIDC)	<b>06 July 2022 (Virtual)</b> <b>04 August 2022 (DBE)</b> 11 November 2022(Virtual) 10 February 2023(DBE)
INTER-SECTORAL FORUM (ISF)	<b>27 June 2022(Virtual)</b> <b>30 August 2022(DBE)</b> 29 November 2022(Virtual) 23 February 2023(DBE)
CONDITIONAL GRANT	<b>22 June 2022(Virtual)</b> <b>16 August 2022(DBE)</b> 14 November 2022(Virtual) 14 February 2023(DBE)
INTER-PROVINCIAL	<b>23 – 24 June 2022(Virtual)</b> <b>17-18 August 2022(DBE)</b> 15- 16 November 2022(Virtual) 15-16 February 2023(DBE)



# Coordination & integration of all early childhood development services – Working with the Sector

## Partnerships

- **Ilifa Labantwana**
  - ✓ Assist the DBE on the review of subsidy guidelines that was developed by the DSD while planning for the development of ECD funding model;
  - ✓ Assist in the development of registration system ECD MIS;
  - ✓ Assist with development of quality assurance and support system (QASS)
- **Nelson Mandela Foundation**
  - ✓ Assist the department in the training of PEDs on Vangasali
- **SmartStart**
  - ✓ Assist the department on reviewing of legislations and policies-SCAB, Children's Act
- **UNICEF**
  - ✓ Assist the department in the finalisation of NCF guidelines; parenting/ caregiver programme; review of the national integrated ECD Policy
- **LEGO Foundation**
  - ✓ Support with learning through play projects.

# Coordination & integration of all early childhood development services...

## Partnerships

- **World Bank:**
  - ✓ Assist the DBE by conducting Public Institutional Expenditure Review to determine the amount of funding that is used by ECDs in all spheres of government.
- **HOPE World Wide:**
  - ✓ Assist with parenting programmes and KZN disaster
- **South African Council of Educators:**
  - ✓ Assist the DBE on the registration of the ECD Practitioners with NQF Level 4 and above in the system.
- **Cotlands and UNICEF:**
  - ✓ Assist the DBE on the training of the ECD Practitioners in the PLAY Online Course which is based on the NCF.
  - ✓ Assist the DBE on the use of the ECDMobi APP for parents to stimulate their young children.
- Core Departments including COGTA
  - ✓ Collaborate in the implementation of ECD integrated services

# Strategy 5: Funding

- **Short-run (2022/23)**
  - Reviewing the subsidy guideline for standardisation
  - Start with the development of the new funding model
  - Cost the implementation of Census and Thrive by 5 recommendations.
- **Medium to long-run (2024/25 – onwards)**
  - Piloting of a new funding model.
  - Implementation of a new funding model
  - Systematically increase ECD funding to the sector.

# Funding

- **World Bank Collaboration on Public Expenditure and Institutional Review**
  - Purpose: To determine the amount of funding that is being spent on ECD by the different spheres of government, as well as the different Government Departments.
  - The ECD PEIR in South Africa will include an expenditure analysis on ECD in South Africa, as well as an institutional analysis on the prioritised ECD outcomes.
  - A draft report has been released, and it includes a summary of priority interventions for ECD improvements and costed them.
  - This will then inform the development of the funding model.

# ECD SUBSIDY

- In supporting ECD Programmes, the department is using two methods; the subsidy paid through the Equitable Share and the Conditional Grant (CG).
- For standardization, the department developed the subsidy guidelines to guide provinces on the implementation of the above subsidies.
- Over and above the guidelines, the conditional grant is guided by the conditional grant framework, which outlines the purpose and outputs of the grant.

# FUNCTION SHIFT: PROGRESS, CHALLENGES AND MITIGATIONS



# FUNCTION SHIFT PROGRESS: POLICY AND LEGISLATION

- i. Review of National Integrated ECD Policy. Processing of the Second Children's Amendment Bill; and
- ii. Review the regulations, norms and standards in line with the Second Children's Amendment Bill.
- iii. Review options for holistic ECD legislation.

## Progress

- The Second Children's Amendment Bill was submitted to OCSLA
- Draft regulations were drafted for consultation
- Consultations with relevant stakeholders will commence in August 2022
- A Concept Note on the review of the NIECD Policy has been produced

## Challenges

- OCSLA recommended for consultations of the sector on the Second Children's Amendment Bill.

## Mitigation

- Intervention of the portfolio committee not to redo consultations as the sector was consulted

# FUNCTION SHIFT PROGRESS: HUMAN RESOURCES AND LABOUR

- Post the ECD proclamation by the state President, DBE & DSD have been working tirelessly to ensure that the process of migrating ECD from the DSD to the DBE reaches the desired outcome.

## CHALLENGES

- The process has been finalised, however, it emerged that while the provinces were preparing their closing up reports, a Union, NEHAWU raised some issues concerning four provinces, namely; Mpumalanga, Free State, Northern Cape and Limpopo through the Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council (PSCBC).
- ✓ Lack of enough infrastructure/furniture from the relinquishing department and limited infrastructure in the receiving department;
- ✓ Existence of organisational structure which must be presented and consulted on and reporting lines as per the Social Service Profession Act;
- ✓ Determination of norms and standards of practice that inform the nature of work; and
- ✓ Allocation of budget and resources which are carried over from DSD to DBE.

# FUNCTION SHIFT PROGRESS: HUMAN RESOURCES AND LABOUR

## MITIGATION

- In a PSCBC meeting, it was resolved that a team comprising of the DBE, DSD, NEHAWU representative and the PSCBC secretariat should visit those Provincial Chambers in the affected provinces to establish the extent of the challenges raised by labour and intervene where necessary to speed up the process of finalising the closing reports.
- The team has concluded all the interventions in all the affected provinces including Eastern Cape which was added later on the list and all the provinces have submitted their closing out reports. The close-out reports mark the completion of the migration process.

## PROGRESS

- The PSCBC is currently in the process of finalising the drafting of a final report to this effect.
- Once finalised, this report will be submitted to the DSD and the DBE for the Minister's consideration.

# FUNCTION SHIFT PROGRESS: INFRASTRUCTURE

- The team is working well within the DBE environment and have been inducted in respect of the processes followed by DBE.
- National DSD continues to maintain a working relationship with DBE to provide support and guidance

## Challenges:

- ✓ The appointment of contractors was delayed in Q1 due to the circular from National Treasury but this matter is now being fast tracked in Q2.

# FUNCTION SHIFT PROGRESS: INFRASTRUCTURE

CHALLENGE	MITIGATIONS
Privately owned centres on private property	Investigate the legal implications of Investment of public funds in privately or NGO owned ECD Centres located on private property
Delay in technical Condition Assessments of all ECD Centres] Condition of ECD centres	Conduct technical assessments using the census as the baseline which will include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geographical Information (GPS coordinates]</li> <li>• Condition of Facilities</li> <li>• Number of facilities</li> <li>• Type of construction material and a basic layout of the facility</li> </ul>
Expanding on ECD Facilities at existing public ordinary primary Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All new schools to include an ECD Facility for Grade RR</li> <li>• Built a Pre-Grade R community centre close to a primary school.</li> <li>• Built Pre-Grade R classes next to the new Grade R classes constructed in schools.</li> <li>• Build Pre-Primary Schools for Birth to 6 years next to primary schools</li> </ul>
Insufficient budget.	Budget is limited and only minor repairs can be conducted where possible. A request for additional funding for ECD infrastructure.
Uniform Minimum Norms and Standards for ECD Centres	Amendments to the Minimum Uniform Norms and Standards, addressing Municipal By-Laws, Health and Safety to be incorporated into the Norms and Standards

# FUNCTION SHIFT PROGRESS: DATA, INFORMATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

## ECD REGISTRATION MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

- In order to continue delivery, the Vangasali online registration system transitioned from NDSB as an interim solution for registration of ECD centres and maintenance of census data, however this solution is not owned by the DBE. Nelson Mandela Foundation is the interim system project lead support and Data Innovators own the system
- The interim system has been updated to align with key ECD Census data fields and also updated to reflect DBE structure and roles.
- Data from ECD Census uploaded into the system and will be rolled out to Provinces.
- 7 Provinces have completed training on Vangasali System.

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## Roadmap to DBE Owned ECD MIS

Identified the Western Cape NPO (bespoke) system as closest fit for purpose solution for the DBE on ECD.

- HEDCOM and CEM approved that DBE can use the NPO system (ECD module) and customise it for the DBE ECD Sector. The system will be customised and implemented over 3 years as a long-term solution.
- The baseline System will be transferred to DBE as part of function shift at no cost.
- Covers registration, funding, monitoring and M&E processes.
- Lego Foundation will fund the system through Ilifa Labantwana and is being managed via an SLA. This secures funding for the system development, pilot, change management and secondment of support resources into DBE for the system development. Once the solution is customised and upgraded for DBE, it will be implemented for ECD registration and as a management system.
- MOU between Ilifa and DBE is being drafted with an addendum to cover the ECD MIS work in detail
- DBE has communicated with Lego Foundation (Funder), Ilifa Labantwana (Project Support Collaborator) and Western Cape Government (Technical Support Partner) on the Project, as well as to the Provinces on customizing the WC NPO system and the roadmap plans
- Sustainable resourcing is required to implement and maintain the ECD Registration MIS via National Treasury.

# FUNCTION SHIFT PROGRESS:

## FINANCE

- Currently the total allocation for Conditional Grant is R1.1 billion for the 2022/23 financial year.
- 50% of the allocation has been transferred to provinces.

### Challenges

- Low expenditure by provinces
- Delays in appraisal of business plans and signing of service level agreements

### Mitigations

- Working and supporting provinces to address the challenges

# FUNCTION SHIFT PROGRESS:

## COMMUNICATION AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT;

- DBE led by the Minister and the Deputy Minister, is conducting roadshows in provinces to engage with ECD practitioners:
  - ✓ Gauteng Province: 16 May 2022 in Hammanskraal; 02 June 2022 in Vereeniging
  - ✓ Mpumalanga: 17 and 26 May 2022 in Ermelo
  - ✓ North – West: 19 August 2022 in Klerksdorp
  - ✓ Limpopo – to be held on the 26 August 2022 in Musina.
- Provinces are also conducting communication activities through provincial and district roadshows.

# FUNCTION SHIFT PROGRESS: PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

- DBE is coordinating quarterly inter-provincial sessions to support the provinces. The first and second quarter meetings were held on the 22 to 23 June 2022 and the 17-18 August 2022.
- To ensure that provinces are supported and guided in stabilising the ECD function and mitigating the challenges, DBE decided to engage directly with provinces through scheduled 2-day visits between April and June 2022 – All the nine (9) PEDs have been visited and supported;
- Provinces are expediting resolution of challenges identified.

# STABILISING ECD WITHIN THE DBE ENVIRONMENT - SUMMARY OF CHALLENGES & MITIGATION

STABILISING ECD IN PEDs - CHALLENGES	PROGRESS & MITIGATION
Human Resources	683 officials were transferred from DSD to DBE( 07 National and 676 provincial) Filling of posts has commenced and some are already filled. There is still a need to appoint more social workers to support and monitor ECD Programmes.
Office accommodation: Ensuring office space for transferred staff	Most officials have office accommodation at DBE. MOUs with DSD in place for offices as mitigation during the transition
Tools of Trade: Sufficiency of resources to deliver services by both departments	Officials moved with their tools of trade Provinces were requested to conduct resource gap analysis and address any resource gaps that may arise.
Signing of Service level agreements(SLAs)	Provinces have signed service level agreements with ECD programmes.
Payment of Subsidies	Most provinces paid subsidies for the first quarter and some have started paying for the second quarter.
Registration of new ECDs	Plans are in place to fast track the registration processes. Plans for Jamborees have been put in place and communicated.
Communication: Clarifying misconceptions Managing expectations in the sector Getting support and buy-in from the sector	DBE led by the Minister and the Deputy Minister, is conducting roadshows in provinces to engage with ECD practitioners. Provinces are also conducting communication activities through provincial and district roadshows.

# SUPPORT FOR PEDs STRUGGLING WITH PAYMENTS OF SUBSIDIES

PEDs	PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES	SUPPORT
MP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SLAs signed with DSD lapsed on 31 March 2022 and DBE had to start with the process from April</li> <li>• New three-year SLAs were signed.</li> <li>• 1083 ECD Centres earmarked for funding.</li> <li>• 881 Centres received payments</li> <li>• 202 Centres did not receive payments due to compliance documents</li> </ul>	<p>Monitoring visits; Ongoing support and engagements with the province done jointly by ECD Programme and Finance</p>
NC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payments done for 228 centres</li> <li>• To date, a complete business plan of the organisation running playgroups has not been received.</li> </ul>	<p>Monitoring visits; Ongoing support and engagements with the province done jointly by ECD Programme and Finance</p>

# SUPPORT FOR PEDs STRUGGLING WITH PAYMENTS OF SUBSIDIES

PROVINCE	PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES	SUPPORT
NW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 265 SLAs have been signed and are at payment stage for this week</li><li>• 164 SLAs to be concluded</li><li>• 67 received applications on verification stage</li><li>• 48 going through compliance check</li><li>• To start payment</li></ul>	Monitoring visits; Ongoing support and engagements with the province done jointly by ECD Programme and Finance

# SUPPORT FOR PEDs ON PAYMENTS OF SUBSIDIES

PROVINCE	PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES	SUPPORT
EC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All SLAs have been signed.</li> <li>• 2682 centres were paid</li> <li>• 95 Centres were rejected by the payment system due to the following reasons:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Closed bank accounts</li> <li>✓ Accounts that not paid by the system.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Monitoring visits; Ongoing support and engagements with the province done jointly by ECD Programme and Finance</p>
FS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget allocation letters were sent to all (1244)ECD centres</li> <li>• Payments done for 1241 centres. 3 centres are still outstanding and struggling with CSD. Support is provided for the 3 centres.</li> </ul>	<p>Monitoring visits; Ongoing support and engagements with the province done jointly by ECD Programme and Finance</p>

# SUPPORT FOR PEDs ON PAYMENTS OF SUBSIDIES

PROVINCE	PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES	SUPPORT
GP	<p>Signed SLAs:1507            138 of the signed SLAs not yet received subsidy payments due to outstanding documents</p>	<p>Monitoring visits;            Ongoing support and engagements with the province done jointly by ECD Programme and Finance</p>
KZN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3352 SLAs were signed</li> <li>• 2408 centres were paid</li> <li>• BAS Section is dealing with these matters as and when the districts are picking up discrepancies in the NPO numbers / Bank accounts and any omission / duplications etc. these are being validated and corrected, as an ongoing project.</li> </ul>	<p>Monitoring visits;            Ongoing support and engagements with the province done jointly by ECD Programme and Finance</p>

# SUPPORT FOR PEDs ON PAYMENTS OF SUBSIDIES

PROVINCE	PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES	SUPPORT
LP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All (2112) SLAs signed</li> <li>• 2037 Centres paid</li> <li>• 75 not paid and payment on progress</li> </ul>	<p>Monitoring visits; Ongoing support and engagements with the province done jointly by ECD Programme and Finance</p>
WC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New SLAs to be signed in September 2022; still using previous ones</li> <li>• 989 SLA's transferred               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 7 SSO's (304 sites)</li> <li>✓ 56 noncompliant</li> <li>✓ 15 Not paid (15 August 2022)</li> <li>✓ 614 sites paid (from 21 April to date)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Reasons for nonpayment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No BAS and Confirmation Letter</li> <li>• Conflict of Interest</li> <li>• Name Change problematic</li> <li>• Account holder and confirmation letter differs</li> </ul>	<p>Monitoring visits; Ongoing support and engagements with the province done jointly by ECD Programme and Finance</p>

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*Thank you!*

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