



**BACKGROUND REPORT ON THE
ERADICATION OF MUD AND OTHER
INAPPROPRIATE SCHOOL STRUCTURES
PROGRAMME**

12 February 2011

1 INTRODUCTION

The Eradication of Mud Schools and Inappropriate school structures was adopted as a Presidential Lead Programme in 2007 and in the year, the IDT developed a concept paper for the eradication of mud schools nationally and initiated a programme to eradicate mud schools with funding of R150m. The concept paper was subsequently utilised by the National Department of Public Works to develop a bid to the National Treasury for funding for this programme. In the 2008 State of Nation address, the eradication of inappropriate schools structures was identified as a national priority and included as Project 9 of the 24 Apex Priorities.

To give effect to the Mud Schools eradication priority, Cabinet approved R2.7 billion as an additional allocation to the Infrastructure Grant to Provinces (IGP) over the 2008/9 – 2010/11 MTEF period to address the eradication of mud schools and other inappropriate school structures. The allocations to individual provinces, based on need, were confirmed in April 2008 following presentation to Joint MinMec (Departments of Education and Public Works).

2 BACKGROUND

Quality education is a critical driver of South Africa's socio-economic development and is emphasised in government policy frameworks such as the National Programme of Action and the Country's MDGs. Key to achieving quality education is the need to provide an appropriate and safe learning environment and currently in South Africa there is a substantial backlog in the suitable school structures as indicated in the following table:

Table 1 – Unsafe School Structures (Department of Education NEIMS Report 2006)

	Metal	Mud/Clay	Pre-Fabricated	Wood	Grand Total
Eastern Cape	495	1,652	864	239	3,250
Free State	174	9	295	22	500
Gauteng	191	8	525	66	790
Kwa-Zulu Natal	315	115	454	120	1004
Limpopo	522	20	177	159	878
Mpumalanga	447	40	194	73	754
Northern Cape	25	-	177	4	206
North West	298	15	163	17	493
Western Cape	33	1	581	47	662
Totals	2,500	1,860	3,430	747	8,537

This is the latest information available from the Department of Education, which although somewhat outdated, still reflects the enormity of the challenge to achieve safe schools in South Africa.

3 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE R2.7 BILLION PROGRAMME

3.1 Institutional Roles

The various provincial Departments of Education (DoEs) are accountable for the implementation of the Eradication of Mud and other Inappropriate School Structures Programme with the actual budget allocated by National Treasury directly to individual provincial departments as part of the Infrastructure Grant to Provinces as an addition to their 2008 MTEF baseline.

The National Department of Public Works (NDPW), given its role in infrastructure development, was the initiator of the programme and spearheaded in partnership with National Department of Education (NDoE) and the IDT, the allocation of the funding for the programme by the National Treasury. Notwithstanding the role played

by the NDPW, funding allocations were made by National Treasury directly to the provincial DoEs, a state of affairs that limited the role of NDPW to the provision of oversight and technical support in conjunction with provincial DPWs as against the lead role envisaged in the bid to the National Treasury.

The IDT was designated as the preferred Implementing Agency for the programmes by the Joint MinMec. In essence, this meant that every provincial DoEs working with the provincial DPW, may appoint the IDT as their implementing agent if they needed roll-out capacity support. Indeed some provinces appointed the IDT and the quantum of the IDT appointment over the three year period 2008/9 – 2010/11 is R565m out of the R2.7 billion.

3.2 Provincial Allocations

The allocations to each Provincial Department of Education were re-confirmed by the National treasury on 30 January 2009 and are indicated in the following table:

Table 2: Additions to 2008 MTEF baseline

	Infrastructure grant to Provinces: Additions to MTEF baseline (earmarked for Education)			
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Total
Provinces	R, 000	R, 000	R, 000	R, 000
Eastern Cape	68 432	138 141	262 091	468 664
Free State	1 830	26 801	77 355	105 986
Gauteng	26 485	63 590	127 773	217 848
KwaZulu-Natal	119 323	212 078	366 987	698 388
Limpopo	53 613	110 717	212 468	376 798
Mpumalanga	(4 952)	19 999	71 517	86 564
Northern Cape	(439)	17 197	52 742	69 500
North West	78 827	119 695	182 979	381 501
Western Cape	56 881	91 782	146 088	294 751
Total	400 000	800 000	1 500 000	2 700 000

3.3 IDT Engagement

IDT has been engaged by 5 provinces to implement portfolios of the programme as indicated in the following table:

Table 3 – IDT Appointments

Province	Scope	IDT Expenditure 08/09 -09/10 R million (incl VAT)	Confirmed IDT Allocation 10/11 R million (incl VAT)
KwaZulu-Natal	24 schools	134	116
North West	18 schools	48	100
Mpumalanga	19 schools	5	60
Western Cape	1 school	2	22
Limpopo	5 schools	25	53
Total	67 schools	214	351

In other provinces the Provincial Departments of Public Works, are acting as implementing agents for the programme along with other public entities in the case of KZN and EC.

In some provinces, the Provincial DoEs have opted to implement portions of the programme by themselves through the assistance of the private sector project management firms.

Currently IDT has handed over 24 schools to the Department of Education under this programme and over 2100 job opportunities have been created.

4 IDT-FUNDED R150M PROGRAMME

The IDT-Funded Mud Schools Eradication programme (R150m) has implemented projects in 8 provinces based on provincial Departments of Education priorities. To

date 28 projects have been handed over to the various Departments of Education and over 1700 job opportunities created.

To further assist the Department of Education in the provision of a holistic learning environment for learners additional facilities have been provided to the schools beyond the normal scope of construction projects. School furniture has been provided at 14 of the schools, fully equipped IT laboratories installed at 7 schools and solar power systems including internal and external lighting and plug sockets at 2 schools that have no municipal supply. In addition wastewater treatment plants have been installed at 4 schools to allow recycling of water for irrigation purposes.

Photographs of Selected IDT Funded Schools

Ezibindini Primary School, Vryheid, KwaZulu- Natal

Before



After



St. Faiths Primary School, Port Shepstone, KwaZulu Natal

Before



After.....



Gcinubuzwe Senior Secondary School, Chris Hani, Eastern Cape

Before



After

