



19 February 2013

An Analysis and Summary of the Accelerated Schools Infrastructure Delivery Initiative (ASIDI) Progress Report 2013

1. Background Information

This brief provides a summary and analysis of the progress report on ASIDI project to date (February 2013). It will contain the number of mud schools which are targeted to be eradicated during the 2011/12 to 2014/15 financial years. The analysis will also contain the 2011/12 and 2012/13 targets of mud schools to be eradicated and the progress report in that regards. It will also contain the progress report on the eradication of basic services backlog such as water, sanitation and electricity for schools. The main focus of the eradication of mud schools is in the Eastern Cape given the high level of backlog in that province, while the main focus of eradicating basic services is across the country. In 2011, DBE introduced Accelerated Schools Infrastructure Delivery Initiative (ASIDI) as a short to medium term initiative to eliminate the backlogs in schools infrastructure where existing schools do not meet the basic functionality levels as prescribed in the National Minimum Norms and Standards for School Infrastructure, across the country¹.

2. The Fundamental Purpose of ASIDI

The primary objective of ASIDI is to ensure that during the 2011/12- 2013/14 MTEF, Basic Functionality targets such as provision of water, sanitation, electricity, and eradication of inappropriate structures are achieved, and budgets are effectively and efficiently spent on the prioritised schools². An amount of R8.2bn has been allocated over the 2011 MTEF to achieve these objectives³. Accordingly, the focus will be on all schools that do not meet the basic safety norms and standards and those constructed from inappropriate material and are a danger to learners and educators. Those without basic services will be provided with water, sanitation, electricity and fencing. Where an entire school has been built from an inappropriate material especially mud, the school will be replaced with a school to Optimum Functionality.

As stated above, originally, the national funding for the ASIDI initiative to the value of R8, 2 billion over the 2011/12 MTEF was made available by the National Treasury. During 2012/13, R7.2 billion was reprioritised from the SBG (see table below in yellow). There was also some rescheduling (R2.5bn from 2013/14 to 2015/16) and a reduction (cut) of R350 million⁴.

The revised baseline as proposed (still to be ratified by Cabinet) is highlighted in the following table:

R'000	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	MTEF
Current baseline of	5 189 550	5 500 827	5 735 865	16 426 242

¹ Department of Basic Education (2013)

² National Treasury (1999)

³ Ibid

⁴ Department of Basic Education (2013)



SBG Rescheduling	-2 500 000	0	2 500 000	0
SBG baseline after Rescheduling	2 689 550	5 500 827	8 235 865	16 426 242
Reductions (part of the 1,2 and 3%)	-50 000	-100 000	-200 000	-350 000
Reprioritisation	-150 000	-2 090 837	-4 981 046	-7 221 883
Revised baseline of the SBG	2 489 550	3 309 990	3 054 819	8 854 359

The funding is in the form of a Schedule 7 Conditional grant (School Infrastructure Backlog Grant) which is a grant-in-kind to the provinces. This means that DBE is responsible for the implementation of projects funded through this grant. Only the asset acquired through the grant will be transferred to the provincial Education Departments. The School Infrastructure Backlogs Grant conditions are as follows:

- Specific purpose grant (Schedule 7)
- 60% allocated for mud schools in EC
- 40% allocated for basic services to all provinces
- Province to budget for maintenance of facilities

There are currently 442 inappropriate/ mud schools in the E Cape and the following table indicates the financial period when they will be dealt with by DBE:

Inappropriate Schools						
Province	No of Schools	2012/2013	2013/2014	2013/2014	2014/2015	Total
Eastern Cape	442	49	50	82	261	442

Source: Department of Basic Education (2013)

The following table confirms the Implementing Agents (IAs) that have been appointed by DBE:

Provinces	IAs Appointed	No of Inappropriate Schools /Fin yr			Total
		2012/13	2013/14	2013/14	
EC	DBSA EC	49	50		99
	IDT EC		11		11
	COEGA		24		24



	DPWEC		16		16
	TBA			32 ⁵	32

Source: Department of Basic Education (2013)

3. Progress Report Section on Schools

The first 49 schools are under construction from the 2011/12 financial year commitments. Progress as at mid January 2013 on these schools varies between 21% and 100% completion. 45 of the 49 schools are still under construction and 10 schools have just reached practical completion. Overall, the state of completion for all work is at 78,5%⁶ Inter alia, as part of ASIDI programme, there is going to be a replacement of the 7 inadequate structures and the provision of basic services at the 7 Libode schools and the time-frames agreed to are: including appointing relevant service providers by 31 March 2011, which needed to commence work by 31 May 2011 and complete new structures on or before 1 May 2012. There was a delay in completing the work on time (the relevant schools and progress made are as follows as at mid January 2013: Nomandla SPS – 97% complete, Madwaleni SPS: 47,2%, Maphindela SPS- 97,4%, Nkonkoni SPS – 58%, Sidanda SPS – 61,6%, Sompá SPS – 21%, and Tembeni SPS – 66,1%).

As an interim arrangement, the provincial department provided the following: mobile structures, water tanks and furniture were provided to the 7 Libode Schools by end August 2011 as follows: Nomandla SPS: 4 Classrooms, 5 water tanks, 432 metres of fence, all desks and chairs (R value: 2 950 000), Madwaleni SPS: 4 Classrooms, 9 water tanks, 500 metres of fence, all desks and chairs (R value: 2 950 000), Maphindela SPS: 5 Classrooms, 19 toilets, 5 water tanks, 504 metres of fence, all desks and chairs (R value: 2 950 000), Nkonkoni SPS: 4 Classrooms, 5 water tanks, 122,5 metres of fence, all desks and chairs (R value: 2 950 000), Sidanda SPS: 5 Classrooms, 9 water tanks, 547 metres of fence, all desks and chairs (R value: 2 950 000), Sompá SPS: 4 Classrooms, 3 water tanks, 572 metres of fence, all desks and chairs (R value: 2 950 000), Tembeni SPS: 4 Classrooms, 5 Water tanks, 507 metres of fence, all desks and chairs (R value: 2 950 000).

The remaining 35 of 49 are planned to reach practical completion during the months of February, March and April 2013. 17 schools are planned for practical completion by end of February, 5 schools are planned for practical completion by end of March and 5 schools are planned for practical completion by end of April. It is anticipated that all the 49 schools will be completed by end April 2013.

Progress on the 2nd batch of 50 schools implemented by IDT, COEGA and DPWEC are expected to start with contractors being on site and commencing work from February 2013 onwards⁷. The target is to complete these schools by end 2013/14 financial year. CDC, IDT and DPWEC have been appointed to implement 24, 11 and 16 new schools respectively in EC. CDC has completed contractor procurement process for 22 schools. CDC handed over

⁵ TBA- means that service providers for about 32 schools of the 50 schools which will be implemented in 2013/14 are still to be appointed.

⁶ Department of Basic Education (2013)

⁷ Ibid



10 schools to contractors, approvals for appointment of contractors for the remaining 10 is in progress and 2 of the 24 school is at planning stage. IDT has completed contractor procurement process for 10 of 11 schools and 1 school is at planning stage. A DBE approval for appointment of contractors for 10 of 11 schools is in progress. 10 of DPWEC schools are at contractor procurement stage, 3 at design stage and 3 at planning stage⁸.

4. Asidi: Progress on Basic Services

a) 344 schools are to assisted with sanitation. 55 sanitation projects have achieved practical completion. In Summary the following IAs have been appointed for implementation of the sanitation projects on ASIDI:

Province	Appointed IAs	Total No of Projects	No of Projects per Financial year	
			2011/12	2012/13
Eastern Cape				
	TBA	59		59
	Mvula trust	112	55	57
	IDT	79		79
	CSIR	63		63

b) 619 schools are to be assisted with the provision of water projects in the programme. So far, 84 schools have been provided with Rain Water Harvesting tanks and related infrastructure, and 31 schools have been connected to bulk supply⁹. In Summary the following IAs have been appointed for implementation of the water projects on ASIDI:

Province	Appointed IA	Total No of Projects	No of Projects per Financial year	
			2011/12	2012/13 and 2013/14
Eastern Cape		583		
	TBA			91
	Mvula trust		84	121
	IDT			135
	CSIR			152

Source: Department of Basic Education (2013)

Mvula Trust provided 32 schools with water, 49 are in the process of being provided with boreholes and the remaining projects are in planning. IDT and

⁸ Department of Basic Education EC (2013)

⁹ Ibid



CSIR are implementing agencies and their projects are still at planning stage¹⁰.

5. Asidi: Electrification

317 schools are to be assisted on various electrification projects. In EC, Eskom has electrified 85 schools, 15 at construction stage, 200 at planning stage¹¹.

In summary, the following IAs has been appointed for implementation of the electrification projects on ASIDI.

Province	IA	No of Schools	2011/12	2012/13
Eastern Cape	Eskom	300	100	200

6. Other ASIDI Issues:

- **Framework Agreements**, DBE is in the process of finalising a panel on Implementing Agencies, Built Environment Professionals and contractors. This resource is valid for a period of 3 years and should reduce the procurement period.
- DBE is in the process of evaluating suitable **alternative building methods**. The process will be concluded at the beginning of 2013. On approval by DBE, suitable alternative building methods will be used to implement some of the new schools.
- **Communication** on ASIDI progress, DBE is in the process of establishing a page on the DBE website and preparation of the Quarterly Newsletter to give updates on ASIDI.

7. Issues for Committee Consideration are as follows:

- The Department of Basic Education should furnish the Committee with the project implementation plan of both eradication of mud schools and basic services for 2013/14 financial year.
- The Committee will be able to examine and assess the implementation plan to see whether the outlined targets are realistic before the budget can be approved.
- The Department indicated the fact that there has been a rescheduling of ASIDI project, the Committee should ascertain whether the said rescheduling did have any budgetary implications and how will this affect the project implementation moving forward? What has been the major cause of rescheduling and what measures are put in place to make sure that this does not happen in the near future?
- The Committee should ascertain whether the Department did managed to conduct the impact and needs assessment in order to ensure that

¹⁰ Department of Basic Education EC (2013)

¹¹ Ibid



schools are built where there are needed and there is enough children to utilise the school.

- The Committee should ascertain as to how does the said framework agreements take into account the quality of material procured by the implementing agency and whether a three year period is long enough to complete the project.
- Taking into account the large number of contractors which are contracted to build schools in the Eastern Cape, what mechanism has the Department put in place to deal with non performing contractors proactively or before the situation becomes unattainable?
- The Department should give the Committee an assurance that the above indicated timeframes of the project completion are realistic and will not be amended
- The Committee should also ascertain whether there is any interaction and cooperation between the National Department of Basic Education and the Provincial Department for smooth hand over after the project is completed in the Eastern Cape to ensure the continuous maintenance of schools by the provincial department
- Given the fact that some schools are still using water tanks as an interim mechanism, the Committee should ascertain whether are there any plans to put a permanent structure and there is water coming out of these tanks(During oversight visit in 2010 the Committee came across with water tanks installed in schools with no water coming out)
- Given the fact that in some areas the Department has set up an interim structures in Libonde, the Committee should ascertain whether this was budgeted for in the Schools Backlog Grant or it was funded differently and if it was funded through the same grant the Committee can ascertain whether this will not create a budget shortfall for building schools?

8. Source:

National Department of Basic Education (2013)

Provincial Department of Basic Education in the Eastern Cape (2013)

National Treasury (2013)

DBE (2013) *ASIDI brief*, vol 1, South Africa
