



NUTRITION, POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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**TO : DISTRICT DIRECTORS
: CES-ESSS
: DCES-NSNP/HIV-AIDS
: SES-NSNP**

FROM : DIRECTOR-NSNP

DATE : 24 MARCH 2021

**SUBJECT : UTILIZATION OF NSNP SURPLUS FUNDS TO MITIGATE
THE IMPACT OF HUNGER DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

1. According to the 2020 Report by Statistics South Africa, ***Child Poverty in South Africa: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis***, six out of ten children (62.1%) are identified as multidimensionally poor. This is a cohort of children in the 0-17 years age group. Higher levels of multidimensional child poverty were found in provinces that are predominantly rural, i.e. Limpopo (82.8%), Eastern Cape (78.7%) and KwaZulu Natal (75.8%).
2. Child poverty and deprivation hinders the physical, psychological and social development of a child.
3. Although funding from the National School Nutrition Programme only covers school days and holidays resulting from natural disasters there have been growing calls for the Department of Basic Education to mitigate the impact of hunger on vulnerable children during school holidays.
4. It is against this backdrop that the following arrangement is recommended:
 - 4.1. Districts to cause all schools benefitting from NSNP to reflect their NSNP surplus funds at the end of each term/quarter.
 - 4.2. Each District to reconcile quarterly expenditure so that schools reflecting a quarterly surplus can be crystallized. An excel spreadsheet is hereto attached as an exemplar. The District quarterly reconciliation to be submitted to the Provincial NSNP Directorate at the end of each quarter/term.
 - 4.3. Schools that reflect a sizable surplus to be requested to explore the avenue of preparing grocery packs for vulnerable children that will last the duration of each school vacation. This will require that each such school:
 - 4.3.1. Maintains an updated database of vulnerable children.
 - 4.3.2. Follows due process, as set out in the Eastern Cape NSNP Guidelines, in requesting approval from the District Director to



Utilize NSNP surplus funds for such a purpose.

5. Districts are to timeline their operations such that this recommendation becomes actionable during each school vacation, as per the approved School Calendar, starting in the first school vacation of the Academic Year 2021.

VE WITBOOI RD (SA)
DIRECTOR-NSNP

24/03/2021
DATE

