# GEC TRAINING WORKSHOP DISTRICT SUPPORT

**29 JUNE 2023** 



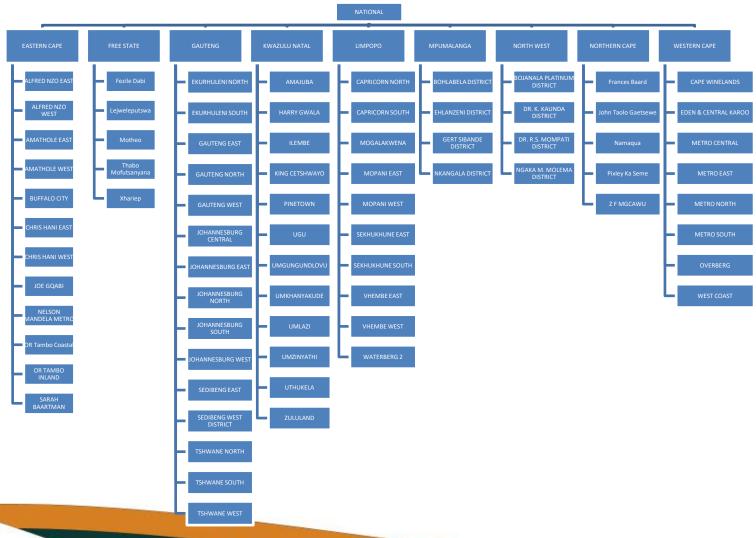
#### PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- 1. EDUCATION DISTRICTS ARCHITECTURE
- 2. PROBLEM STATEMENT
- 3. KEY STRATEGIC DISTRICT PRIORITIES
- 4. POLICY FRAMEWORK
- 5. OUTPUTS
- 6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
- 7. INTEGRATED DISTRICT SUPPORT
- 8. SCHOOL PRINCIPALS' SATISFACTION SURVEY
- GEC AND DISTRICTS





### **EDUCATION DISTRICTS ARCHITECTURE**



basic education

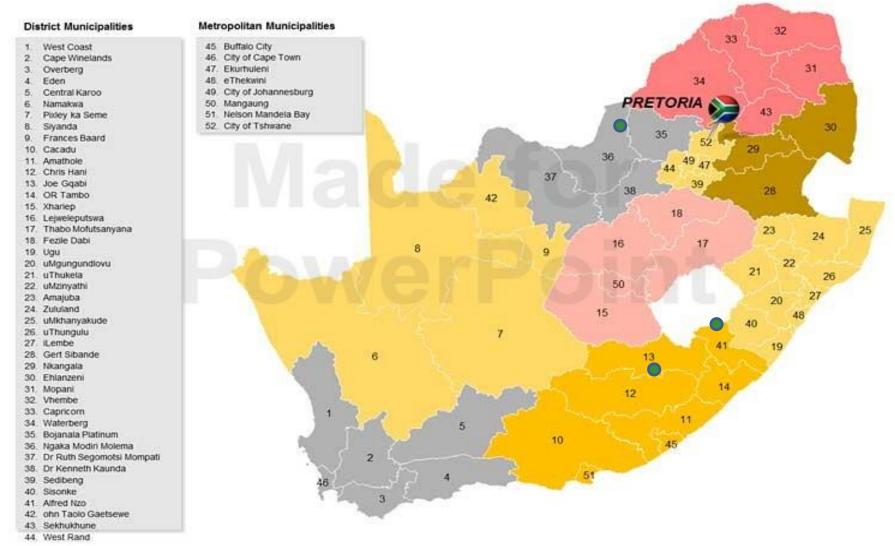
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Basic Education



#### Republic of South Africa

District Municipalities and Metropolitan Municipalities







#### **PROBLEM STATEMENT**

- Schools often need district and circuit offices to propel their efforts and their functionality thus relies, to a very large extent, on the corresponding functionality of district and circuit offices.
- Education districts are strategically placed to support schools due to their proximity to schools and they
  also act as a link between schools and the provincial offices.
- Research worldwide correlates underperformance at school level with weak leadership and district
  management that does not deal effectively with the core business of the department of education.
- Education districts in South Africa vary in the number of schools they support, nomenclature, resourcing and the quality of support to schools.
- Stronger districts with a clear focus on school support are critical for a seamless GEC rollout and successful implementation.





#### **KEY STRATEGIC DISTRICT PRIORITIES**

| Key priority                                 | Processes and procedures  |
|--|---|
| Clear mandate and effective structure        | Policy on the organization, roles and responsibilities of education districts was published in 2013 and amended in 2018, with Minimum Staffing Norms  |
| Right people for the right roles             | <ul> <li>Monitor the filling up of critical vacancies.</li> <li>Minimum competencies are built through capability building initiatives.</li> </ul>  |
| Enough tools of trade to perform the task    | <ul> <li>Define and monitor the provision of minimum resource packages.</li> <li>Biennial survey is conducted to establish Principal's satisfaction levels at the support received from districts.</li> </ul> |
| Standard Operating Procedures for supporting | District Standard Routine Operations Guideline document.  |

schools and managing districts

Roles and Responsibilities of Office Based Educators (Resolution 4 of 2017).





#### **POLICY FRAMEWORK**

- The Policy on the Organization, Roles and Responsibilities of Education Districts was first gazetted in 2013 and amended in 2018.
  - o The Policy seeks to standardize the nomenclature, size, structure of a district as well as staffing.
  - The Policy provides norms for circuit and districts size and staffing.
  - The Policy should be implemented within 7 years.
- As part of policy implementation monitoring, a Principals' survey is conducted on a representative sample of schools, biennially, to establish the satisfaction levels of the school principals on the quality of the support visits provided by the district officials.
- The filling up of critical vacancies is monitored through quarterly reporting.





#### **OUTPUTS**

- Output: 1: Reconfiguration of circuits and schools and mapping according to districts
- ✓ No. of schools per circuit and no. of circuits per district and naming of districts.
- Output 2: Location and facilities
- ✓ Availability/Status of building such as renting/ state-owned/to be built.
- Output 3: Staffing requirements
- An addendum to the Policy provides detail.
- Output 4: Resourcing of districts
- ✓ An addendum to the Policy provides detail.





#### **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **NATIONAL**

# PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENTS

#### **DISTRICTS**

- Develop Policy
- Mediate the Policy
- Monitor and support implementation.
- Consolidate provincial reports to the Minister.

- Coordinate all branches to plan for the implementation process
- Demarcate and rename circuits and districts
- Provide delegations of authority to the districts
- Monitor and support the implementation process

- Provide resources to schools.
- Support the attainment of learning outcomes in schools.
- Collaborate with stakeholders, civil society and other government departments to enhance the achievement of learning outcomes.



# INTEGRATED DISTRICT SUPPORT

- Contribute to education recovery post COVID-19 disruptions and learning losses.
- Ch 9 of NDP, DBE and the NECT Board call for a systemic improvement approach for education transformation – 75 district offices is a big part of the system.
- The need for 'performance evenness of districts' across districts districts vary
  within and across provinces; districts are at different points on the growth trajectory
  and have different absorptive capacities for growth and development.
- System needs an integrated approach for sustainable district improvement.
- Require a model and approach that drives education improvement at scale (MTP).





### INTEGRATED DISTRICT SUPPORT

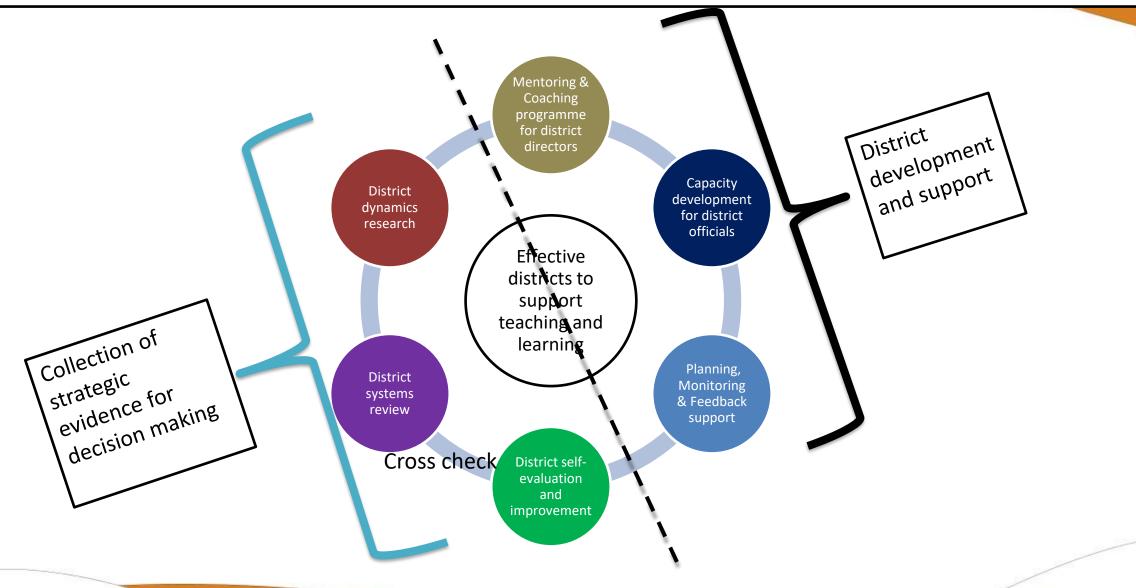
#### **Current programmes for district development**

- Policy on district organisation, roles and responsibilities (2013).
- Guidelines on basic minimum resourcing of districts (tools of trade).
- Short professional development courses, including DBE Winter School (2022).
- Mentoring of selected District Directors by DBE appointed Mentors.
- Self-evaluation and internal district development using FoPs approach.





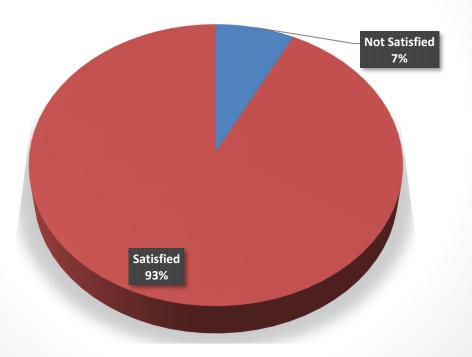
#### TWO SIDES OF THE INTEGRATED DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT MODELMODEL





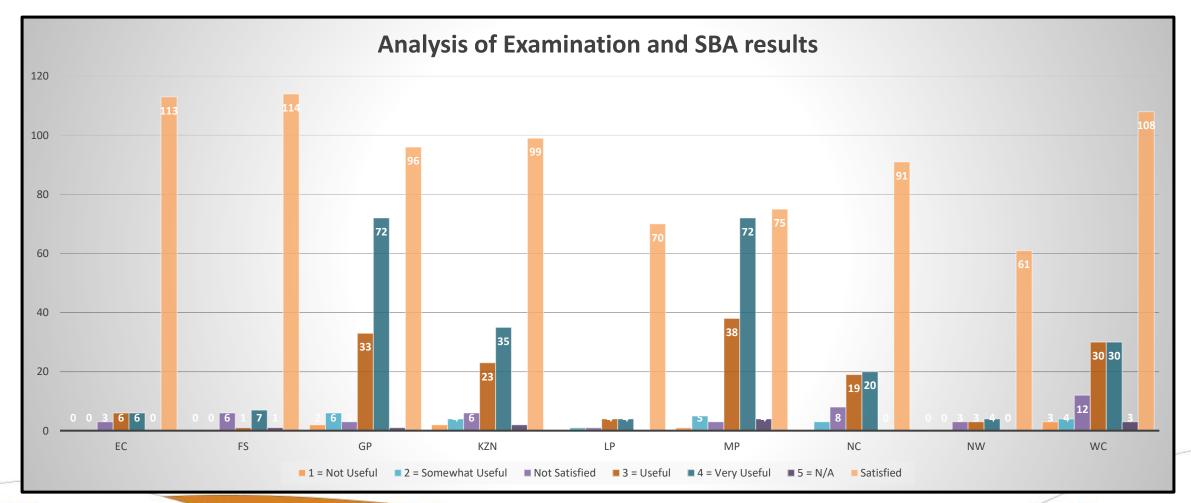


Provision of curriculum materials such as CAPS documents, exam guidelines, exemplar papers and memoranda, training materials on content to teachers and planning documents



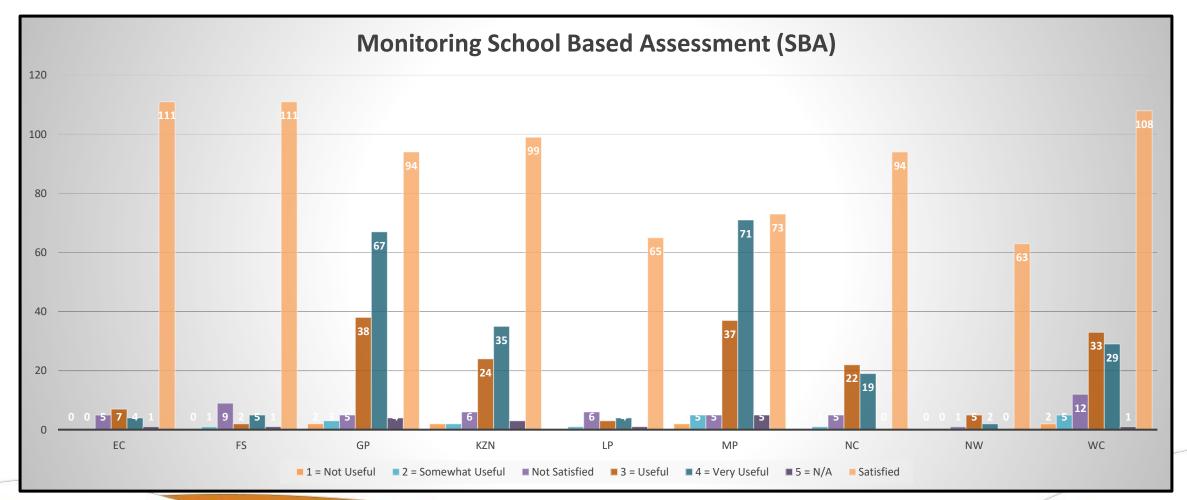






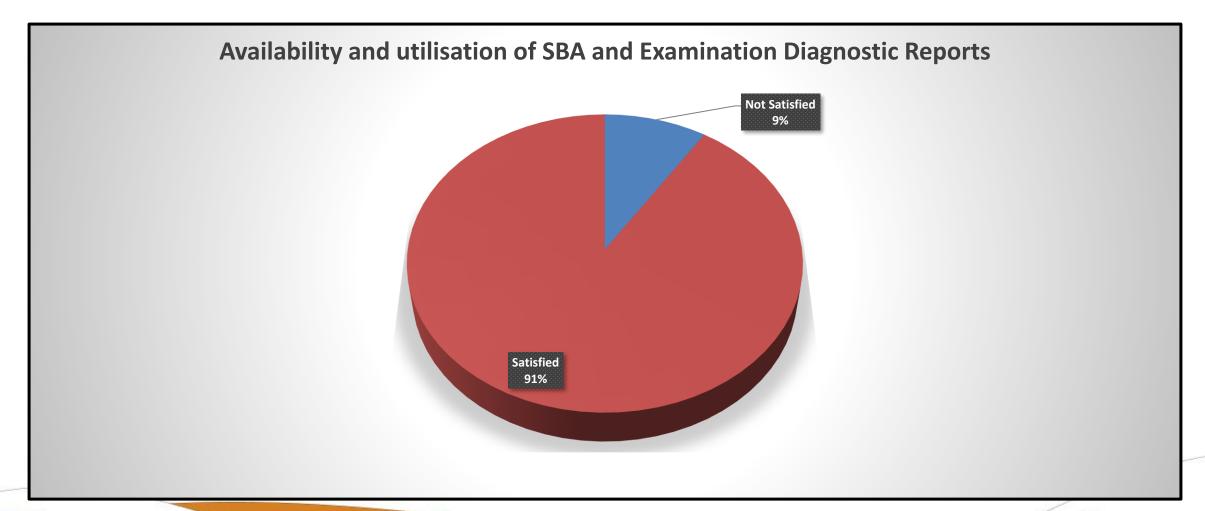






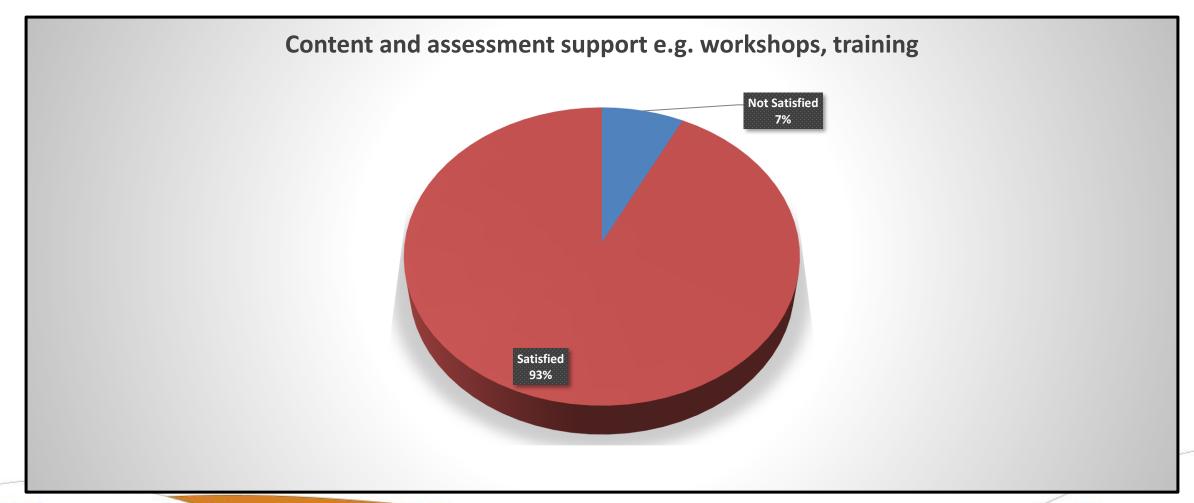
















# **GEC AND DISTRICTS**

#### **Guiding Framework:**

- District Policy as an enabler of GEC implementation
- Identification of district capacity needs
- Strengthening district support for seamless GEC implementation
- Clarity of roles and responsibilities across levels
- Resource funding and budget support
- Norms and standards/SOPs
- Capacity building for district officials
- Integrated planning and implementation
- The model, approach and programming of district support and the potential to improve school functionality + teaching and learning, at scale.
- The approach requires collection of performance, demographic and qualitative evidence for appropriate district support.
- District is used as the platform to launch and sustain National and Provincial initiatives, e.g., Reading, Learning Recovery and the GEC.





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