

DETERMINING THE REAL IMPACT OF DIGNITY PACKS ON LEARNERS IN GAUTENG FOR THE PERIOD 2015/16-2018

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BACKGROUND

- In 2011, the **Department of Social Development (DSD)** in consultation with the Department of Education started distributing sanitary towels to identified schools across **15 Education Districts**, targeting orphaned and vulnerable girls.
- **Classification Circular 21 of 2018**, required the department to procure goods and services through tender process rather than transferring funds to Non-profit institutions (**NPIs**).
- This PER report will explore the inefficiency and challenges of the **Classification Circular 21 of 2018**.

POLICY AND INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION



THE GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IS THE LEADING ENTITY, AND IS **WORKING IN CLOSE COLLABORATION** WITH GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

THE SUCCESS OF THE PROGRAMME HAS LED TO MANY ROLE PLAYERS SUCH AS **PRIVATE COMPANIES** AND **OTHER INSTITUTIONS** WANTING TO CONTRIBUTE TO IT

This Programme is underpinned guided by the National Sanitary Dignity and Implementation Framework (SDIF) drafted by the **Department of Women (DOW)** AND OTHER **STAKEHOLDERS**



The **National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS)** IS **ALLOCATING R275** for personal health care to students

BACKGROUND

SINCE PROGRAMME LAUNCH IN 2011 ABOUT **660,000** GIRL CHILDREN HAVE BENEFITED FROM THE PROGRAMME

DIGNITY PACKS ARE DISTRIBUTED TO BOYS AND CHILDREN WITH **ALBINISM** AS WELL

THE DEPARTMENT MANAGED TO **ACHIEVE ITS TARGETS** SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED FROM DEC 2011-2017/18

DATA FROM 2011/12 UNTIL 2013/14 IS UNAVAILABLE BECAUSE OBJECTIVE (BUDGET) CODE FOR DIGNITY PACKS WAS NOT CREATED ON THE SYSTEM AT THAT TIME

In 2017/18 a total of **534,856** DIGNITY PACKS WERE DISTRIBUTED WITH AN ALLOCATED BUDGET OF **R58 MILLION**

THE BUDGET ONLY GREW BY **R10 MILLION** IN 2017/18 WHILST THE PACKS DISTRIBUTED WERE **240,586 MORE**

THE LOW EXPENDITURE RECORDED IN 2018/19 COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF **CLASSIFICATION CIRCULAR 21 OF 2018**

FOR 2018/19 ONLY **122,874 PACKS** WERE DISTRIBUTED AGAINST THE INITIAL TARGET OF **1.2 MILLION**

THIS IS A HUGE UNDER ACHIEVEMENT WAS CAUSED BY THE SLOW **PROCUREMENT PROCESSES**

FOR 2019/2020, THE DEPARTMENT HAS SET ASIDE A BUDGET OF **R145 MILLION** FOR THE PROJECT

THE UNIT EXPENDITURE OF THE DIGNITY PACKS HAS INCREASED BECAUSE OF THE ADDITIONAL CONTENTS OF THE PACK SUCH AS **TOOTHPASTE & TOILET PAPER** AS WELL AS INFLATIONARY INCREASES



AS A MEANS OF SAVINGS, THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD CONSIDER ONLY PROVIDING SANITARY TOWELS AS OPPOSED TO THE OTHER **ADDITIONAL CONTENTS**

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Classification Circular 21 of 2018 must be abolished to avoid huge delays in the implementation of the programme leading to targets not achieved.
- Consideration must be given to take the function back to NPOs who proved to carry out the programme efficiently and created employment opportunities through cooperatives.