

Challenges and opportunities in infrastructure for Early Childhood Development in KZN

Muni-MEC Meeting
eThekweni, City Hall, Durban
Mark Misselhorn, CEO:PPT
30 November 2018





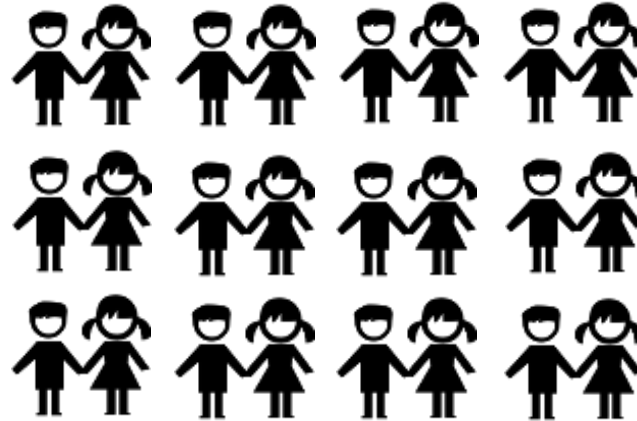
“All children have access to Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres that meet minimum norms and standards and render acceptable ECD services that will adequately prepare children for school”

- NDP 2030

Current ECD centre service provision in KZN

652,000

children aged 3-5 in KZN



51%

not attending
early learning
programme

Provincial roles and responsibilities to ECD centres



DSD

- Delivery
- Regulation
- Registration
- Conditional grants
- Quality monitoring
- Evaluation of ECD Programmes

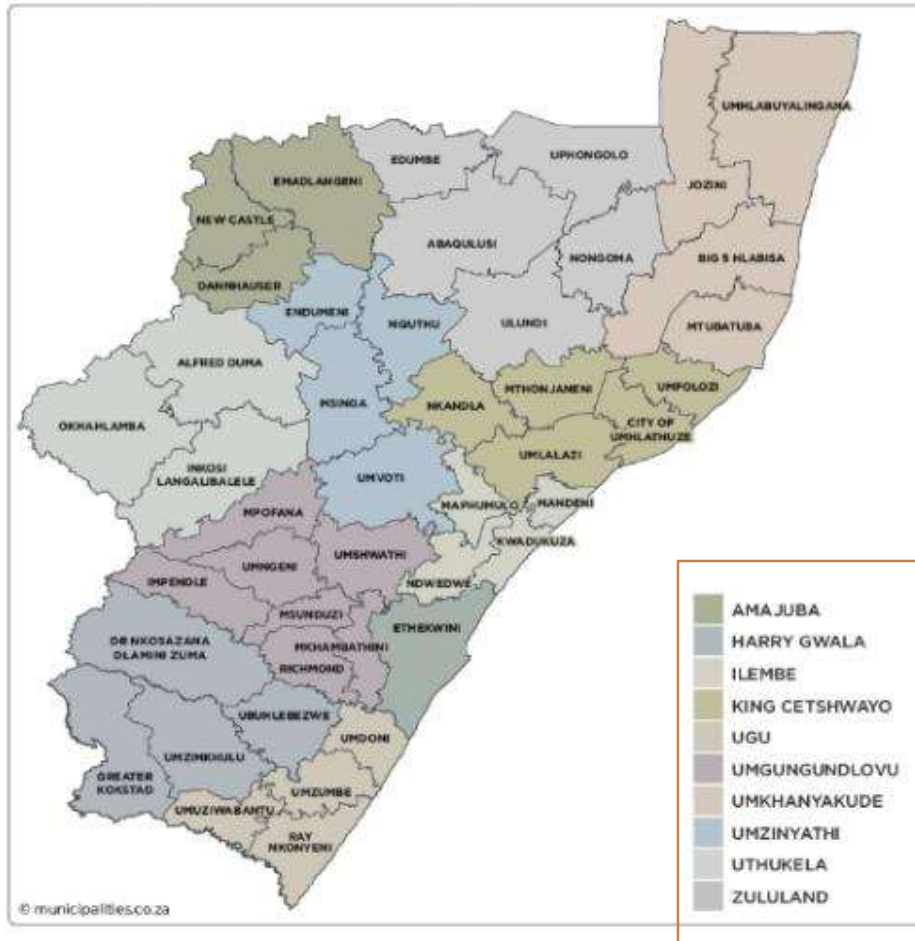
COGTA

- Supporting municipalities to develop of early learning facilities.
- Guidance to municipalities to include ECD in their IDPs

Other departments

- Dept of Human Settlements

Municipal roles and responsibilities to ECD centres



Policies and by-laws

- Support ECD facilities to meet minimal infrastructural health & safety standards
- Develop new ECD infrastructure

- IDPs and related budgets should provide for ECD
- Every municipality should have a 5-year plan on ECD services.

Biggest obstacle to registration of ECD centres is poor centre infrastructure



Health & Safety



DSD Conditional
Grant for
maintenance



DSD ECD
subsidy

Municipal challenges in responding to ECD needs



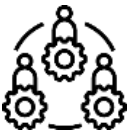
Council resolution and policy often not translated into action



ECD insufficiently budgeted or planned for

1 metro, 2 DMs and 34 LMs recognise ECD as municipal function but half of these LMs do not plan or budget for ECD

120 centres planned for 3-5year budget cycle - half of these centres was provided with a budget which amount to R69,8million*



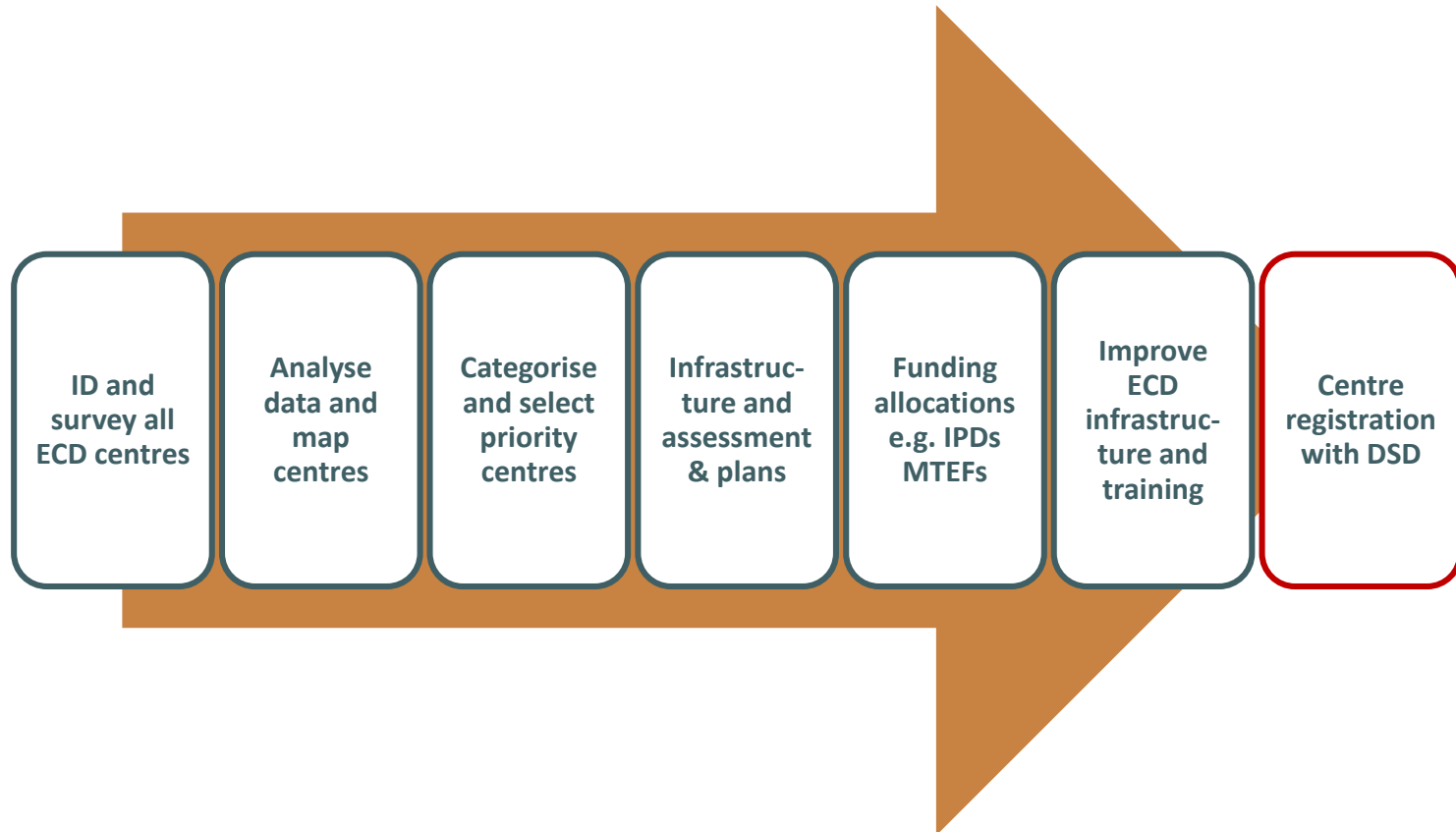
Insufficient provincial and municipal staff for ECD



Insufficient support between different spheres of government

Strategic ECD Infrastructure Support programme

The SEIS Programme helps decision-making on how to allocate limited infrastructure funds and other resources in the most cost-effective way to ECD centres with the highest potential so as to reach the greatest number of children.



We surveyed 516 ECD centres in 6 municipalities



75% registered as NPOs

58% have partial care registration

36% benefit from DSD subsidies

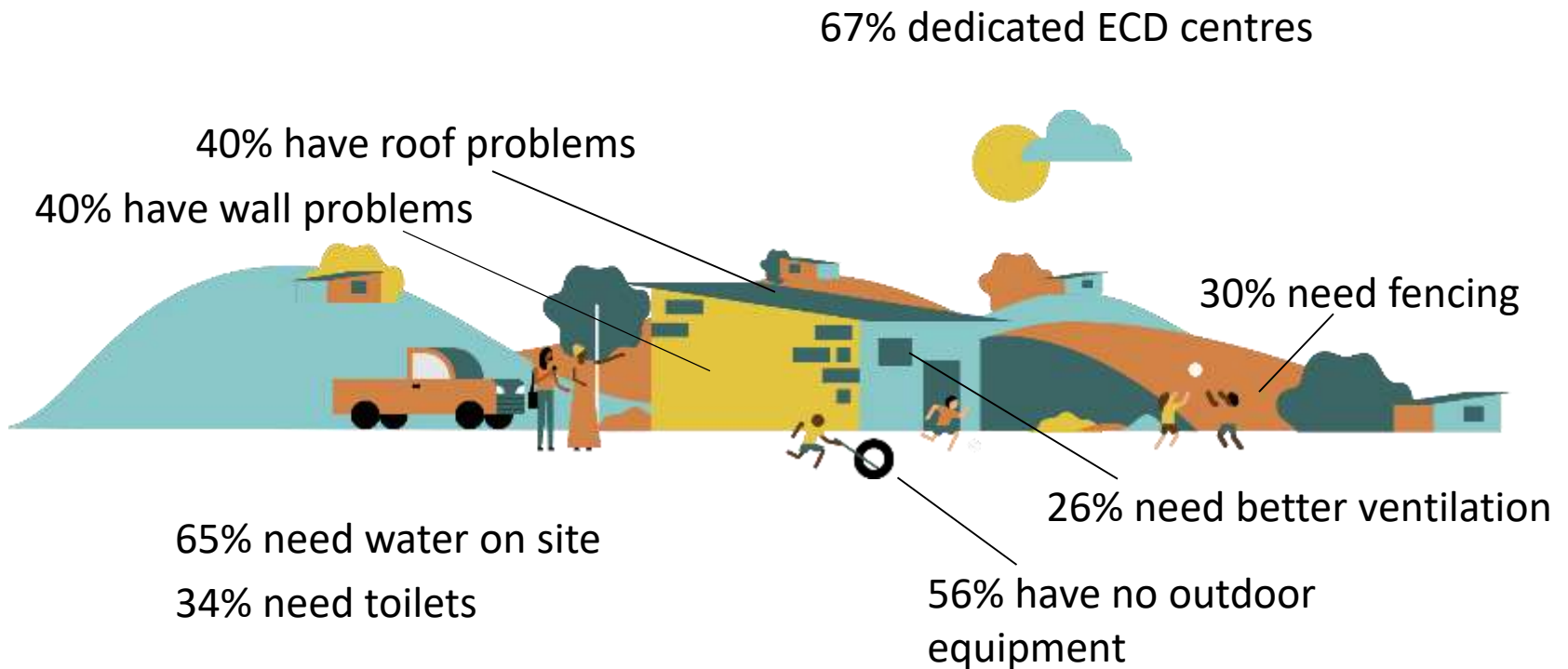
48% have been in existence for more than 10 years

46% showed significant deficiencies in practitioner education and training

R150 maximum monthly fee most parents can pay

33% were not previously known to DSD

90% of the 516 centres had infrastructure deficits, 43% were significant



68% have moderate to good potential to render quality services if supported

Improvement of existing centres is key to scale

it is 6 x more cost effective to improve existing centres than to provide new builds

ECD Infrastructure - improvements vs. new builds	
All centres assessed	112
Total children	5 692
Total cost	24 461 222
Av. Centre size	51
Av. cost per centre	218 404
Av. cost per child (improvements & new builds)	4 297
No. of new build centres	22
No. of children new builds	1 074
Total cost for new builds	14 510 117
Av. Centre size	49
Av. cost per new build	659 551
Av. cost per child (new build)	13 510
No. of centres infrastructure improvements	90
No. of children infrastructure improvements	4 619
Total cost infrastructure improvements	9 951 104
Av. Centre size	51
Av. cost per centre infr. improvements	110 568
Av. cost per child infr. improvements	2 154

Cost-benefit:

6 improved centres
(288 children) = one
new build (48 children)

Delivery mix:

Typically 80:20
(improved : new build).

Delivery coverage:

R5 million delivers 20
improved & new
centres benefiting
1,020 children

Typical Improvements



SEIS: Achievements

GOVERNANCE:

Set up multi-stakeholder eThekwini ECD Project Steering Committee & participated in Umzinyathi ECD Steering Committee

Adoption of model and programmatic & development approach by Municipality eThekwini and supported by Umzumbé

Various Municipal and stakeholder meetings resulting in Council resolutions (3) to include ECD in IDPs

FUNDING & PROCUREMENT:

eThekwini allocated R9,6 million; Assupol Community Trust allocated R13 million for 2017/18

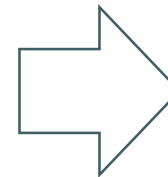
eThekwini procured small contractors and Assupol Community Trust Implementing Agent working with local artisans / contractors

TECHNICAL:

112 ECD Centres prioritised by stakeholders for infrastructure improvement

Technical assessment of & improvement plans for 112 priority ECD Centres

Designed modular low cost ECD Centres for 20, 40, 60 , 80, 100 children



40

centres in Msinga
and Nquthu

Critical success factors for municipalities to consider



Political and senior managers to champion and support municipal ECD programmes
Municipal ECD strategy and plan
Already supported the national ECD priority programme, Provincial Work Group, Provincial ECD committee, included ECD in district growth and development plans



Plan for ECD infrastructure in IDPs
Allocate budgets and access other funding (DSD Conditional Maintenance Grant, Donors, etc.)



Dedicated staff for ECD



Collaborate and coordinate within government departments/spheres
Collaborate with external partners e.g. NGOs and donors



Development and support of ECD infrastructure
Adopt and implement the SEIS model

Next steps

- SEIS Project:
 - A basic guideline of SEIS model is currently being prepared for municipalities
 - KZN ECD workshop for municipal decision makers and relevant departments
- KZN CoGTA
 - Facilitate better collaboration between key departments and municipalities
 - Motivate on behalf of municipalities for additional ring fenced MIG funding

A high-angle photograph of a group of diverse young children, mostly Black, smiling and looking up towards the camera. They are gathered around a wooden table, and some are making hand gestures. The background shows a simple, possibly outdoor or semi-outdoor, setting with wooden furniture and a paved ground.

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