



To: Education Officials, Principals, Teachers, and Parents of EFAL Grade 7-9 learners

Topic: Building Back Better

Message Objective(s):

- Strategies to ensure that learning losses are addressed.
- Restore the education system to what it was before the pandemic.

Message:

COVID 19 pushed the education system out of its comfort zone into a place of long-term renewal growth and opportunity. Stakeholders need to support the most disadvantaged schools that experienced various disruptions of the pandemic.

Data needs to be collected to ascertain the negative effect of the pandemic. Moreover, strategies that are sustainable must be utilised so that the learning gaps are addressed. Educators must realise that the pandemic exacerbated existing inequalities and long-term renewal processes must be put in place.

Strategies for building back better

- Collect data on learners who were adversely affected by the pandemic and draw up strategies to assist.
- The education system must not replicate the failures of pre-COVID systems but instead build towards improved systems.
- Improve the education system and build back better by supporting principals, SMT and teachers through workshops and seminars.
- Provinces, Districts, and schools to start from the premise that good quality education is possible even in the smallest rural school. This can be achieved by ensuring that principals become more instructional.
- Encourage collaborative relationships that involve Civil Society, Social Development. Department of Health and business forums
- Promote robust communication and agility in decision making so that issues are resolved in the shortest possible time
- Provide psychosocial support to education ecosystems.
- For remote rural and farm schools a multimedia approach must be adopted so that all learners are reached. Pre recorded lessons should be developed and made available to schools in remote areas.
- Promote the use of ICT to enhance the quality of education. ICT increases learner engagement and information is accessed more readily. In the event of a pandemic learners can still be reached and minimal losses will be experienced.

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Reference: <https://nect.org.za/materials/recovery-atps-trackers>