

# **TEACHING-LEARNING RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

**LESOTHO**

**KIX AFRICA 19 HUB VIRTUAL MEETING - TUESDAY,  
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# SCOPE OF THE PRESENTATION

- Background Info.
- Lockdown Phases
- Continuity of Learning Initiatives
- Reopening of Schools
- Post-COVID 19 Plans

# Background Information

Education	School/Level	Grades	Age	Years	Rolls
ECCD	Pre-Primary School	- Day Care	0 – 4	4	5,494
		- Reception	4 – 5	1	50,056
Primary	Primary school	1 – 7	6 – 13	7	329,770
Middle	Junior Secondary School	Form A – C <i>Grade 8-10</i>	13 – 16	3	101,315
Secondary	High School	Form D – E <i>AS/A Level</i>	16 – 18	2	33,767
Tertiary	Certificates, Diplomas & Degrees	1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> years 4 <sup>th</sup> years +	18 +	2 - 7	22,500

# COVID-19 LOCKDOWN STAGES

## Risk Determination Framework

**Stage 1**  
(21<sup>st</sup> April - 5<sup>th</sup> May)

Schools Closed

**Stage 2**  
(5<sup>th</sup> May – 29<sup>th</sup> July)

Compliant Schools Open at the External Classes

**Stage 3**  
(27<sup>th</sup> July to present)

Compliant Schools Open at all levels

**Post COVID 19**

Restrictions lifted at Schools





# LOCKDOWN STAGE I RESPONSES

- Radio lessons Broadcast on Core subjects; Maths, Science, English and Sesotho
  - 4 hours slots allocated on national radio station
  - 15 to 20 minutes lessons delivered by teachers
  - Lessons quality assured by Inspectors, Resource Teachers etc
- Radio lessons covered pre- to primary school level
- Television lessons broadcast at the secondary school level
  - 2 hours slots allocated national TV
  - 20 minutes lessons delivered by teachers
  - Lessons recorded by a third party
  - Lessons quality assured by Inspectors, Special Education etc
- Tertiary Institutions switched to online modes

# LOCKDOWN STAGE II RESPONSES

- Radio & Television lessons continued
- Tertiary Institutions maintained the online mode
- Preparations made and finalised for the Reopening of Schools at the External Classes
  - Guidelines developed
  - Inspection of schools applying to reopen intensified
  - School calendar extended to March, 2021
  - External Examinations with CIAE postponed to February, 2021 for public schools
  - Private schools authorised to sit for international examinations
- Online learning platforms developed for primary and secondary schools
- Self-instructional materials developed for learners at the remote rural areas

# LOCKDOWN STAGE III RESPONSES

## Reopening of Schools Plan



- 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2021, ECCD (3 and 4 years), Grades 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9 to open
- Government and Dev. Partners to procure PPE's
- Independent Schools to sponsor themselves

# POST-COVID 19 PLANS

- Child Protection and Psychosocial Support
- Back to school campaign
- Identify learning gaps
- Implement accelerated learning programs
- Monitor re-enrolment to identify and support children that have dropped out
- Monitor and evaluate of COVID-19 and overall response in schools and institutions of higher learning

# Challenges and Reactions

- Slanted Academic Year Calendar
  - **learners to progress to the next class**
  - **implement accelerated learning interventions**
- Limited Radio and Television Coverage
  - **Distribute self instruction materials**
  - **Pilot use of learning gadgets like tablets etc**
- Massive all-round financial constraints
  - **Intensify support from within and without**
  - **Sensitise parents and communities about COVID-19**
- Teachers' reluctance and/or *fear* to partake in interventions
  - **Shared planning / collaborative decision making**
- Continued scare of COVID-19
  - **Encourage teachers and teach learners how to live with the pandemic just like HIV/AIDs etc**



Thank You!

