



NTATAISE

ESTABLISHED 1980



2022
ANNUAL
REPORT

Table of contents

About us.....	2
From the Directors.....	3
Who we are.....	4
• Trustees.....	4
• Staff.....	5
Donor support.....	6
Financial report.....	7
The year in review.....	8
• Ntataise Network Support Programme.....	8
• Ntataise Centres of Excellence Programme.....	12
• Ntataise Training and Development Programme.....	13
• Ntataise Community Outreach Programme.....	13
• Special Projects.....	14
From evidence to impact.....	16
2022 Facts and stats.....	18



About us

Ntataise: 'To lead a young child by the hand'

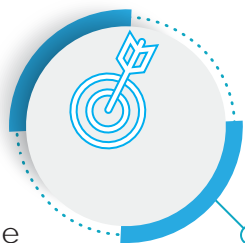
Ntataise's purpose is to serve young children by improving the quality and reach of Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes in disadvantaged communities. In partnership with the Ntataise Network, we work with a range of players at national, provincial and local levels, empowering women through ECD training and delivering a variety of initiatives and programmes. The Ntataise Network offers quality services to those with the greatest need.



The Ntataise Strategy

Ntataise helps build the South African ECD sector through three core areas:

- Research and innovation
- Learning and development
- Collaboration and coordination



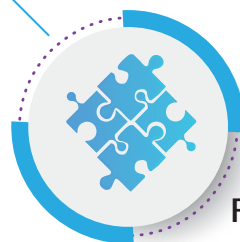
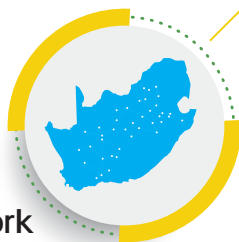
Programmes

- Ntataise Network Support Programme
- Ntataise Centres of Excellence Programme
- Ntataise Training and Development Programme
- Ntataise Community Outreach Programme



The Ntataise Network

The Ntataise Network is made up of 22 ECD resource and training organisations that work across eight of South Africa's nine provinces.



Focus Areas

- Governance and leadership
- Teaching and Learning
- Health and well being
- Parental and community participation
- Collaboration and co-ordination

From the Directors

At both strategic and operational levels, collaboration was a major force in Ntataise's work during 2022. Whilst recognising that the power of a network of like-minded organisations has long been pivotal to Ntataise's identity, 2022 saw the refining of a number of core principles and a growth in understanding of what makes for effective collaboration between network members. It goes beyond information-sharing, and is, in the Ntataise Network's case, guided by an agreement from all members to work together to achieve a common objective guided by basic principles. One of these core linking principles is a common definition of what constitutes quality in ECD.

For Ntataise Network members, it has become apparent that working together on government and sector initiatives provides critical opportunities to access funding that would otherwise be unavailable. For example, interventions which target a specified or larger number of beneficiaries may be beyond the capacity of individual organisations. However, through partnerships, organisations can collectively draw in cohorts from the social welfare and education sector in different roles. Such partnerships not only allow for the pooling of resources but also offer a platform for sharing knowledge and expertise, fostering a culture of learning and innovation that benefits all participants. This highlights another critical aspect to collaboration: working with others does not mean that organisations lose their own identity or niche values and services. Collaboration includes working towards different deliverables which are linked within a common project with the same overall end goals.



"While in 2021 we were busy giving immediate and practical assistance to ECD centres because of the damaging effects of Covid-19 on the sector, in 2022 the focus was on building back – refreshing and reminding practitioners and centres that the anchor for quality ECD is to let children be children, but to help them learn through early stimulation and play."

Puleng Motsoeneng, Programme Director

Collaboration has proven to be essential in rebuilding the ECD sector post-covid. Ntataise's experience in retaining and renewing quality in ECD delivery has demonstrated that when organisations work together and share their individual strengths and knowledge in nutrition, health, parental support, local government, ECD training, financial and organisational management, it leads to improved effectiveness, sustainability and scalability. In recognition of the importance of understanding the different roles in the ECD ecosystem and to foster mutual support and cooperation, in 2022 Ntataise

co-ordinated a number of dialogues with parents, preschool managers, primary school principals and foundation phase teachers, as well as district and local officials from health, municipalities, correctional services and local churches. These dialogues increased awareness of the interconnectedness of their roles and cooperation of this sort helps communities become problem solvers and put measures in place to support and protect their children.

In 2022 Ntataise also embarked on a process of examining its own organisational capacity to build the impact of the Ntataise Network. Continuous monitoring and evaluation of programme implementation, linked to a shared definition of quality, enables Ntataise and its Network members to strengthen organisational effectiveness. This is especially important in the context of the changing landscape due to the function shift of ECD to the Department of Basic Education. Ntataise and its Network members will continue to adapt where needed, while at the same time retaining a firm grasp on the gains the sector has made in promoting critical principles such as learning through play and playful pedagogies.



"We need to work ON our organisations as well as IN our organisations. In this way we will continue to build towards a strong network of members who can extend Ntataise's reach through effective and scalable implementation"

Sarah McGuigan, Executive Director

Who we are

Trustees



Simon Mokalodise
Chairperson



Maggie Nkwe



Jane Evans



Johannes Machatola



David Evans



Welcome



**Robyn Evans
Cunningham**
Treasurer



Kalim Rajab

Farewell

David McCall, Treasurer

David served as trustee of the Ntataise Trust for 11 years, acting as Treasurer from 2016. David's expert guidance and financial expertise have been invaluable in maintaining Ntataise's financial stability and driving its growth. The trustees, directors and staff of the Ntataise Trust extend heartfelt thanks and appreciation to David for his contribution which has left a lasting impact on the organisation.

Staff



Sarah McGuigan
Executive Director



Puleng Motsoeneng
Programme Director



Alice Chomane
Training co-ordinator



Kaley Le Mottee
Monitoring, evaluation and
project manager



Sophie Masilela
Quality assurer and
project manager



Sibusisiwe Ndlovu
Quality assurer and
project manager



Simone Rawling
Fundraising and PR



Anneza Julian
Fundamentals trainer



Mantoa Mokhothu
Facilitator and assessor



Moleboheng Leburu
Facilitator, assessor and
moderator



Bonny Ntsoeleng
ECD Centres of Excellence
co-ordinator



Melita Kakudi
CLTP Facilitator



Tseleng Mkhwanazi
CLTP Facilitator



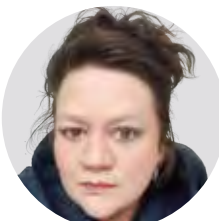
Maria Selialia
CLTP Facilitator



Palesa Tsuela
CLTP Facilitator



Kiewit Motsoeneng
Data capturer



Carla Prinsloo
Administrator



Pearl Ndovela
Administrator



Ntsoake Msimanga
Hub facilitator and mentor



Molebogang Moopeloa
Hub facilitator and mentor



Sam Modiakgotla
Driver



Emma Guza
Housekeeping



Margaret Sothoane
Housekeeping



Mohanoe Tsie
Driver and caretaker

Farewell

Ntataise bid farewell to two long-standing stalwarts of Ntataise and early childhood development. Maria Mohlaleli and Ellen Mokitlane retired at the end of 2022, leaving a legacy of hard work and dedication that has benefitted countless vulnerable children and families through the Ntataise Community Outreach Programmes. The trustees, directors and staff of the Ntataise Trust extend their heartfelt appreciation to Maria and Ellen for their invaluable contributions and wish them all the best in their retirement.



Ellen Mokitlane
Outreach Programme
facilitator



Maria Mohlaleli
Outreach Co-ordinator

Donor support



In loving memory of Virginia Ogilvie Thompson

Ntataise was deeply saddened by the passing of our friend and longtime supporter Virginia Ogilvie Thompson. She will be remembered for her commitment and support towards furthering the provision of quality ECD for vulnerable young children.

Funding

1st for Women Fund
Bokamoso Solar Energy (RF) (Pty) Ltd
Deutsche Bank South Africa Foundation
Ford Credit
HCI Foundation
Jawitz Properties (Pty) Ltd
Jim Joel Fund
National Department of Social Development
National Department of Basic Education
New Settlers Foundation
Old Mutual Staff Volunteer Fund Trust
Standard Bank Tutuwa Community Foundation
The Davies Foundation Trust
The Federated Employer's Mutual Assurance Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd
The Grain Care Trust
The Haggie Charitable Trust
The Inglis Family Charitable Trust
The LEGO Foundation through HOPE worldwide South Africa
The LEGO Foundation through VVOB
The Ruth and Anita Wise Charitable and Educational Trust
The Sisi and Savita Charitable Trust
The Oppenheimer Memorial Trust
UNICEF

Donations from Individuals

Antoinette & Basil Hersov
Julian Ogilvie Thompson
In loving memory of Virginia Ogilvie Thompson

Donations in kind

AVI
Book Dash
Do More Foundation
JC Decaux
The Lunchbox Fund
Claire Evans
Mzansi Playdate
Volkswagen Group South Africa

Financial report

Ntataise Financial Report for the year ending February 2023

During the 2022/2023 financial year, total expenditure on Ntataise's core operations, excluding special projects, grew by 17% and total income overall grew by 2%.

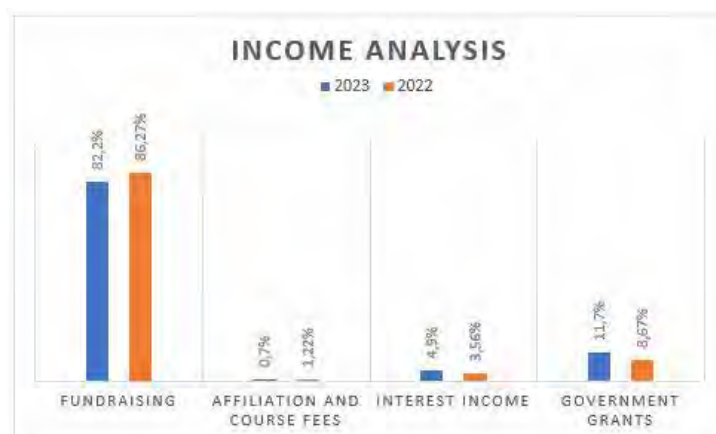
Total expenditure on our training and support programmes increased by 42% on the previous period, due to a reinvigoration of programme implementation which had stalled during Covid-19. Training and support expenditure comprised 20% of the budget in 2022/2023 compared to 16% in 2021/2022.



Expenditure on special projects increased by 8% in 2022/2023 and amounted to 30% of total expenditure. Special projects are undertaken to meet identified needs within a defined period and are implemented in partnership with other organisations, donors or government.

Administration expenses (excluding salaries) increased by 3% and amounted to 15% of total expenditure in 2022/2023, compared to 17% of total expenditure in the previous period.

Total income increased by 2%, attributable predominantly to an increase in interest income and growth in government grants received in the financial year. Funds received from donations and fundraising fell by 3% compared to 2021/2022 and comprised 82% of income. Income from member affiliation fees and course fees continued to fall as the economic impact of Covid 19 continues to be felt. Interest income increased by 40% in line with increases in rates over the period, making up 5% of income overall. Government grants comprised 11.7% of income compared to 8.67% of income in the previous period.

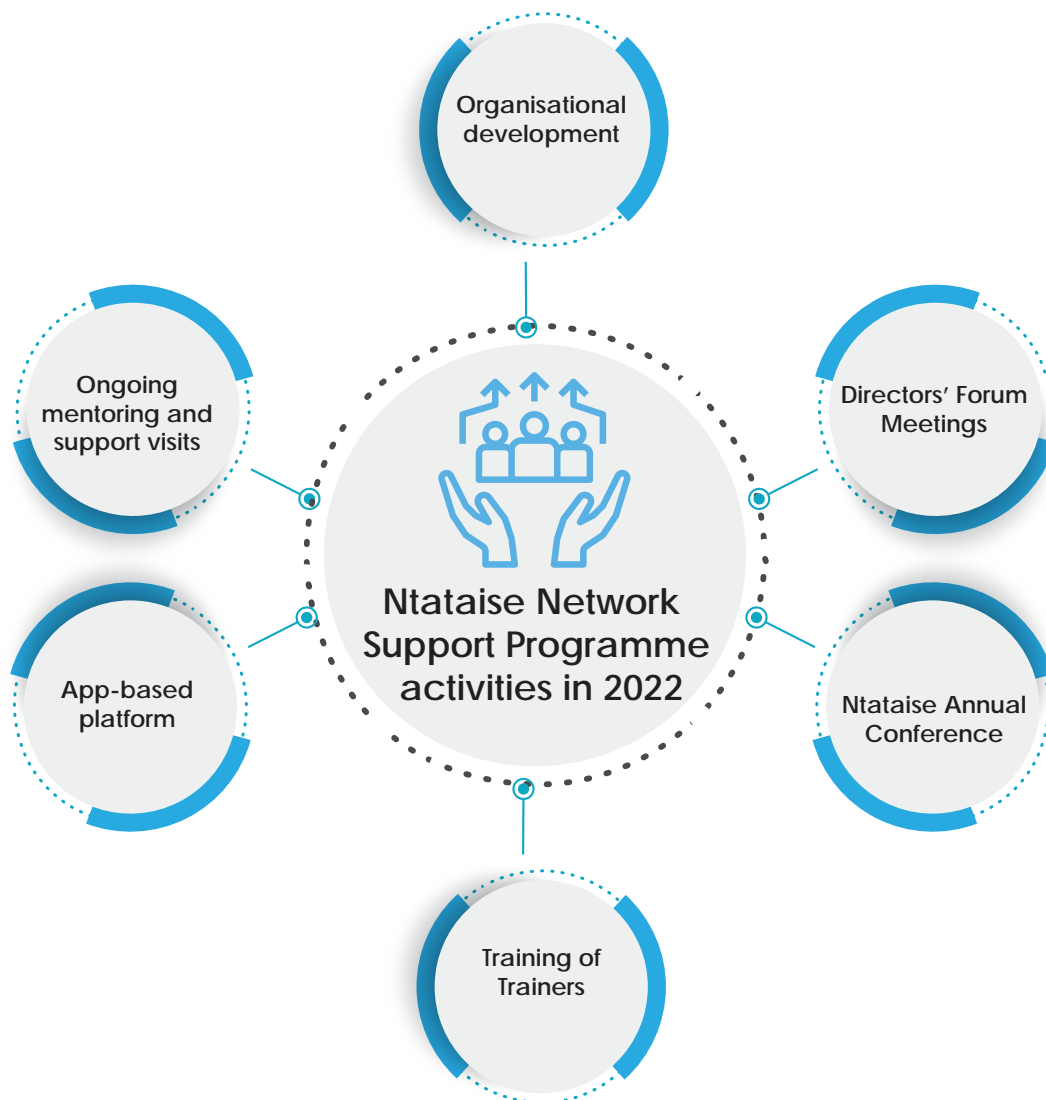


A net loss was recorded for the financial year under review in large part due to a mismatch between the Trust's financial year which runs for the 12 months to end February, and the receipt of funds and donations according to the calendar year to end December. Despite this the organisation remains in a strong financial position and expenses are well controlled.

The year in review

1. Ntataise Network Support Programme

Ntataise provides Network members with on-site support, training, mentoring and quality assurance to strengthen the quality of their service delivery and organisational operations. In 2022 the emphasis has been on consolidating the Ntataise Network so that shared processes increase access to quality ECD provisioning.



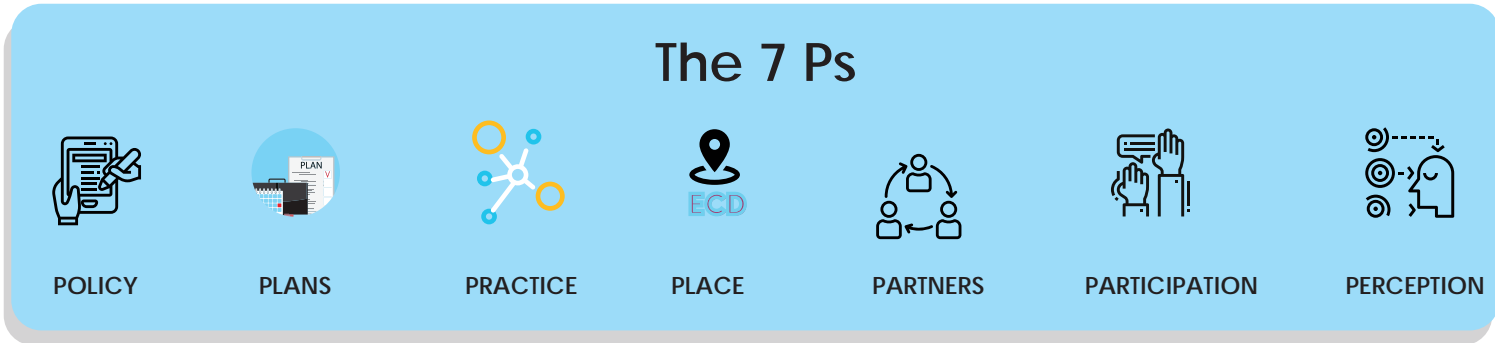
1.1 Organisational Development

Ntataise helps its Network members to improve their organisational capacity in various ways, by providing a number of skills development initiatives. These range from management and administrative upskilling, including input on fundraising strategies, as well as content updates for trainers and facilitators.

1.2 Directors’ Forum Meetings

A critical component of the Ntataise Network Support Programme is to provide a platform for members to learn from each other, share ideas and keep abreast of developments in the sector.

The Directors’ Forum meeting held in March 2022 was an opportunity to put organisational successes, concerns and action plans into a broader context, with a particular focus on the implications of the ECD function shift from the Department of Social Development to the Department of Basic Education. A **Reflection Tool** was developed to help guide and track insights going forward, using The 7 Ps as a framing device.



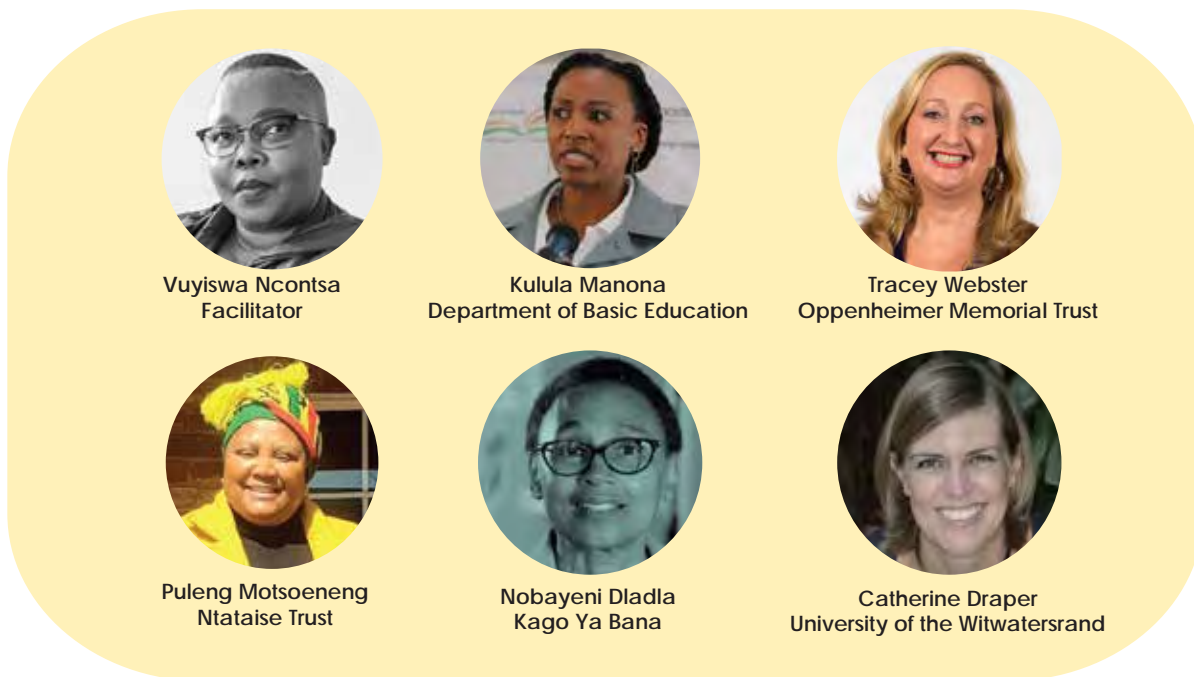
While the second Director’s Forum meeting held in December 2022 picked up on many of these issues and action areas, the main aim of the two-day think tank was to explore the development of an enabling framework for the Ntataise Network. The goal is to:

- Use our collective offerings, data, provincial spread and community footprints to show how the Ntataise Network as a collaboration achieves widespread impact.
- Communicate impact to investors and partners in order to improve our own services, reach and capacity.
- Use these collective strengths to support government and contribute to enhanced quality in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) and expanded services at scale.



1.3 The 2022 Ntataise Network Annual Conference

The theme of the conference was ‘Collaborative Investment in ECD’. A panel of stakeholders representing government, civil society, funders and researchers spoke to this theme from their different perspectives, offering useful strategies for collaborative actions that can help scale up delivery in ECD.



The panel was followed by a number of presentations on professionalisation of ECD, culminating in the sharing of guidelines for those preparing to deliver the *NQF level 4 ECD Occupational Certificate: Early Childhood Development Practitioner 97542*. Final reflections included: a review of consolidated data on the sector revealed by the *ECD Census 2021* and the *Thrive by Five Index 2021 (revised in 2022)*; a discussion on the power of networks; and a closing address by Professor Jonathan Jansen.

1.4 Training of Trainers

Human Resource development is central to Ntataise’s strategy to increase access to quality ECD opportunities for young children. Ntataise provides training and support to Network ECD trainers so that they deliver quality programmes to ECD practitioners. Ntataise’s training model combines online workshops, home study learning, peer review and practical application in the workplace. Training of trainers to deliver the new *Occupational ECD Practitioner Level 4* qualification continued in 2022 with the initial cohort of 20 Ntataise Network trainers. A new cohort began their journey in May 2022.



1.5 App-based platform: finding play champions

Ntataise's ECD Digital Learning Experience App is an online teaching and learning system which provides adults with the opportunity to "learn through play". It supports continuous professional development of ECD trainers, practitioners and ECD supervisors/principals by modelling how play can facilitate learning.

A key feature of the App is the annual Ntataise ECD Championship – a game in which participants take part in a series of exciting and fun learning challenges with the chance to win weekly prizes. In 2022 the content of the challenges focused on the Early Learning Development Areas (ELDAs) as set out in the National Curriculum Framework (NCF), and on the pedagogy of Learning through Play. While the majority of the 330 players were ECD practitioners, it was encouraging to see an increase in the number of parents that took part in the game.

In a follow up survey, 83% of the players said they had learned something new about ECD, and 95% said they had an improved understanding of the ELDAs and the NCF. In addition, analysis of the data indicates that the Championship game can also serve as a monitoring tool for Ntataise Network organisations to identify practitioner knowledge gaps and find ways to address these.



"One of the benefits of the Championship is that it can act as a dipstick into understanding how different topics are grasped in Ntataise Network organisations. This could be instrumental in how organisations plan for training in the following year."

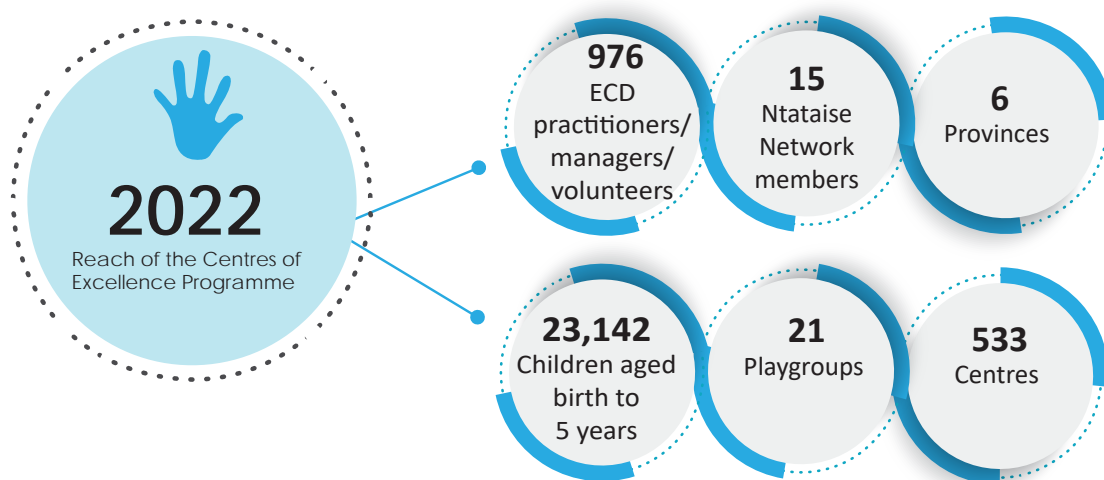
Rika du Plessis, Digital Strategist for Ntataise

download the Ntataise App at
app.ntataise.org



2. Ntataise ECD Centres of Excellence Programme

The ECD Centres of Excellence Programme is an enrichment and mentoring programme that provides support for community and home-based ECD facilities in the delivery of sustainable and quality services for vulnerable young children. The concept of ECD Centres of Excellence is the basis of Ntataise's approach to building quality in ECD. In 2022 the programme expanded to include three additional Network members and now reaches community and home-based ECD centres and playgroups in poorly resourced communities in the provinces of Limpopo, Free State, Mpumalanga, North-West, Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal.



Key Activities in 2022

Institutional capacity building

- Identifying and supporting unregistered centres through registration jamborees and provision of Vangasali packs
- Providing skills training on policies, human resource and financial management

Teaching and learning

- Providing regular on-site mentoring and support to ECD practitioners in their playrooms to improve their confidence, teaching skills and interaction with children.
- Establishing peer learning communities that enable ECD practitioners to observe each other's playrooms and share best practices.
- Conducting monthly capacity-building workshops to train ECD practitioners on how to align their daily ECD programme with the National Curriculum Framework

Parent engagement

- Implementing Caregiver Learning through Play programme (CLTP)
- Gathering data to inform parent support plans and programmes

Stakeholder collaboration and coordination

- Holding information sessions with Network members on how to work with provincial and local government
- Discussing advocacy for inclusion of ECD in Municipal Integrated Development Plans
- Working with local ECD forums

3. Ntataise Training and Development Programme

Ntataise's accredited training programme leading to an ECD Level 4 qualification continues to attract practitioners committed to a career in ECD.



Ntataise FETC: ECD Level 4 Qualification

91

Practitioners enrolled in the programme leading to this qualification

4,768

The number of vulnerable children (birth to 5) cared for by these practitioners in community and home-based ECD centres and playgroups in poorly resourced communities in the northern Free State and North-West provinces.

"The core unit standards of modules 1, 2 & 3 helped me to know what is expected in an ECD centre. It helped me to think bigger and better, to plan for fundraising and to understand what I need to do to help children learn through play. I truly thank Ntataise for making me a better ECD teacher and informed principal."

Mathebe Alice Hlongwana, Principal at Peontle Early Learning Centre

4. Ntataise Community Outreach Programme

Ntataise's Community Outreach programme provides play and learning opportunities for pre-school aged children who are not in a pre-school or home-based ECD programme. Ntataise does this through its toy library and mobile playgroup units, as well as through special events and activities in the community.



Special Projects in 2022

Ntataise has long recognized that collaboration and partnerships drive, support and enhance the impact of early childhood care and education interventions, helping them to reach scale and stay sustainable. We continue to seek out collaborative partnerships where possible, as seen in the three projects described below.



Caregiver Learning Through Play: Promoting playfilled parenting



Ntataise is one of the members of the Caregiver Learning Through Play (CLTP) consortium, led by HOPE Worldwide South Africa in partnership with Save the Children South Africa and the Early Learning Resource Unit (ELRU). The consortium, funded by The LEGO Foundation, aims to train and support 600,000 caregivers and ECD practitioners in four years.

In 2022 Ntataise worked with 11 of its Network member organisations to extend the project to five provinces viz. Free State, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North West and Gauteng. Through partnering with Ntataise Network organisations and other consortium members on a project of this scale, all parties are gaining valuable experience in effective cooperation and coordination, opening up further opportunities and building knowledge of systems which enable collaboration.

Funda Udlale Nathi – The F.U.N. project

Funda Udlale Nathi translates from isiZulu as “Learn and play with us”. The key goal of this project is to strengthen the ability of ECD practitioners to understand and apply play-based teaching methods. This is especially important in view of the function shift, and the need to build the capacity of early years teachers and ECD practitioners, specifically Grade R teachers and those working with 3- to 5-year-old children. The project, led by VVOB, working closely with the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education, Ntataise and KZN Network members as implementing partners, and Neil Butcher and Associates as learning partner, aims to reach 10,000 ECD practitioners and 2,000 school and ECD Centre leaders over the four-year project period. Other key partners include the Department of Basic Education (DBE), the South African Council for Educators (SACE), the Department of Education and Training (DHET) and UNICEF.

The first phase of the project began in September 2022, with a focus on developing training materials. Ntataise and KZN Network members are contributing to the design and modification of Learning through Play materials and modes of delivery, with the aim of piloting these through Ntataise Network partners in KZN in 2024.

Funda Udlale Nathi is made possible through the support of the LEGO Foundation.



1st for Women Fund Think Equal Programme: social and emotional competencies



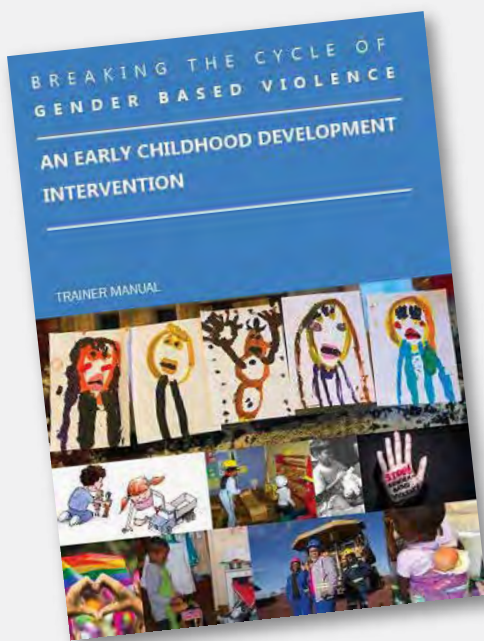
The 1st for Women Fund focuses on the eradication of gender-based violence in South Africa through a three-pronged strategy which incorporates a preventative schools-based programme among other initiatives. Ntataise in partnership with the UK-based NGO Think Equal is implementing the Think Equal curriculum, a programme with a focus on social and emotional learning, in the three-to-five years age group. Think Equal resource packs, coupled with training and on-site support to ECD centres in Diepsloot in Gauteng, enabled the successful delivery of the programme.

In 2022, 78 ECD centres received the packs and 108 ECD practitioners were trained, reaching 2,180 young children in Diepsloot in 2022. Over the three years of implementation, a total of 149 ECD centres have taken part in the programme. A major focus in 2022 was data collection to evaluate the implementation barriers and enablers and assess the impact of the project.

From evidence to impact



Ntataise recognises the importance of monitoring implementation of its programmes, and using the data and evidence gathered to improve delivery. The development of a robust Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning (MERL) system is ongoing and central to our commitment to grow as a learning organisation. Regular review sessions are held with Ntataise Network members in order to understand what works, why and how programmes can be strengthened in response to emerging data and changing community needs. In 2022 Ntataise, together with the Ntataise Network, has focused on defining quality in ECD and exploring how to collect evidence which demonstrates impact in more streamlined and centralised ways.



A recent example of Ntataise's approach is the evaluation of the pilot for a programme that looked at responding and preventing gender-based violence (GBV) within the context of ECD, called Breaking the cycle of GBV: an early childhood development intervention project. The training module, developed and piloted by Ntataise Network members, aims to support the ECD workforce, parents and relevant community stakeholders to promote gender equality in ECD centres/playgroups, homes and communities as a strategy for preventing gender-based violence. Training outcomes were linked to increased awareness of GBV and changed attitudes and practices in relation to addressing GBV. The pilot was evaluated to assess the extent to which the knowledge, attitudes and practices of ECD trainers, ECD managers and practitioners changed as a result of participation in the pilot. The findings revealed positive impact across the board, with increased gender-aware and responsive practices. Due to the success of the pilot programme, the training module has been integrated in all Ntataise ECD training, support and development programmes.





NTATAISE BREAKING THE CYCLE OF GBV PILOT PROJECT

Design and implementation



Pilot project reach



Pilot evaluation findings

PROMOTION OF GENDER EQUITY OBSERVED IN CLASSROOMS:



Monitoring and evaluation

Application of pre-pilot testing tools

Reflection

Gathering feedback

On-site classroom observation

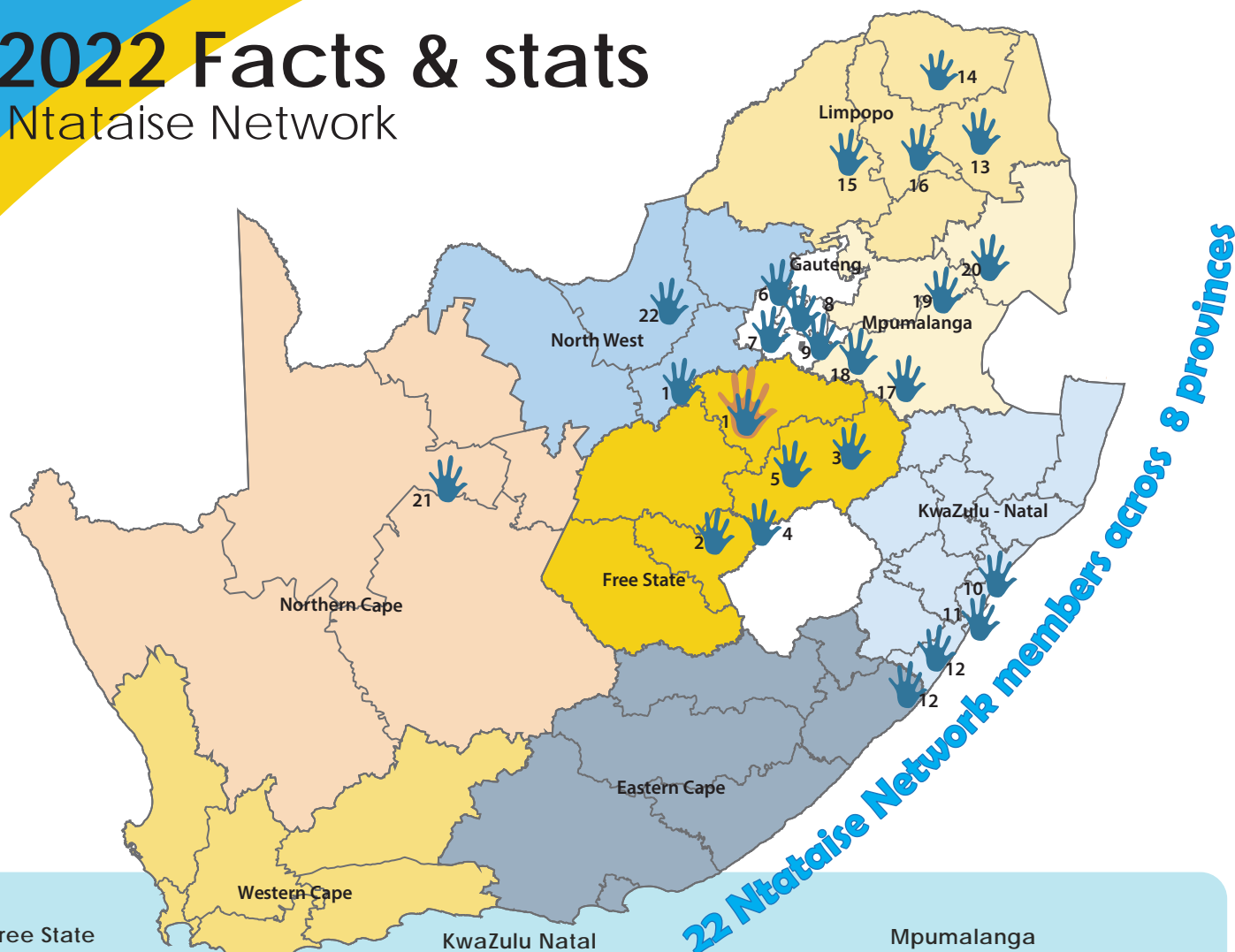
Reviewing

Learning

Application of post-pilot testing tools

2022 Facts & stats

Ntataise Network



Free State

1. Ntataise
2. Lesedi Educare Association
3. Ntsoanatsatsi Educare Trust
4. Realeboga-Bakubung Training & Development Agency
5. Tshepang Educare Trust

Gauteng

6. Education Africa
7. Greater Soweto Association for Early Childhood Development
8. Katlehong Early Learning Resource Unit (KELRU)
9. Safe and Sound Learning Association

KwaZulu Natal

10. Natal Early Learning Resource Unit (NELRU)
11. New Beginnings Training and Development Organisation
12. Impande

Limpopo

13. Golang Kulani Early Learning Centre
14. Kanimamba Training & Resource Centre
15. Thukakgaladi
16. Thušanang Trust

Mpumalanga

17. Masakane Trust
18. Siyathuthuka Nursery School Projects
19. Sithuthukile Trust
20. Ntataise Lowveld

Northern Cape

21. Custoda Trust

North West

22. Royal Bafokeng Institute

2022 Ntataise Network reach



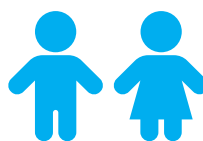
3,568

community and
home-based ECD
centres and playgroups
reached



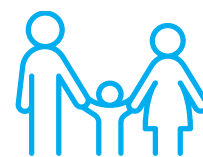
7,500

ECD practitioners
reached



174,853

children reached



19,511

parents/caregivers
supported



ESTABLISHED 1980

**Ntataise Free State Training
& Resource Centre**

Stand No. 1616/17
Rammulotsi
Viljoenskroon
9520
Tel: (+27) 56 343 0034
Email: info@ntataise.org

Ntataise Gauteng Office

2 Campbell Street
Waverley
Johannesburg
2090
Tel: (+27) 11 025 7099
Email: ecd@ntataise.org

PO Box 41, Viljoenskroon, 9520, South Africa

www.ntataise.org | app.ntataise.org



Ntataise



@NtataiseSA



Ntataise Trust



@ntataisesouthafrica773

+27 67 040 8497



ntataise_trust