



social development

Department:
Social Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



The Isibindi Model : Introducing Community Child and Youth Care Workers

Who are child and youth care workers?

International definition of Child and Youth Care Work
(Educational Consortium.. <http://www.cyc-net.org/network.html>)

- Frontline/direct workers in the life space of children
- Using daily life events developmentally and therapeutically
- Child focused services which are family centred
- Operationalising child rights in service delivery
- Relational work – engagement and connection



The Isibindi Model

- Model of community-based child & youth care work services (family support/family preservation work)



Working in diverse communities









Isibindi: A comprehensive strategy

- Responsiveness to key human rights issues:
 - Children & youth
 - HIV/AIDS
 - Poverty & unemployment
 - Rural poverty
 - Women
 - Disability



Isibindi: A social franchise model

- Core replication principles:
 - Accredited child and youth care training
 - Child and youth care mentorship and supervision
 - Partnerships – NACCW, local civil society organizations , government and funders
 - Child and youth care methodology
 - Commitment to build a flexible, accountable work ethic
- Turnkey model to promote scale-up



Isibindi: Child and youth care practice

“The quality of care is not so much a singular question of how the workers feel about the children as it is how they translate their care into actions
Maier (1987)

- CYCWs **connect** with children and **build relationships** with them through the **use of daily life events**
- They help the family with basic household chores and educate about general hygiene, gardening, health, nutrition, and household care.
- They cook together with children, teach basic life skills and build resilience – ***using ordinary human interaction as a context and a means for transcending basic care to meet the emotional needs of children*** – especially in child-headed and parentless families. *Larissa Award - 2012*





“.....when I come to see them, they run and hug me and they are so happy.....”









Critical success factors

- Isibindi meets a legitimate need
- Cost-effective
- National model adapted to local contexts
- Articulates social policy
- Broad-based ownership of projects – creation – co-ownership – co-creation
- Synergy between the model & the spirit of Ubuntu
- Inclusive of many partners
- Responds to core government strategies
- Job creation – salaries for CYCWs

Isibindi scale-up

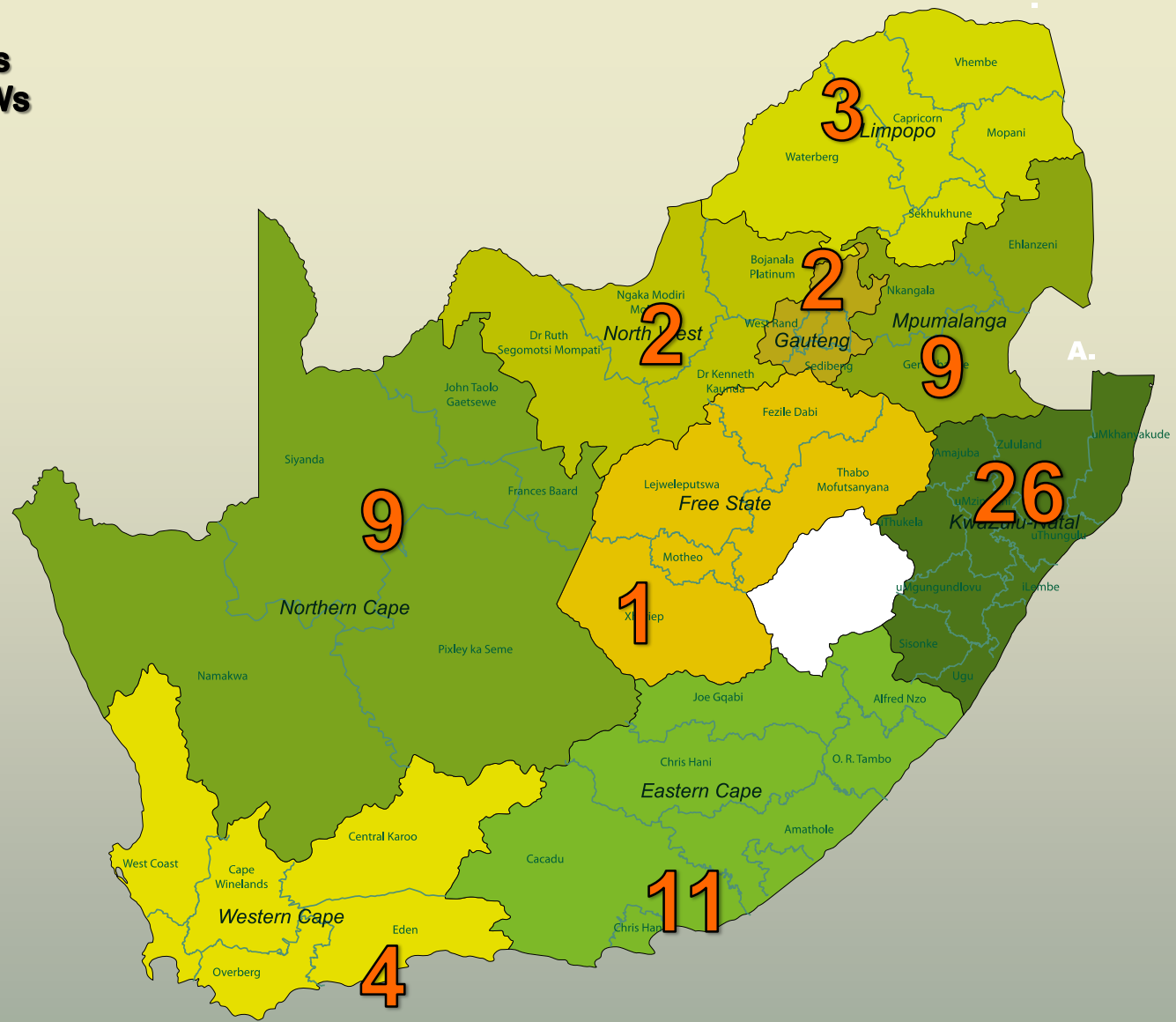
SA Government initiative to scale up Isibindi

- 400 Isibindi projects
- 10 000 Child and Youth Care workers
- 1.4 million children
- Within 3 – 5 years

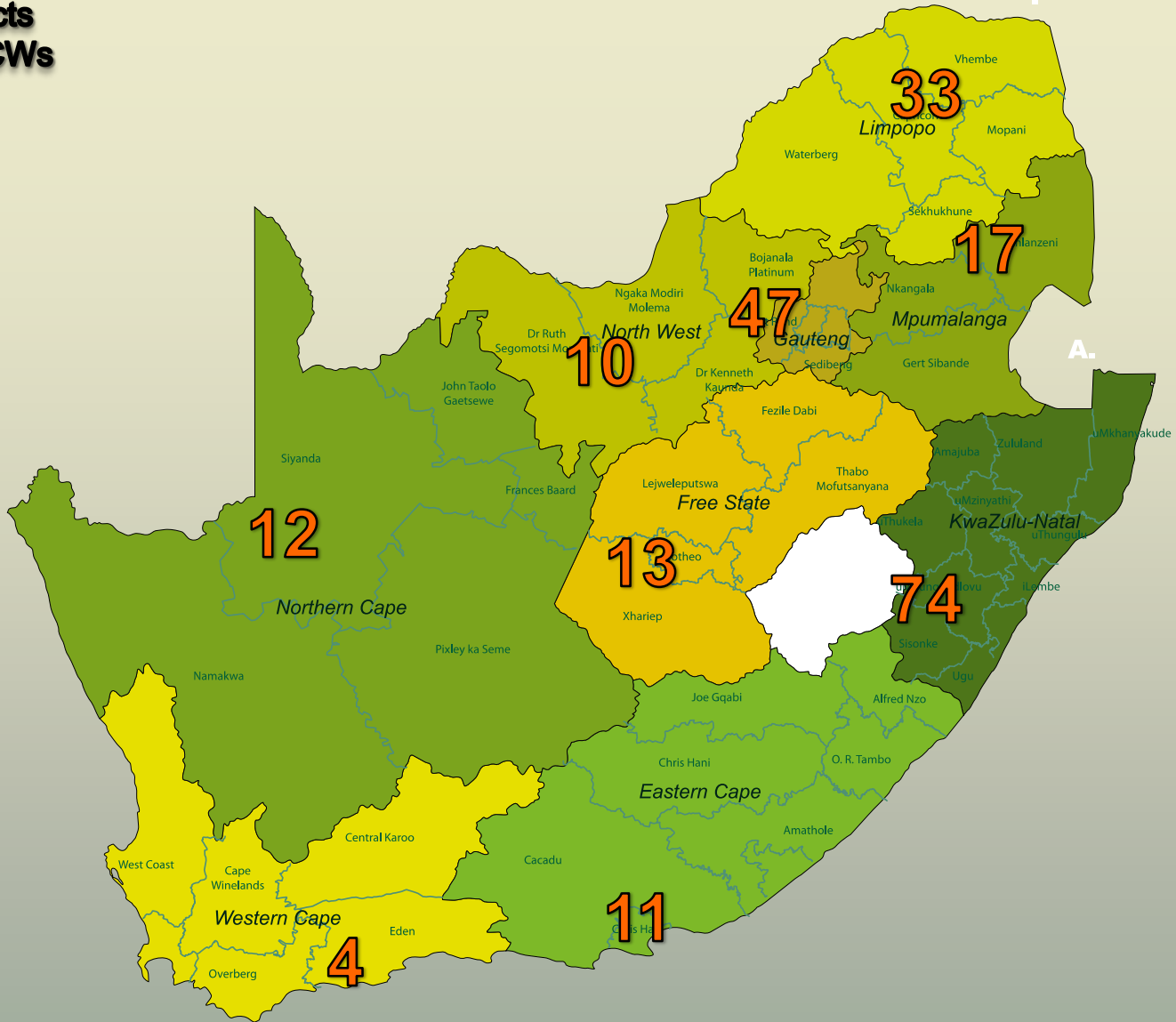


2013

67 projects
898 CYCWs



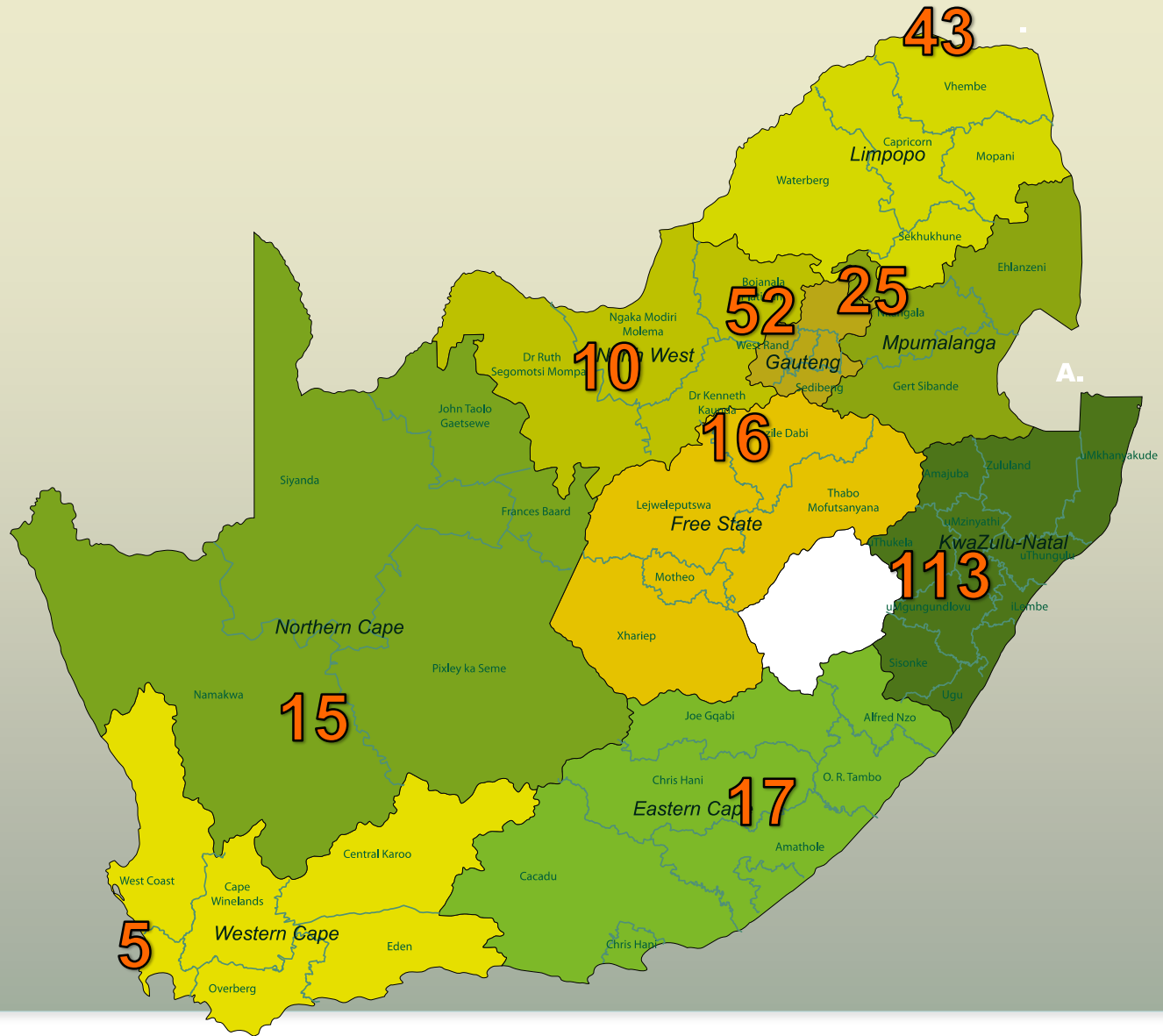
2013/14
221 projects
2743 CYCWs



Planned Projects for 2014/15

296 projects

5268 CYCWs



April 2013 – March 2014

- 1st year of implementation
- 225 Isibindi projects operational nationally
- 2743 workers in training (93% of 2934 target reached)
- 97 000 children serviced (77% of 124 731 target reached)



“when Auntie Z came, things changed. I started to dream my dreams again”





