

announced that the **Fund**, under its current mandate, will be closing in September 2022 following a resolution taken by the board in February. Let me be clear, the COVID-19 threat still exists, but the nature of the pandemic has changed, in large part, thanks to the vaccine roll-out. South Africa, and the world. is out of the crisis phase of **COVID**, and entering a stage where the approach to **COVID** needs to be normalised and managed alongside many diseases in society. The **Fund** has played its part in helping to capacitate the national and provincial healthcare system and in boosting vaccine knowledge and acceptance. Despite the closure announcement, rest assured that the "business as usual" running and implementation of our remaining interventions remains a priority. As a team, we are committed to fulfilling our responsibilities to completing all interventions in the responsible, accountable manner that we have demonstrated over the last 2 years. I would like to end by reminding everyone of the legacy that the **Fund** leaves

behind. It is unique in the world – bringing government, business and civil society together in a unified battle against a great threat, and it has set the standard for collaboration and cooperation. We have a lot of hard work ahead of us in the **next few months** as we finalise the closure. I know, as always, I can trust my team to see it through with commitment and professionalism. **Tandi Nzimande**

COVID RELIEF FUND A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

R3,24* billion



Behavioural

Change:

15 Projects

(26 sub-projects)

R3,47* billion

R3,47* billion

RECEIVED

Pillars

Health

Total

Humanitarian

Behaviour Change

* Accurate as at 29 March 2022

AT A GLANCE Disbursed

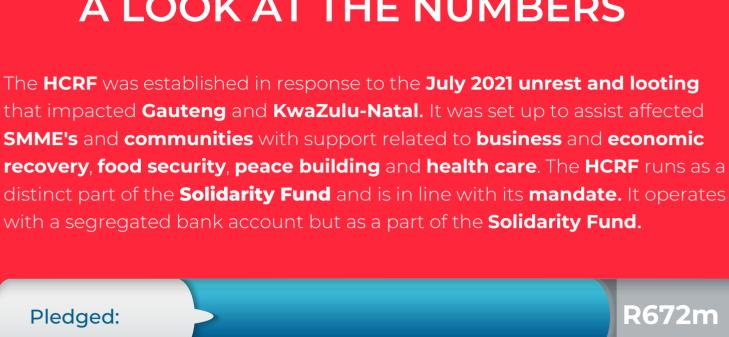
R2.3bn

R429m

R508m

R3,24bn





R597m

R558m

(Includes R100m SF Transfer)

to wrap up the **Fund** as it currently stands.

remain.

extensive.

Newzroom Afrika

Business@Prime with

Tandi Nzimande

*Accurate as at 29 March 2022

Pledged:

Received:

Disbursed:

The **Fund** will not be liquidated entirely, however. Rather it will be placed into a **dormant** state with the ability to remobilise should another calamity of a similar nature and severity to the **COVID-19 pandemic** occur. The intention is to preserve the remarkable legacy that the **Fund** has created with regards to intellectual and experiential knowledge. As we focus on closing down the **Solidarity Fund** and wrapping up its current activities, the following will happen: No further fundraising will take place and no new interventions or applications for funding will be considered.

Remaining funds will be allocated to proposals that are already in the system.

running when it is re-activated for another calamity.

Impact & Close Out Reports will follow.

The discipline and rigour on maintaining high impact, low-cost implementation will

The **Fund** will retain a minimum balance of **R15 million** to enable it to hit the ground

External audits for the 2022 and 2023 financial periods, together with Solidarity Fund

THE FUND ANNOUNCES

ITS CLOSURE AT

On the 17th of March, a briefing was held at which the Fund announced its closure as of

September 2022, and updated all stakeholders, partners and the public on the current

interventions that are taking place. While the threat of **COVID-19** is not over, the current

The **Fund** was never intended to be a long-term solution, but rather an urgent, interim,

unfolding crisis. As a result, a decision was made following a resolution taken by the board,

impactful and significant intervention in augmenting government's response to the

act as an additive to the **government** response, has been fulfilled.

mandate to mobilise the **South African** people in the fight against the **pandemic**, and to

For an update on the **Fund's** activities over last **6 months**; click here To view a recording of the **briefing** held on the **17th of March**;

click here

To read the full **media statement** relevant to the announcement;

click here

HEAR WHAT THE MEDIA HAD TO SAY POST-BRIEFING

The closing of the **Fund** is an important milestone in the **COVID-19 pandemic**. Though it

pandemic is being managed in **South Africa** and the world, with an 'endemic' rather than

'pandemic' response being favoured. As a result, coverage of the announcement has been

does not signify the end of the threat, it does represent a shifting in attitude to how the

Below are links to a selection of **media interviews** held following the announcement.

Power FM

PowerBusiness with

702 The Money Show

with Bruce Whitfield

with Adrian Enthoven



DONORS URGED TO

CLAIM THEIR SECTION

18A CERTIFICATES

The Fund urges all donors to go online and claim their Section 18A

these certificates to individual donors as the process requires that

every donor registers with a unique cellphone number or email

Below is a simple guide on how to access your certificate.

claim their certificates.

Navigate to the Solidarity Fund website:

Click on the Section 18A button

Select New Donor to Register or Existing to access your personal profile

Register by completing all personal

Enter the OTP received on your

Information

phone or email

Certificates themselves. Unfortunately, the Fund is not able to issue

address and receives a one-time pin in order to access the certificate.

For security purposes, only donors, or donor representatives, are able to

Select complete registration https://solidarityfund.co.za/ You have the option to save your personal Click on the Section 18A tab details as a draft and to revisit the site at a later stage or to submit your request

Click on Donation Registration to

and submit

Existing Donations

Fill out your donation details

You can view all S18A's that you have

registered for as well as the status of

the certificate by selecting View

register for a S18A

CAMPAIGN TO DRIVE VACCINATION UPTAKE AMONGST THE YOUTH The push to get **South Africa** vaccinated continues, and the **Solidarity Fund** continues to play its part. After the success of the #RollUPYourSleevesSA demand creation campaign which launched in September 2021, the Fund has extended this campaign with the **next phase** which will run for) PR (CHO) (O) (8 weeks from the 21st of March 2022. This phase will focus on extending targeted community mobilisation, door-to-door information provision and activations in the districts where vaccine uptake has been low. This will include five major metros - City of

FINAL PHASE OF



HCRF SMME PROGRAMME

HITS IMPRESSIVE MILESTONES

The Fund's partnership with the NEF (National Empowerment Fund)

has been a real success story. Through the joint fund created to

support **SMMEs** impacted by the **July 2021** civil unrest, more than

82 SMMEs have been helped, saving more than 3 168 jobs. The fund

consisted of just over R633 million, of which the Fund contributed

approximately 40% for grant funding, and the NEF contributed the

balance. As medical supplies were also compromised during this time,

12 pharmacies were also assisted with grant funding, saving 170 jobs.

Small businesses of all sizes were affected by the unrest. In order to

support **SMMEs** with an annual turnover of less than **R3 million**,

grants, saving approximately 2 960 jobs.

R65 million in funding was allocated to Afrika Tikkun to disburse

amongst smaller businesses. In total, 864 businesses have received

When the July 2021 civil unrest took place, it wasn't only business owners who

for their livelihood were also affected. It was therefore decided that the HCRF

Voucher to approximately 20,000 former employees and informal traders

more than 13,000 recipients and is well on track to providing relief to the

targeted 20,000 beneficiaries.

were impacted, employees and informal traders who relied on passing foot traffic

(Humanitarian Crisis Relief Fund) would provide a once-off R3,000 Digital Cash

impacted by the malls and businesses being temporarily shut down. R62 million

has been allocated toward this programme. To date, the programme has reached

HCRF CASH VOUCHER

PROGRAMME ON TRACK



undertaken. These are an essential part of demonstrating transparency and

impact. A number of **new reports** relating to our projects have been uploaded

to our website.

VACCINE DEMAND CREATION

CAMPAIGN PHASE FOUR REPORT

#ROLLUPYOURSLEEVESSA CAMPAIGN

Phase four of our COVID-19 intervention, designed to generate demand and uptake of

unprecedented levels of scrutiny and focus on the subject matter on an ongoing basis

the COVID-19 vaccine, ran from September 2021 to January 2022. The campaign

launched amidst some extreme contextual headwinds. Unprecedented levels of

in the media, as well as social groups were just a few of the challenges we faced.

miss/disinformation reverberating through social media echo chambers,

The full report can be downloaded here.

https://bit.ly/3IVaIRM

#ROLLUPYOURSLEEVESSA CAMPAIGN The Fund's Behavioural Change Pillar has produced several campaigns to provide information about COVID-19, protecting yourself and your loved ones, behavioural maintenance, vaccine awareness, etc. This phase in our behavioural change

intervention focused on vaccine demand creation. 1 400 pieces of content were

social media, etc. Above and beyond the incredible media reach, around 950

encourage, support and convince people to vaccinate.

The full report can be downloaded here.

https://bit.ly/3IWDgu5

generated across a variety of channels, including TV, radio, PR, Activations, Taxi TV,

community mobilisers were on the ground interacting with their communities to

VACCINE DEMAND CREATION CAMPAIGN

FARMING INPUT VOUCHER PROGRAMME **PHASE II FINAL REPORT** The Solidarity Fund published the Farming Inputs Voucher Programme Phase I Report in August 2021. At the end of Phase I of the programme, there was an amount of approximately R22 million unspent in allocated funding. The Solidarity Fund's **Executive Committee** approved a proposal to pivot the unspent funds towards working with **NGOs** and **farming groups** to reach their respective members in districts with low redemption rates. An extension of the programme until the 1st of October 2021 was granted to allow for further voucher redemptions.

The full report can be downloaded here. https://bit.ly/3tRAUsi

The **Solidarity Fund** is committed to transparency around all of our activities. You can find detailed information and reporting around donations received, how we allocate resources as well as the impact created by visiting www.solidarityfund.co.za.

Click on the icons below to follow us on Social Media.

(a) (b) (b)

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO This month marks the **second anniversary** since the **Solidarity Fund** was established. In two years, the work executed, and the impact made has been remarkable. In all that time, however, the greatest desire of all involved was for the day when the **Fund** would no longer be needed. That day has come. On the **17th** of March, the Fund held its first quarterly briefing of the year where it was