SOLIDARITY FUND STAKEHOLDER BULLETIN October 2022





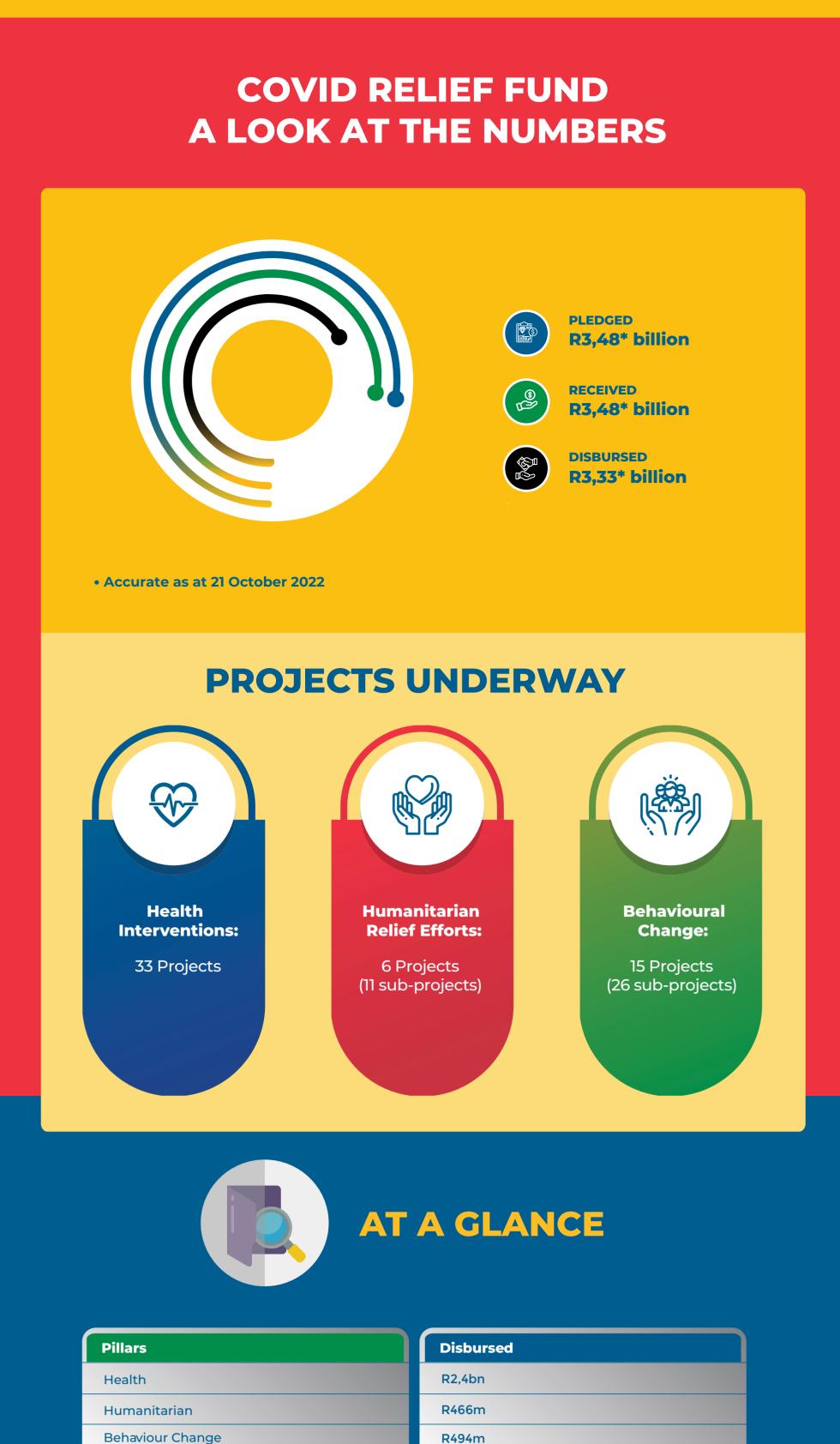


MESSAGE FROM

As we near the completion of our **scaling down process**, I can't help but reflect that I only have a few more moments like this to address you all in this forum. The **last few months**, as we **scale down**, have been quite a ride, but we are on track to meet our **December deadline**. Many of our staff and volunteers have left us now and have gone on to exciting new ventures. I am confident that they value their experience here at the **Fund** as much as I do, and I wish them the best of luck and success. More of our interventions and programmes have also been completed. We have published a number of **additional reports** and I urge you to access them in order to view the impact delivered by our programmes.

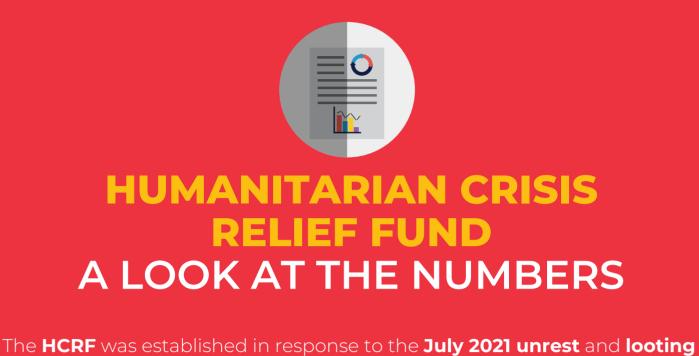
Aside from **scaling down**, we have also been working on an institutional archive for the **Fund** – a **collective memory** – where we will document the achievements and learnings of the last few years. One way we are doing this is through the commissioning of a documentary on our combined efforts, our impact and the people who made it all happen. This will be released in **December** and I am excited to see what the response will be to it. If the users are anything like me, they will sit in awe of the accomplishments of **South Africa's response to the pandemic**.

Tandi Nzimande



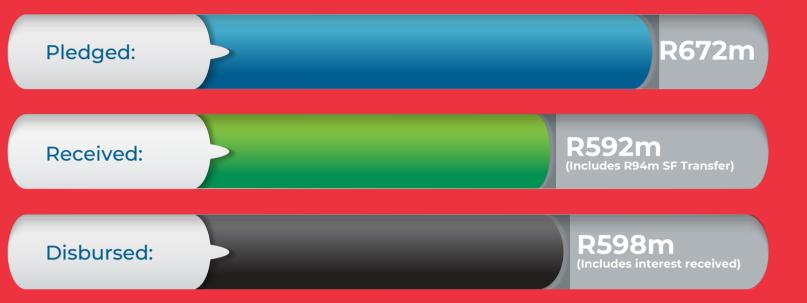
Accurate as at 21 October 2022

Total



R3.33bn

that impacted Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal. It was set up to assist affected SMME's and communities with support related to business and economic recovery, food security, peace building and health care. The HCRF has a separate bank account as it was set up with a mandate distinct from the COVID mandate.



Accurate as at 21 October 2022

SOLIDARITY FUND FLOODS RESPONSE A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

The Solidarity Fund Floods Response was set up to respond to the humanitarian crisis resulting from the devastating floods in KwaZulu-Natal and Eastern Cape in 2022. All funds are managed separately from the COVID response mandate.



*Total disbursed lower than previously reported due to return of funds from completed projects.



THE SOLIDARITY FUND CONTRIBUTES TO THE SOUTH AFRICA COVID-19 COUNTRY REPORT

The Solidarity Fund has been invited to contribute to the second edition of South Africa COVID-19 Country Report. This report is produced by the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME) in partnership with the Government Technical Advisory Centre and the National Research Foundation, and provides a storyline and a broad understanding of how South Africa managed the COVID-19 outbreak and the negative socio-economic impacts. The intent is to learn from our collective experiences and improve responses going forward.

The **first edition** of the **Report** was published in **June 2021** and focuses on the time period of the **first** and **second COVID-19 waves** in **South Africa**. The **second edition** is currently being researched and prepared for publication in **2023**. **Solidarity Fund CEO Tandi Nzimande,** was approached to provide input on the **Fund's** role in order to capture the extent, reach and impact delivered within its multi-sectoral approach to the pandemic. The invitation to participate provides an additional opportunity to highlight the **Fund's independence**, **governance** and **accountability**, and importantly, the role of the **Fund** in supporting the **national effort** and additionality to **Government** action by creating, executing and supporting **community programmes**.

Click here to **download** the

South Africa COVID-19 Country Report: First Edition June 2021

https://www.gtac.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/SA-COVID-19-Report_Final_Online.pdf





The Fund's Wongakazi Majola was invited to participate in the 66th Annual Institute of People Management (IPM) Convention and Exhibition which took place in the North-West province on 17-18 October. The theme of the event was "Beyond Digital" and presentations covered a wide range of themes from employee well-being to mobile talent and more. Wongakazi addressed attendees on the theme of Youth Unemployment Through the Creation of Micro Enterprises.

While there is a great need for



government and society to work to address the multiple factors and forces shaping young people's access to the job market in **South Africa**, the presentation focused on how many

young people are unable to wait for change and are creating their own opportunities. This is taking the form of cooperatives and cottage industries.

It is a long-held belief that, in order to **start a business**, you need to have **capital**. Through examples found within the **Solidarity Fund** initiatives, as well as through the **government's COVID-19 grant**, **Wongakazi** demonstrated that this is not the case. The **Fund's Farming Inputs Voucher programme** provides several examples of this. The programme was designed as a **crisis food relief response** to alleviate the devastating impact of the **COVID-19 pandemic** on **small-scale** and **subsistence farmers**. Many utilised the vouchers to go beyond providing just for their family's immediate needs, and created thriving businesses. A beneficiary started a chicken business with an initial purchase of a small brood of chickens. Another beneficiary farmer in the **Free State** sells 'take-away' meals from her home and uses the produce from her garden to supply her business.



As the **Fund** approaches the **end** of our **scaling down process**, it has become clear that the work, learnings and achievements of the last few years need to be documented to capture the **Fund's incredible** and **remarkable journey**. Along the way there have been many milestones and a number of challenges. We need to tell the story of how the country came together and acted in unison, in solidarity, to fight and respond rapidly to the pandemic – not just so that we can remember but so that we can recognise those who contributed and build on this accumulated knowledge and experience.

AND LEARN

In order to do this, the **Fund** has commissioned a documentary to tell the honest, inspiring story of the work we have done, the lives we have impacted and the people that made it happen. In a relatively short timeframe, the **Fund** has **disbursed R4 billion** across its **pillars**, while adhering to the highest standards of governance, accountability and transparency. This documentary will show the hard work and the determination that is required to achieve this.

The **documentary** will be **released** at the **end of November** and is just one way that we are preserving the work and learnings of the **Solidarity Fund** during an unprecedented



As part of our responsibility to the **public** and **our stakeholders**, the **Fund** publishes reports on a regular basis with **updates** on **projects** and **initiatives** 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.

ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT PROJECT

Strengthening the national health system is a priority for the **Fund**. Shortages of essential medical equipment, particularly in rural communities, affects the care and treatment of **COVID-19 patients**. This project was crucial in providing essential and life-saving medical equipment to healthcare facilities in need. The project also impacted positively on the lives of healthcare workers by making their jobs easier and giving them the confidence of knowing they have the tools to support their patients. Over the long term and beyond the pandemic, the project has helped to build resilience into the public healthcare system, helping facilities across the country to provide better care to the communities they serve during COVID.

The full report can be downloaded here.

https://bit.ly/3SGi3d2

VACCINE DEMAND CREATION COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS IMPACT REPORT

From the moment vaccines became available in our country, the Fund focused on supporting the government's roll-out programme through enabling accessibility and generating demand for the COVID-19 vaccine. This second chapter in the Fund's goal to generate demand followed on from the previous campaign and focused on improving uptake of vaccinations, maintaining high levels of vaccine acceptance. As with the previous campaign, this campaign launched amidst unprecedented levels of misinformation. Despite this, great inroads were made and we significantly contributed to vaccination uptake.

The full report can be downloaded here.

https://bit.ly/3SHg2Ny

COMMUNITY PARTNERS - VACCINE DEMAND CREATION CAMPAIGNS (CCF, COVID COMMS AND SACC) IMPACT REPORT

There can be little doubt that community dialogue brings more engagement and vigour to the conversation of why the vaccine is important. Utilising the influence and trust that faith groups have acquired in communities, engagement meetings and community engagement dialogues proved to be a powerful community entry tool to build trust and garner support. Our on-the-ground interventions were a seed that inspired those we engaged with to spread correct vaccine information to their network and answer hesitant individuals. Through these efforts, thousands of individuals, including secondary and tertiary information recipients were inspired to vaccinate.

The full report can be downloaded here.

https://bit.ly/3U6Inhz

To view all reports previously published, please visit.

https://solidarityfund.co.za/reports/

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**.

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