

Nasou Via Afrika gives desks to school kids

Pupils at two Eastern Cape primary schools will benefit from new lapdesks, Media24's educational publishing company Nasou Via Afrika announced yesterday, Thursday, 9 July 2009.



Nasou Via Afrika, a publisher of school textbooks and literature such as *Ace*, *Isiseko*, *Sonwabile*, *Learning can be fun* and *New Nation* series, has donated more than 2000 lapdesks to Manezi Primary School and Qaqamba Primary School in the Eastern Cape.

The lapdesk, a South African invention by The Lapdesk Company, is a brightly coloured, plastic platform printed with educational information such as the alphabet, multiplication tables and the words to the national anthem. Semi-circular in shape, the lightweight, ergonomical design makes it wide enough to accommodate a textbook and a writing pad, yet small enough to fit easily on a learner's lap to create an effective writing surface.

Desk shortages continue to affect almost 30% of all learners in South Africa, particularly at schools in rural communities and outlying areas. This is a total of over 4 million. The desk shortages are not only a local problem. More than 400 million children in emerging markets worldwide, of who 80 million are in Africa, have little or no use of a desk.

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