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WATER, SANITATION AND
HYGIENE (WASH) IN SCHOOLS
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24 JULY 2025

15:00 – 16:00 SAST

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Strengthening the Intergovernmental Approach to Menstrual Health Management in Schools: South Africa

Menstrual Health Management (MHM) is an essential element of the broader Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene in Schools (WinS) agenda and plays a critical role in advancing gender equity in education.

South Africa has made commendable progress through the Sanitary Dignity Framework (2019) and the formation of the South African Coalition on Menstrual Health Management (SACMHM). However, significant challenges remain, particularly around cross-sectoral coordination, resource alignment, and institutional accountability at all levels of government. Many schools continue to face inadequate infrastructure, limited access to menstrual products, and insufficient support services.

This webinar, co-hosted by the Department of Basic Education (DBE), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), and Days for Girls International. To share South Africa's progress to institutionalise MHM within education and public health systems through coordinated actions at both national and subnational levels.

SPEAKERS AND PRESENTERS:

5 MIN Welcome and opening:

> Noxolo Thabatha

5 MIN Setting the scene:

> Belinda Williams

15 MIN Overview and discussion:

> Likho Bottoman,
Department of Basic Education

7 MIN Presentation: > Andile Dube,
UNICEF-South Africa

7 MIN Presentation: > Diana Nelson,
Days for Girls International

10 MIN Panel discussion:

> Likho Bottoman, Diana Nelson,
Andile Dube

Closing: > UNICEF/UNFPA

