

2026 & BEYOND

Building on the strong evidence from 2023 - 2025, Zazi iZandi enters 2026 with a focused plan to expand reach, strengthen quality, and prepare the programme for national implementation.

Full Year District-Wide Implementation

Zazi iZandi hopes to implement across the entire Nelson Mandela Bay district in partnership with the Eastern Cape Department of Education for a 6-9 month intervention testing the results of ZZ at scale.

Vertical Expansion

The team intends on scaling Zazi iZandi up into Grade 2 & 3 classrooms at the request of the Department of Education. This will include a combination of letter knowledge and blending-skills (eg ZZ 2.0). At the same time, we will replicate our ECD pilot projects (expanding vertically downwards) at larger scale.

Launching in Additional Districts

Zazi iZandi hopes to continue to launch pilots in additional districts and cities, testing replication in new environments and languages, while continuing to demonstrate adaptability across South African contexts.

Horizontal Expansion

We seek to continue to introduce additional languages, particularly isiZulu, to the Zazi iZandi programme. If funding is available, the ZZ team seeks to replicate our :numeracy initiative at a larger scale. The incredible 2025 numeracy pilot results warrant testing a larger scale.

Digital Tool Innovation

The team will work closely with Teampact to develop an enhanced version of their app, including word and passage reading assessments. In addition, the Masi team intends on launching their open-source basic assessment mobile app in 2026.

Upgraded Data Portal

Our data portal and websites will continue to be enhanced with deeper insights, improved quality flags, school-level performance views, and export-ready reports for government and research partners.

AI Integrations

The ZZ team will continue to integrate artificial intelligence solutions into the work flows and Zazi iZandi systems. There are scopes of work for an enhanced ZazAI, a mentor AI assistant, and personalised TA AI assistants.

Enhanced Teaching Tools

We will release upgraded games, activities, decodable texts, and training materials—designed from field feedback and aligned tightly with the Department of Education's Reading Strategy.

