

## Maintenance of existing Skills Development dispensation (PRJ-0413-2025) SAMPRO

Quarter 2 2025 (April 2025 till June 2025)

#### **Project goals**

Goal 1 - Interactions in respect of acts, regulations, policies and procedures of bodies in the public sector regarding knowledge and skills development in light of the needs of the dairy industry, with the authoritative bodies in the public sector, tertiary education institutions and representatives of other industries

#### **Achievements**

In respect of the objective/goals 1, the following in respect of the **FIRST QUARTER**:

In respect of the FIRST quarter, the following report was submitted:

The participating learners reported that there was an improvement in the quality of the EISA questions as compared to last year's versions. However, it was still low quality as expressed by at least one or more candidates who participated. It has to do with the way that the questions are composed and it was evident that the composer had very little dairy knowledge, as some questions were difficult to understand. In the case of the Fermented Products exam, some Cheese Making questions were included. The Project Manager had requested verbally and by email that the questionnaires be sent to him for evaluation with the aim of improving both the questions and answers, which now is supposed to be in the public domain and not a state secret anymore. The SETA has undertaken to send these as soon as the grading was completed. A reminder will serve as follow-up.

Prior to the actual EISA the SETA attempted to put together a preparatory test with answers to distribute to the learners as an example of what to expect, which they requested the Project Manager to scrutinise and

### Non-achievements / underperformance

The executing authorities have delayed the announcement of EISA results, without explanation. This is not under control of the Project. A new effort has been made in respect of the chamber statistics and preliminary reports have been received, which needs to be updated.

#### Reasons for nonachievements / underperformance

Unexplained by executing authorities, but not for any lack from the Project.

#### Planned remedies for nonachievements / underperformance

Frequent follow up. Please see Addendum in this regard in Popular Report approve. Unfortunately the quality of all 4 sets were very low and extensive comments and recommendations for improvements had to be submitted to the SETA. The comments were also copied to the CEOs of Milk SA and SAMPRO as well as the SETA's Dairy Chamber Chairman, but not the questionnaires and answer sets, which would be frustrating for them to scrutinise and were massive documents of dozens of pages.

#### The following in respect of the **SECOND QUARTER**:

The main interaction currently with the authorities **REMAINS** around two major issues, being <u>firstly</u> the External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA) that was conducted on 25 and 26 March; no report of which as been received. Please note attached correspondence between the Project Manager and Senior Quality Manager of FoodBev SETA as cut and paste from electronic communication at the end of this report as Addendum 1.

<u>Secondly</u> the seemingly established chamber specific statistics received late last year and which has relevance rather to the third objective/goal of the project, which have not resumed as results of staff shortages at the SETA and also a shortage of funds, as the SETA is already at the admin expenditure limit as allowed in the Act.

Goal 2 - Continuous evaluation so that, depending on factors like technology development, changing production and manufacturing procedures and requirements set by relevant bodies in the public sector, to determine whether amendment is necessary of, for example, the curriculum, learning materials, assessment tools and qualifications

#### Achievements

Regarding Goals 2, the following has been reported for the FIRST quarter:

- a. Currently a submission is being prepared by the Project Manager that covers the extent of revision to recommend to a panel of experts (also the choice of people of the Project Manager to recruit, which is still in flux as these people will be requested to act as sounding board with their time for free).
- b. The design of the qualification is deemed as sound and no changes other than cosmetic would be required.
   Contents have to be added to reflect some new technologies that have been deployed and permission

## Non-achievements / underperformance

The expert panel required for the Dairyman revision process has only partially been selected and wider representation is required.

#### Reasons for nonachievements / underperformance

The request for nominations from the Milk SA Advisory sub-committee (secondary industry) was not reacted to productively and a second round of negotiations is

is to be sought for its incorporation to ensure that no proprietary information is used which is not approved by the involved enterprises. This exercise is scheduled for closer to the end of the second quarter and the revision has to be completed by end 2026.

- c. The involvement of a Qualification Development Facilitator (QDF) via the SETA has to be arranged for the process to conform to the policy of revision set by QCTO, which will also soon be executed. It is important that the QDF be informed prior to the start of the process of the approach to the revision as approved by the panel of experts.
- d. In respect of the SECOND quarter, the following:
- e. Please refer to Addendum 2, being the approach to the revision process.
- f. The panel of experts are still being assembled as nominations were not forthcoming at the first request, but some potential names had been added recently. This will hopefully be established before the end of the third quarter, together with engagement of the SETA and QCTO for the process to start in earnest.
- g. Approval is also still being awaited for the inclusion of certain technologies that may be deemed as proprietary.

underway.

#### Planned remedies for nonachievements / underperformance

Renewed requests are made on an individual basis, for nominations to serve on the expert panel for the revision.

# Goal 3 - Guidance and promotion of skills and knowledge development in respect thereof to members of the dairy industry. It is of collective importance that guidance should be provided to the members of the dairy industry which is not influenced by commercial interest of any enterprise conducting training

#### **Achievements**

Regarding goal 3 the following was reported for the FIRST quarter:

- a. Though the reported topics are dependent on events at the SETA and interactions between industry and the SETA, some (almost) standard topics are listed below. Sub-committee members were requested to consider this and add to it as the need arises.
- b. Changes in grant policies and values
- Changes to the SD Act; SD Levies Act or the SETA Constitution
- d. New Dairy qualifications, part-qualification or skills programmes registered
- e. Industry-specific training and education statistics, but

## Non-achievements / underperformance

None of the information required for reporting in a newsletter was recieved or changed. including information for other goals such as EISA results or dairy participation statistics. At the time of compiling this report, a new set of provisional dates for EISA results were received from the SETA, but this was dependent on compliance by QCTO.

#### Reasons for nonachievements / underperformance

including generic programmes available

Personnel turnover at the SETA and lack of administrative funds to appoint new functionaries.

Planned remedies for nonachievements / underperformance

Frequent enquiries in respect of the sought information.

#### Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	2nd qtr short fin SD sec ind 2025.pdf TrgJun25.pdf
Unnecessary spending during period	No

#### **Popular Report**

Popular 2nd qtr report.pdf EISA results.pdf

#### **Additional documentation**

Minutes - Stakeholder Session Manufacture of Dairy Products.pdf

#### **Statement**

Levy funds were applied only for the purposes stated in the contract	Yes
Levy funds were applied in an appropriate and accountable manner	Yes
Sufficient management and internal control systems were in place to adequately control the project and accurately account for the project expenditure	Yes
The information provided in the report is correct	Yes