

## Who are we & why are we doing what we do?

Green Shoots is a South African education organisation founded in 2012 by two ex-teachers to design and implement sustainable, scalable & inclusive technology enabled education solutions that are people focused. The Integrated Maths Project (IMP) consists of the GS Suite - online tools for Maths learning; 'warmware' - comprehensive and ongoing stakeholder implementation and integration support; and real-time customised learner progress dashboards for all stakeholders from learners to Education officials.

Successful and sustainable, large scale deployment and systemic adoption of EdTech across different socio-economic and contextual realities has been seriously problematic in sub Saharan Africa. Often solutions are 'copied' from first world contexts and 'pasted' in our local schools & districts. We are always keen to share the lessons and success of this local solution that has global potential.



We are targeting Primary school Maths teaching and learning, as strong foundations in Maths built in the lower years, opens so many future opportunities for the learners. Our target audience is Primary school learners grade 3-7 (ages 9 -13); the education system that is responsible for their learning - Education officials, school managements & teachers; and the ecosystem that supports learners outside of school - parents & guardians, community organisations & NGOs.

Teachers & schools in South Africa face large primary classes of 45-60+, to which they have to deliver an overcrowded Primary Maths Curriculum. It is almost impossible to mark so many Maths books every lesson!! Hence teachers are not able to plan ongoing lessons to accommodate the current understanding and progress of their many learners. The Maths Curriculum Online tool part of the IMP has twice weekly, online exercises mapped to the entire year's curriculum in two languages. Learners get immediate feedback on their marks and teachers have a real-time summary of what learners know/don't know.

## So how are we making a difference?

We have successfully implemented a system that marries the insights and experience of teachers with the support of a tech enabled Maths curriculum and real-time dashboards showing customised learner analyses.

This solution capacitates and supports stakeholders at all levels across the education system by providing credible, real time, ongoing learner progress data - which was just not available prior to in the implementation of the Integrated Maths Project.

Inclusivity is a core value that guides this solution. The IMP does not have a 'premium aspect' for the more economically advantaged schools. ALL schools get the best solution. The IMP is accessible with low or no connectivity (we have an offline solution for school use) and on any device with the basic processing capacity e.g. all browser enabled cell phones (not just smart phones).

The weekly, curriculum aligned 'Maths Curriculum Online (MCO)' activities encourage complete curriculum coverage; at a correct pace, level and difficulty. The real-time results introduces a depth and immediacy of



feedback for both learners and teachers that was not previously available. Real-time, standardised data is provided through online termly assessments that benchmark learner progress.

Data from MCO weekly activities and termly assessments are aggregated & online, real-time, queryable visualisations of learner data are provided to teachers, school managements & education officials. The IMP is unique in its provision of a province/district level dashboard. Stakeholders, at all levels of the system, are able to identify and collaborate to design strategies and interventions to tackle major learning barriers and systemic issues as they occur.



The project’s sustainability, scalability and impact is contingent on its comprehensive ‘warmware’ development component for stakeholders. An ongoing and contextually differentiated implementation, adoption and integration pathway is deployed in schools and education districts.

### Our successes...

This solution is working and growing...

We started with six schools using the IMP in 2012 and we are now supporting 660 schools, 336, 079 learners, 8, 147 teachers & 294 Education officials. The IMP has been successfully implemented across the socio-economic & geographic scale. We are working productively with schools in all contexts from rural farm schools (around 100 learners) to large urban township schools (more than 1200 learners). The Western Cape Province is now implementing the IMP in over 500 schools across its 8 Districts. The IMP has been successfully and sustainably implemented at a scale that is not usually seen in a sub-Saharan Africa context.

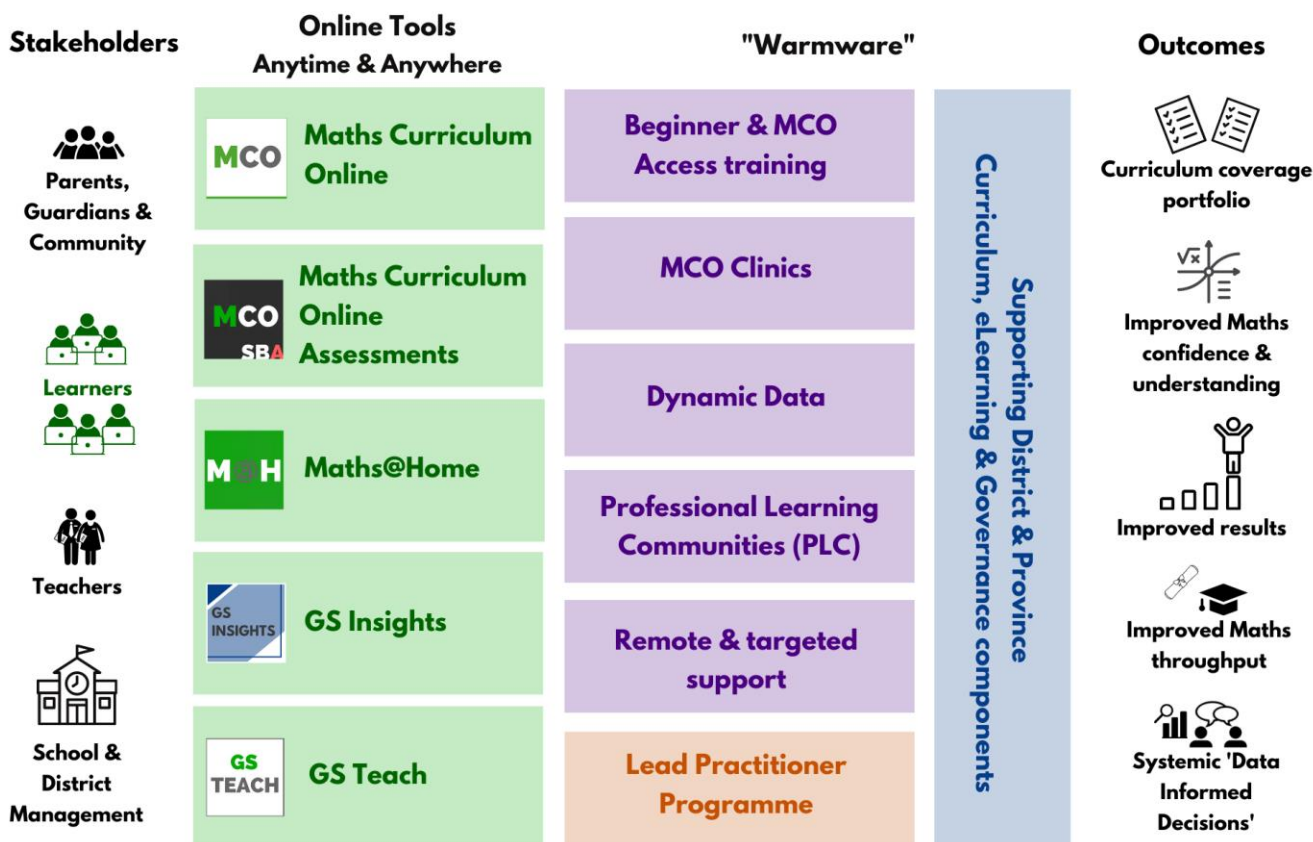


The success is not just in the tech itself, but how the IMP has been crafted, and is still being crafted, to support the needs and pain points of stakeholders throughout the education system.

All stakeholder are supported along an integration and adoption pathway that is a two-way process allowing open dialogue throughout the adoption process. This socially embedded approach to change has resulted in a high level of adoption across stakeholders from teachers to education districts.

The availability and subsequent use of real-time, queryable learner data across the system has changed how learners and role players identify and respond to problems. The result is a wide scale adoption of a tech enabled, data informed Primary Maths curriculum. The access to MCO outside of school for individual learners, community based organisations and NGOs. These activities have increased parental involvement and allowed motivated organisations to contribute to learner progress.

## Integrated Maths Programme Primary Schools



### Who we are...

As an organisation, our core understanding is that 'we work with people not computers'. The development of people is central to all our outcomes and interactions. The Green Shoots Team is a highly qualified, professional and dedicated group of multi-skilled individuals. They are drawn from the educational and technical worlds, which enables them to bring a wealth of experience to any programme. The diversity of expertise within Green Shoots allows for creativity, efficient implementation and effective on-going evaluation.

Green Shoots NPC Board consists of Michael Taberer, Leonora Sauls, Thandi Sililo, Jo Besford and Mark Swartz. Their experience is in the fields of business, philanthropy, non-profit management and education.

**Green Shoots has successfully harnessed the potential of EdTech to support the whole education ecosystem, in and out of school, to continually enhance the quality of Maths teaching and learning.**

### Additional information

**Website** [www.greenshootsedu.co.za](http://www.greenshootsedu.co.za)

**Twitter** @GreenShootsEdu

**YouTube** [www.youtube.com/user/GreenShootsEducation](http://www.youtube.com/user/GreenShootsEducation)

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