



**EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME
CONTRIBUTING TO A NATION AT WORK**

FIRST QUARTERLY REPORT – YEAR 2 (For the period 1 April to 30 June 2005)

Financial Year 2005/06

(This narrative should be read in conjunction with Annexures A – F)

1 November 2005

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1 Introduction

This report reflects on the data and programme management issues (such as institution building and capacity building) for the first quarter of the financial year 2005/06 for the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP). Data on EPWP projects are submitted by national departments, state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and provinces. The report does not include figures on job creation resulting from infrastructure projects implemented by municipalities through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG). The MIG reporting system (MIG MIS) is still being tested and the EPWP indicators from municipalities can only be reported by the Department of Provincial and Local Government (dplg) once this system is fully operational.

This report contains both the gross and net job opportunities over the three month period for public works programmes (PWP's) across the four sectors of the EPWP, i.e. the infrastructure, environment and culture, social and economic sectors. In the infrastructure and environment and culture sectors the focus is on the substitution of labour for machines. The social sector is by nature labour-intensive, while the economic sector focuses on the creation of emerging entrepreneurs. The gross job opportunities are the total job opportunities created on a project, and the net work opportunities are the gross job opportunities less the opportunities which would have resulted had the same work been done using machine-intensive methods.

It should be noted that EPWP data is collected cumulatively from one quarter to another and capped on an annual basis. Job opportunities reported may not necessarily be new ones. A case in point is the Zibambele Road Maintenance Programme in KZN. This programme consists mainly of part-time contractual work and the contracts are renewed annually. Given the need to keep the key performance indicators (KPIs) as simple as possible to ensure that data could be collected in a sustainable way, it is impossible to keep track of individuals obtaining job opportunities on the EPWP. The same person could thus be employed repeatedly. There is thus an inherent weakness in this particular KPI. In addition, some projects cut across financial years, which might result in double-reporting of some work opportunities between the fourth quarter of the previous financial year and the first quarter of the new financial year. To offset these problems, data is also collected on the number of person-years of work created on EPWP projects. The number of person-years of work created is a more reliable indicator than the number of work opportunities created, because it does not have these potential double-reporting problems.

2 Monitoring and Evaluation

The monitoring and evaluation framework for the EPWP has been finalised and forms the basis for evaluation studies that are in the process of being commissioned in the current financial year. Service providers will commence in this financial year with conducting of longitudinal studies and cross-sectional surveys, as well as case studies and completion reports. The lessons learned will be fed into project planning and implementation cycles, and will be used to identify the key issues that need attention in subsequent evaluation studies.

Data for monitoring purposes is collected according to a number of indicators in all EPWP projects on a quarterly basis. These indicators have been integrated into existing reporting systems of the various sectors. For example, the existing National Treasury monitoring system is being used to monitor EPWP projects funded through the Provincial Infrastructure Grant (PIG), and the EPWP indicators are being included in the single monitoring system which is being established for the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG). It has been agreed with Stats SA that indicators on the EPWP will be included in the Labour Force Survey (LFS).

In an effort to improve data quality, the DPW is conducting capacity-building workshops for reporting bodies across all provinces.

3 Project Data for the First Quarter (2005/06)

All reported projects per sector are included in Annexure F. Data was received from all the provincial infrastructure departments, from some national infrastructure departments, and from all the national environmental and culture sector departments (coordinated by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism - DEAT). For the first time, project level data (i.e. ECD and HCBC sites) has been obtained from social sector departments in some provinces. The Economic Sector Plan involves venture learnerships and is at the initial stages of expansion, and hence limited data is report for this sector.

Every effort is made to check the consistency of data reported. However, validation of the data lies with reporting bodies and the appropriate institutional structures at the various spheres of government. In the absence of unique project identifiers, the data for the first quarter should be viewed and used with circumspection. As mentioned above, detailed reports are not yet available on municipal infrastructure projects created through the use of MIG funding. Reporting on infrastructure created by municipalities by using their own funds, as well as reporting on other EPWP sectors at this level, is also lacking. In the absence of such detailed reports, the global figures available from these programmes have been omitted from the data provided in Annexure F. This

means that the figures in Annexure F are an underestimate of the total number of work opportunities / person-years of employment created under the EPWP.

Based on the project level data received, at least 60 400 gross work opportunities (i.e. at least 59 200 *net work opportunities*) were created by the end of the first quarter of the financial year 2005/06 (see Annexure A). The total wages paid amounted to at least R98.6m. The total number of *net work opportunities* created during the first year of implementation of the EPWP amounted to at least 174 800.

It is important to measure the number of job opportunities added through the EPWP approach, i.e. the value added. The additional employment creation through the use of labour-intensive methods in the infrastructure varies depending on the degree of labour-intensity of the production methods used. Due to the complexity of the issue it should be noted that there is no uniform formula that can be applied across the board to calculate net work opportunities. For example, the average increase in employment creation through the use of labour-intensive methods in Gauteng's programme is 10%, whereas the average increase in employment creation on the Gundo Lashu roads programme in Limpopo is 600%.

The first quarter sector break-down of the number of work opportunities show that most *net work opportunities* were created in the Infrastructure Sector (at least 42 500), with the gross number of work opportunities in this sector being at least 43 700. Wages paid amounted to more than R69.9m. (At least 109 700 *net work opportunities* were created in the infrastructure sector during the first year of implementation of the EPWP.)

In the Environment and Culture Sector almost 14 000 *net work opportunities* were created in the first quarter. Wages paid amounted to R27.4m. The total number of *net work opportunities* created during 2004/05 in this sector were at least 72 700. Almost 2 700 *net work opportunities* have been reported in the Social Sector for this quarter and the wages paid amounted to R1.3m.

The EPWP's goal is to create work opportunities (coupled with training) for a minimum of one million people (at least 40% women, 30% youth and 2% disabled) in South Africa in the first five years of the programme (i.e. by 2009). A break-down of the data for the first quarterly report shows that the work opportunities created thus far consist of 64% women, 31% youth and 0.4% people with disabilities.

In the infrastructure and environment and culture sectors most people have been employed as manual workers. These manual workers are employed by contractors, who also employ supervisory staff. Depending on the nature of the project, some skilled artisans are also employed.

The average duration of employment on infrastructure projects is approximately four months, and for environment projects the average duration of employment is approximately six months. These employment duration periods are a function of the nature of the work being carried out. However, in some infrastructure programmes, such as the Zibambele routine road maintenance programme in KwaZulu-Natal, the employment is longer-term in nature (again due to the nature of the work being carried out) – contracts are renewed on an annual basis. In addition, contractors, supervisors and artisans are usually obtaining longer-term employment through EPWP projects, as they move from project to project.

Annexure F shows the geographical location of the projects and the total budget for each. In the first quarter data was received on 806 projects across the infrastructure, environment and culture, and social sectors. The majority of infrastructure projects reported on for this quarter were in the Eastern Cape. Most gross work opportunities in the infrastructure sector were generated in KZN, though – at least 32 400. The highest number of person-years of work created across the four sectors of the EPWP during this quarter was in KZN, namely 4 383 (see Annexure B3).

Up to the end of June the total MIG expenditure on infrastructure projects from the 2005/06 allocation amounted to R400.12m. No project level data could be accessed through the MIG-MIS as yet. It was not possible to determine how much employment occurred on labour-intensive MIG projects, and these figures have therefore been omitted from the data provided in Annexure F. Project-level MIG data for both the first and second quarter would only become available later.

4 Coordination and Institutional Arrangements

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is the national coordinating department for the EPWP. DPW's approach is to create a supportive and enabling framework and environment for the programme to be successfully implemented by government bodies across the Infrastructure, Environment and Culture, Social and Economic Sectors. In order to achieve this, a number of coordinating mechanisms have been established.

A National EPWP Coordinating Forum has been established. All lead sector departments, as well as National Treasury, The Presidency, DOL, dplg, SALGA, DBSA and IDT, attend this forum. In order to facilitate co-ordination between national sector departments and provinces, provincial EPWP coordinators have been invited to attend this forum.

National Sector Coordinating Committees for the Environmental, Social and Infrastructure and Economic sectors track progress made, discuss common challenges and ensure that there is a common approach to training and exit strategies across the sectors.

The *EPWP Unit* in DPW is responsible for day-to-day coordination of the EPWP. The Independent Development Trust (IDT) provides support to the EPWP Unit in the form of human resources that have been deployed to assist programme managers.

Provincial EPWP Steering Committees have been established, but not all of them function equally effectively. Provincial EPWP implementation plans set provincial targets for projects and job creation across the various sectors, linked to provincial priorities.

5 Training

As stated in the objectives of the EPWP, training is critical for the successful implementation of the programme. According to the Code of Good Practice for Special Public Works Programmes, as gazetted by the DOL, it is a requirement of the EPWP that beneficiaries should undergo at least 2 days of training out of every 22 days worked. The Guidelines for the Implementation of Labour-Intensive Infrastructure Projects also require that managers of labour-intensive projects be trained in order to build capacity to manage EPWP projects at the required scale.

Different training courses and models are used for the various target groups in the different sectors.

Infrastructure Sector

According to the Tender and Design Guidelines of the Infrastructure Sector, the workers labourers of the infrastructure Sector shall receive 10 days of life skills training and on job training related to the project.

Currently DOL is doing a survey of accredited and unaccredited providers against certain criteria for delivering credit-bearing training in order to build capacity and broaden the base of accredited service providers.

DOL has identified 72 Labour Centres for now to which a computerized database of work-seekers will be rolled out. This development could assist with exit strategies for EPWP beneficiaries whose contracts come to an end.

By the end of June 2005, 346 officials had been trained in labour-intensive methods of construction. The training is a joint initiative of NDPW, SALGA and LG-SETA. Funding for the training of officials is funded by LG-SETA. The target is to train 1,200 officials by March 2006.

Environment and Culture Sector

The Department of Environment and Tourism (DEAT) embarked on a process of recruiting and appointing training lead providers per province in the following fields:

- Tourism Guiding and Hospitality
- Conservation and Environmental education
- Agriculture and horticulture
- Project Management and business skills
- Craft production
- Waste Management and Water reticulation
- Financial Management

DEAT has appointed 17 service providers to assist with coordination and the provision of accredited training in particular environmental skills programmes and learnerships. These service providers will also conduct skills audits and provide SAQA / NQF aligned courses in the wide range of environmental courses.

The Training Subcommittee is currently developing a sector training plan to improve the delivery of training in this sector. This committee will also ensure that courses are properly accredited.

Social Sector

The focus areas for the Social Sector are early childhood development (ECD) and Home community based care (HCBC).

Education Training Development Practice (ETDP) SETA has developed a learnership programme for NQF levels 1, 3 and 4 for ECD, and 4500 learners are on this programme. The Health and Welfare SETA (HWSETA) has developed a learnership programme for HCBC workers at NQF levels 2, 3 and 4, and a skills programme at level 3 and is piloting the latter programme in Limpopo with 600 learners, with funding from the Umsobomvu Fund.

Economic Sector

To date, 120 learners are on EPWP venture learnerships with the CETA. The *New Venture Creation Learnerships (NVCL)* will be implemented as a partnership between the participating public body, the relevant SETA, DPW and dti. Learners graduate with an NQF Level 2 qualification with skills in managing

a business, a track record of completing projects or delivering services, a credit record with a high street bank and a financial record.

Learners that enter the EPWP venture learnership will be required to commit themselves to the programme for a period of 2 years. Mentors will also be appointed to mentor the learner. Learners will access working capital and necessary funding for equipment through ABSA.

Other Training Initiatives

A task team has been established consisting of the National Department of Education (DOE), DoL and DPW to discuss ways to integrate the Adult Basic Education and Training (ABET) initiatives into EPWP training. A strategy has now been developed for implementation.

The EPWP is aligning its training initiatives with the curriculum of the Community Development Workers (CDWs). Brochures and learning materials have been developed to facilitate training on EPWP programmes.

6 EPWP Partners

6.1 *Involvement of Business and Labour*

As was stated in earlier quarterly reports, the Business Trust has committed itself to supporting the EPWP for the coming years through the establishment of a facilitation fund to the value of R100 million over the period March 2005 – March 2010.

The focus of the Business Trust for this quarter was to employ staff and to set up systems and operational arrangements required for the smooth running of the EPWP Support Programme. Strategic technical assignments identified as most urgent by the DPW are the review of conditional grants, aligning the EPWP to the National Skills Development Strategy (NSDS) and to investigate challenges confronting delivery in the social sector.

Five municipalities and two provinces that will participate in the Expanded Public Works Support Programme were selected. Selection criteria were the assessment of job creation opportunities and potential, performance of the municipalities as well as their capacity and willingness to implement the EPWP.

The overall national target of 750,000 work opportunities in respect of the infrastructure sector was broken down into baseline targets for municipalities. Primary areas of intervention by the support programme in the social, environment and economic sectors were identified and business plans will be developed.

An operations committee, consisting of representatives from DPW, Shisaka (the support programme manager), and the Business Trust, has been established to coordinate the support programme.

Shisaka has developed the MIS technical specifications and issued a request for proposals (RFP) for a management information system to be deployed to municipalities.

6.2 The Independent Development Trust (IDT)

The Independent Development Trust (IDT) is the implementing agency for the DPW's EPWP Maintenance of Public Buildings Programme, which aims to create work and training opportunities for the unemployed to address the artisan shortage in the building industry. The organisation also supports the programme through its Social Facilitation Support Unit. This involves community facilitation during the implementation of projects on the EPWP Contractor Learnership projects.

The Facilitation Support Unit has engaged with the following public bodies on the Contractor Learnership Programme:

- Gauteng Department of Housing which entails Ekurhuleni, Mogale City, Randfontein, Johannesburg Metro and Tshwane.
- Mangaung Local Municipality, Free State
- Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport of the Free State;
- The Roads Agency Limpopo (RAL);
- Oliver Tambo District Municipality;
- Chris Hani District Municipality;
- Coega Development Corporation;
- Rustenberg Local Municipality;
- Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport / City of Cape Town on the Klipfontein Corridor Project;
- Department of Public Works of the Eastern Cape; Buffalo City Municipality
- Emalahleni Local Municipality and Nkangala District Municipality
- Mkhanyakude District Municipality
- Ethekewini Municipality
- The Northern Cape Department of Transport Roads and Public Works

6.3 The Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)

The Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) supports various EPWP initiatives in the following four areas:

- Project management and implementation

The DBSA assists various national departments (Public Works, Social Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism, and Provincial and Local Government) in building capacity to undertake institutional audits, and to establish systems and frameworks for effectively implementing, monitoring and evaluating projects of the EPWP.

- Local governments

Support is provided to municipalities in undertaking institutional audits and establishing systems for effectively implementing plans and programmes. In addition to public works initiatives, these include integrated development plans (IDPs), the Local Government Network (LGNet), the District Information Management System (DIMS) and the Consolidated Municipal Infrastructure Programme. The organisation also supports training on project management, the review and implementation of IDPs, basic computer skills, and baseline research on the needs of municipalities.

- District Project Management Units (PMUs)

A total of 47 Project Management Units (PMUs) have been set up in the district municipalities specifically to ensure that the MIG is used effectively, that IDPs and public works projects are implemented properly, and that the various programmes are coordinated. In this regard, the DBSA assists with training to identify and prepare projects; to access funds from the MIG and the Development Bank itself, using the IDP as a guide and meeting EPWP criteria; to conduct annual reviews of IDPs efficiently; and to manage projects effectively (e.g. through the acquisition of financial, technical and report-writing skills).

7 Communications

The EPWP launched its media strategy at a press briefing with the minister of Public Works in Cape Town in April 2005. The Minister released the 3rd quarter results and introduced EPWP beneficiaries to the media. The beneficiaries were from the Zibambele Programme (KZN), Sakhasonke (Limpopo), Working on Fire (Western Cape) and Klipfontein Learnership (Western Cape).

The Deputy Minister visited projects in Mpumalanga on 26 May as part of the media road show.

The EPWP website plays an important role in the EPWP communication strategy. Stakeholders and interested parties can access key EPWP documents and there are links to other sites.

8 Summary of Progress per Sector

8.1 Infrastructure Sector

- Implementation of projects in accordance with the EPWP Guidelines

The EPWP Guidelines were updated for the 2005-06 financial year. The Guidelines are now aligned with the CIDB Contractor Register, as well as the Standards for Uniformity which has come into effect. Furthermore, the window for contractors to complete the required EPWP courses has been extended to accommodate the contractors who have not yet completed these courses. While public bodies are encouraged to use these Guidelines on as many projects as possible, there is a minimum requirement for provinces and municipalities who are using the infrastructure grants that they receive from national government. Progress on the implementation of the EPWP using these grants is presented below.

- Provincial Infrastructure Grant (PIG)

With the commencement of the 2005-06 financial year it is anticipated that compliance of the province to the DORA and the EPWP Guidelines will improve. The PIG is one of the conditional grants to which specific EPWP conditions are attached. These conditions require that provinces using these grants implement their projects in accordance with the EPWP Guidelines. In the previous financial year it was also determined that the business processes for the EPWP need to be improved so that the auditing process can be more effective in future. DPW is working with the Auditor General, National Treasury and dplg to improve these processes.

- Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG)

The MIG is another conditional grant to which EPWP conditions are attached. With the new financial year for municipalities it is anticipated that the compliance with the EPWP Guidelines will increase. A key constraint for assessing progress made in this regard is the MIG Management Information System which is designed to provide project level monitoring data on the EPWP. This system is still not fully operational and as such no comprehensive data on how municipalities are contributing to the EPWP is available yet.

- Housing and the EPWP

An EPWP housing sector plan has been finalized, outlining the way forward for the provincial departments of housing who will be implementing the EPWP as

part of their housing delivery. Implementation of the plan will align the infrastructure components of housing projects to the EPWP Guidelines.

- Building maintenance programme

There have been delays with the implementation of the EPWP Building Maintenance programme. Additional resources are being mobilised to ensure that progress is improved upon.

- Participation of State Owned Enterprises (SOEs)

DPW has been engaging with Transnet and Eskom regarding their participation in the EPWP through their investments in infrastructure. These two SOE's will be dominating infrastructure investments in South Africa in the coming five years. While the bulk of these investments will be highly capital intensive in nature, there will be some room to execute a portion of these investments in a labour-intensive manner. An EPWP policy has been prepared in conjunction with Transnet, which will direct all their branches towards using labour-intensive construction methods wherever feasible. This policy is still awaiting approval from the Transnet EXCO. Negotiations for signing an MOU between DPW and Eskom with regard to the EPWP are also underway. Part of this MOU would enable the Business Trust Support Programme to provide hands-on technical support to Eskom to structure some of their investments in such a manner that they could start contributing to the EPWP.

- Replication of the KZN Zibambebe Programme

One of the key focus areas of the EPWP is the replication of best practice programmes and the Zibambebe Road maintenance programme of the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport has been identified as one such programme. This programme currently provides work for more than 14 000 people who maintain sections of rural road network across the province. Efforts are already underway to replicate this programme in the Eastern Cape and Mpumalanga. DPW is planning to finalise a management plan that will guide public bodies with establishing similar programmes in their areas by the end of November.

- Training of municipal officials

In partnership with SALGA, the Local Government SETA and the CETA, a training programme for municipal officials has been established. A training provider has been appointed and this programme will be implemented over the 2005-2006 financial year. More than 400 officials have been trained to date and the target of training 1200 officials by the end of this financial year will most likely be exceeded. A particular focus of this programme is on Project Consolidate Municipalities and those that are participating in the EPWP Contractor Learnership Programme.

- Mobilisation of water boards

In recognizing that many water related infrastructure projects are implemented through water boards, such as Rand and Umgeni Water, DPW has started engaging with these water boards to ensure that they are also participating in and contributing to the EPWP. Training programmes are being conducted with Umgeni water staff to ensure they are briefed and capacitated to start implementing the EPWP.

- EPWP and sanitation

Of the basic infrastructure targeted in the EPWP, sanitation has in general been implemented in a somewhat different manner than infrastructure such as roads and storm water. A history of a high degree of community involvement exists in this sector and in order to build on this, a somewhat different approach to sanitation delivery under the EPWP is warranted. The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF) and the Labour Job Creation Trust initiated a process to ensure that the contribution of the sanitation sector to the EPWP is maximised. At the end of April 2005 a joint conference was held to consult all stakeholders on the sanitation sector. A set of Guidelines on sanitation and job creation to complement the general EPWP Guidelines has been prepared and will be piloted in Limpopo and the North West Province. If this Guide is widely adopted for use by municipalities, the sanitation sector will be able to make a very significant contribution to the EPWP.

- EPWP Contractor Learnership Programme

DPW and the CETA are working together on building capacity amongst SMME contractors to participate in and contribute to the EPWP. As a result a contractor learnership programme based on the experience of the successful Gundo Lashu programme has been established as part of the EPWP.

The learnerships involve both practical work experience through carrying out labour-intensive infrastructure projects funded by the provinces and municipalities, and classroom training funded by the CETA. The learners are also provided with mentoring by mentors appointed by DPW, and with access to credit and bridging finance (through ABSA Bank). At the end of the learnerships the contractors and their supervisors will graduate with NQF-registered qualifications and with the experience and expertise required to successfully tender for the labour-intensive projects which will be tendered by the provinces and municipalities on an ongoing basis, in accordance with the EPWP guidelines.

The EPWP Unit is in ongoing engagements with provinces and municipalities to brief them about the EPWP and to encourage them to participate in these labour-intensive contractor learnerships and Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs) have

been signed with at least one public body from every province. For this quarter, 534 learnerships had been signed. This brings the total MOAs since implementation of the EPWP to 1860 learnerships. Given the demand for these learnerships DPW has been engaging with the CETA and the Department of labour to significantly increase this programme. Discussions are underway to increase the total number of learnerships to be implemented over the first five years of the EPWP to 3000.

Currently there are 398 learners in training. Out of the learners that have been selected to date, 29% are female and 76% are below 35 years of age. All the learners are from previously disadvantaged groups.

8.2 Environmental and Cultural Sector

The environmental and cultural sector consists of the following departments:

- Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT)
- Science and Technology
- Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF)
- Arts and Culture (DAC)
- Agriculture (NDA)

The sector has clustered its activities into a number of core programmes namely:

- Sustainable Land Based Livelihoods;
- Working for the Coast;
- People and Parks;
- Working for Tourism; and
- Working on Waste.

For this quarter the sector programmes at a national and provincial level have been implemented through 387 projects. A total of 2 869 person-years were achieved at the actual expenditure of R 98.5 million. The targeted beneficiaries were 48% youth, 44% women and 1.4% people with disabilities.

The Environmental and Cultural Sector programmes are well established. The continuous focus in the sector is on how these programmes can be expanded, coordinated, integrated and improved in order to ensure increased employment creation and improved environmental outcomes. In addition, the different departments in the sector have been working on aligning their existing monitoring and evaluation systems to the EPWP requirements to ensure that they are able to report to DPW as a sector. The established Monitoring and Evaluation Subcommittee is in the process of developing an integrated sector reporting system. Agreement was reached that provincial focal departments and persons for coordination of sector commitments will be identified to ensure that proper

reporting systems are in place to facilitate appropriate flow of data and information within provinces and local government, as well as national reporting.

The Training and Communication Subcommittees are currently in the process of developing a sector training plan and communication strategy, respectively. Sector departments have embarked on road shows to highlight the role of the EPWP in provincial sector departments and the Nodal Municipalities. Implementing bodies reached a common understanding and agreed on appropriate coordination mechanisms that are needed to facilitate implementation in this sector. The importance of aligning the EPWP with the ISRDP (Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Programme) and the URP (Urban Renewal Programme) was emphasised. Provincial sector implementation plans have been developed in Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, Free State, Northern Cape and KZN.

8.3 Social Sector

This sector is focusing on the expansion of Home Community Base Care (HCBC) programmes and Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes. Both of these are highly labour-intensive and provide enormous opportunities for the creation of work opportunities, given the large needs for these services. Under the leadership of the Department of Social Development (DSD), the Social Sector has produced an EPWP sector plan.

A first quarterly report received from the Department of Social Development (DSD) lists the following as the purpose of its HIV and AIDS programme:

- To provide social welfare and development services to orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS, within the family and community context, in partnership with non profit making organizations (NGOs, CBOs and other community organizations)
- To develop and support institutional structures and professionals, community workers and child and youth care workers through targeted training programmes in order to ensure effective delivery of services
- Establishment of coordinated structures at all levels

According to the report, 1058 caregivers were trained on issues such as lay counselling, life skills training, trauma management, nutrition, domestic violence and financial management. The number of caregivers that received stipends for this quarter stands at 2988. These figures could not be verified, because no site-level (i.e. project level) data has been received.

The DSD targeted 37 500 orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) for the first quarter to receive services. For this reporting period 40496 orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS were identified and received appropriate services during this quarter. Services provided include psychosocial

support, homework supervision, life-skills training, and referrals for grants and legal documents.

A total of 13591 youth were involved with awareness campaigns in HCBC sites as carers and groundbreakers during this quarter.

8.4 Economic Sector

The EPWP economic sector aims to assist 3000 sustainable businesses to develop in various sectors over the period 2004/05 – 2008/09, through a programme known as venture learnerships (based on the Sakhasonke Programme managed by the Limpopo Department of Public Works, but the model extends beyond infrastructure into other sectors of emerging enterprise development). This venture learnership programme is a key component of the EPWP economic sector. Other small business development programmes are currently being considered, however. The venture learnership programme is based on best practice from the Limpopo Province. Since inception, a total of 170 venture learnerships have been implemented in Limpopo and the Eastern Cape.

Learners are selected to enter the two-year learnership programme that has both classroom and practical components. In the classroom component, learners are taught business and management skills. For the practical component, public bodies (provinces and municipalities) award contracts to learners, while mentors are appointed to assist learners through coaching to execute projects successfully. In total, learners attend three classroom sessions and will be awarded three projects. SETAs will pay for the classroom training of the learnership. Furthermore, learners can access working capital from ABSA. At the end of the programme learners will have a track record of completing projects; have a credit record, have a financial record and a NQF Venture Creation Learnership Certificate.

A venture learnership management plan has been completed and is available for public consumption. This plan provides critical information on how to manage these learnerships by outlining the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder.

9 Challenges and Conclusions

After the first year of implementation, the EPWP is on course to meet its job creation targets. There is still a need for aggressive advocacy and communication to correct the tendency that the EPWP is seen as a Department of Public Works (DPW) programme rather than as a programme of the whole of government. This will assist to intensify efforts to overcome widespread resistance to the use of more labour-intensive methods in infrastructure. The current EPWP communication initiatives of the DPW, undertaken in conjunction

with GCIS are aimed at strengthening awareness of the programme among implementers and beneficiaries.

Some environmental sector programmes, and some labour-intensive infrastructure programmes in some provinces, such as the Zibambebe programme in KZN and the Gundo Lashu programme in Limpopo, are running successfully and could be expanded further if more funds could be made available.

Reporting in the social sector has improved significantly – albeit it limited to certain provinces only.