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### MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR T.W. NXESI HANDS OVER A VEHICLE TO THE COMMUNITY OF WHILLESEA IN THE EASTERN CAPE TO ASSIST IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE ABUSE OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Article by Michael Mokoena, pictures by Khanyisa Moagi and Tshuluzi Nkoana



The government, working with community members in Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and the police will continue to intensify the fight against the abuse of women and children in the country, the Minister of Public Works, Mr T.W Nxesi said.

Speaking to community members in Whittlesea in the Eastern Cape on 24 November 2018, Minister Nxesi acknowledged the work done by all South Africans in the fight against the abuse of women and children in the area. The Minister stressed however that “more must be done by all of us to fight against this cancer of abuse of children and women”.

Minister Nxesi handed over a vehicle to the Nomaxabiso Non-profit Organisation and this vehicle will assist the NPO to do its work of supporting the women and children who are survivors of

abuse. The vehicle handover ceremony was part of a report back session on the implementation of the commitments made by President Cyril Ramaphosa when he visited the area in June 2017.

"President Ramaphosa usithumile (sent us to you) to give this vehicle to you the people of Whittlesea which you can use as you work with the police and community in the fight against the abuse of women and children in the area. I want to also condemn the abuse of women and children in any form. We also want to assure women and children throughout the country that the government, working with all our people will continue to fight this cancer of the abuse of women and children in South Africa!"

The event was attended by government leadership from National, Provincial and local sphere, including MEC for Public Works Ms Pemmy Majodina and various Mayors and local Chiefs in the area. MEC Majodina thanked the leadership of President Ramaphosa for responding timely on issues raised by community members. "We are here to give you hope as the community. We give hope to women and children who have survived abuse throughout the country!"

The Chairperson of the NPO Mr Kholisi said the vehicle will assist the NPO to do its work in the rural communities surrounding Whittlesea. "Today I just want to thank the government of the people for the good work that you have done in our community!" The event took place on the eve of the annual 16 days of Activism against the Gender Based Violence.

#### Upcoming events

- The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) supported cooperative will be exhibiting its products at the 2018 Mama Magic Baby Expo in Johannesburg from today (30 November 2018). The Department of Public Works' EPWP Enterprise Unit assisted the cooperative with its registration, technical training and application for finance. The exhibition will started yesterday (29 November 2018) and will continue until 02 December 2018.
- The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) will from 03 to 07 December 2018 host the Learning Programme Kimberley, Northern Cape.
- The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) will from 04 to 07 December 2018 exhibit at the Rural and Township Economic Development and Skills Summit Umlazi and Stanger, KwaZulu-Natal.
- The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) will on 07 December 2018 host a certificate handover ceremony for 80 EPWP learners in Schmidtsdrift in Kimberley, Northern Cape.
- From 10 to 12 December 2018 the Expanded Public Works Programme will exhibit at the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) Conference at Albert Luthuli Convention Centre in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal.

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### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS HANDS OVER CERTIFICATES TO 36 EPWP PARTICIPANTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A FARMING COURSE

Article & picture by Brian Dlamini



A total of 36 Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants received certificates of competence after completing training on Mixed Farming. The National Department of Public through EPWP hosted a certificate handover ceremony in Cala, Eastern Cape on Tuesday, 27 November 2018 to recognise participants who completed training in Mixed Farming.

The participants came from various municipalities in the province. This training was funded through the National Skills Fund (NSF) and is accredited by AGRISETA Skills at NQF level 2.

#### The training content included the following:

1. Recognize and identify the basic function of ecological environment (4 credits)

2. Apply sustainable farming practice to conserve the ecological environment (5 credits)
3. Understanding basic soil fertility and plant nutrition (5 credits)
4. Apply plant manipulation methods (4 credits)
5. Manage crops (5 credits)

Speaking during the certificate handover ceremony, the Project Manager Ms Ruwaydah Carolus said that the participants are now able to sustain their own livelihoods by growing their own vegetables, they are able to identify the threats in the ground, they also have acquired the skills on how to grow vegetables and lastly, they also understand soil and fertility. This skills programme will enable them to start their Cooperatives.



EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME