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EPWP PARTICIPANTS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE VODACOM INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY TRAINING

Article & pictures by Maanea Maselesele

A total of 74 Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants in Gauteng who have successfully completed training in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) were awarded certificates during a graduation ceremony which was held in Kempton Park, Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality on 12 March 2019.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) in partnership with Vodacom Foundation and the Independent Development Trust (IDT) have trained (EPWP) participants in various ICT skills throughout the country. The two-year training Programme is accredited by the Media, Information and Communication Technologies Sector Education and Training Authority (MICT SETA).

The graduating participants were awarded with certificates of competency on various ICT skills, including Cell-Phone and Device Repair and Management (NQF level 3); End-User Computing (NQF LEVEL 3); Networking Support (NQF level 5) and IT Technical Support (NQF level 4). The participants were trained in both theoretical as well as practical training. For practical training, participants were placed at schools and municipalities in their area.

The aim of the Vodacom ICT skills training is to equip youth with relevant ICT skills to assist with the Information Technology (IT) technical support and installation of IT equipment, hardware and software.

The Executive Head of the Vodacom Foundation, Dr Andile Dube said the training programme was aimed at training unemployed youths in ICT skills and to further develop entrepreneurs in the ICT sphere.

“Today we celebrate your successful completion of this training. We believe that you will pioneer new and innovative ICT solutions that will improve the lives of our communities,” Dr Dube said.

Delivering the keynote address at the ceremony, the Chief Officer: Corporate Affairs for Vodacom Group, Advocate Takalani Netshitenzhe encouraged the participants to continue to study further and to start their own businesses. “The certificates that you have been awarded with, will enables you to look for jobs, study further and to become entrepreneurs.”

Advocate Netshitenzhe said the training was aimed at “reskilling and up-skilling young people to ensure that they acquire skills that are required in the Fourth Industrial Revolution.”

Other partners in this training programme include Department of Higher Education and Training, Cisco South Africa, CompTIA and Microsoft South Africa.

Upcoming events

Vodacom NSS Graduation Ceremony,
25 March 2019 in
Thaba Nchu, Free State

Vodacom NSS Graduation Ceremony,
27 March 2019 in
Ganyesa, North West

Vodacom NSS Graduation Ceremony,
04 April in
Lady Frere, Eastern Cape

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EPWP PARTICIPANTS CONTRIBUTE IN THE REHABILITATION OF WETLANDS IN MPUMALANGA

Article & pictures by Emmanuel Jiyane



A total of 48 Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants are contributing in the protection and restoration of wetlands in the Pixley KaSeme Local Municipality in Mpumalanga. The participants who are all working under the EPWP Working for Wetland (WoW) project which is implemented by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), are placed at Lüneburg and Chrissiesmeer.

These participants have received training on the rehabilitation, protection and sustainable use of wetlands. Their daily activities include constructing soil erosion blankets, road stripping grass seeds and building rock structures to prevent soil erosion. These participants joined the WoW project in March 2017 and will exit the Programme at the end of this month, (March 2019).

One of the participants - Mr Bheki Mlambo (25) – thanked the government for giving him an opportunity to participate in the Programme.

“Before I joined the WoW I was unemployed, but today I am able to assist at home with the income that I am receiving from the project. Through the stipend I receive, I am able to buy grocery and I am also saving for the driver's license.”

Mr Mlambo has successfully completed certificates in First Aider, Health and Safety and Fire Awareness. Each certificate was a five day training and they all are accredited at NQF Level 1.