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## EPWP Bi-Weekly Bulletin

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### EPWP ASSISTING IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CROSS BORDER CRIME IN KWAZULU-NATAL

Article and pictures by Masego Maselwanyane



The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Community Safety and Liaison is working together with community members in combating cross border crime in the province.

Through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), the Department has brought in community volunteers to assist the government to tackle crime along the South African and Mozambique border in the province. The crimes that are being committed include vehicle theft and smuggling.

The Department worked with traditional leaders in the areas along the border, the Umhlabuyalingana Local Municipality, Emanguzi Community Policing Forum and the Emanguzi/Mbazwana Youth Desk to recruit community members to participate in this crime prevention project.

The recruitment of members of the public into this EPWP project has strengthened the collaboration of law enforcement agencies and communities in crime fighting initiatives. The participants receive a monthly wage of R2185.

**Participants are responsible for:**

- Observing surroundings to spot suspected stolen/hijacked vehicles hidden in bushes alongside the border.

- Gather information on recovered stolen/hijacked vehicles and vehicles that have crossed the border.
- Conduct patrol and crime awareness at schools along the border line as well as discouraging participation of learners in cross border crime.

**Training**

Prior to commencement of their duties, participants were offered intensive training to ensure that they understand their duties.

**Collaboration with other stakeholders**

The Participants work with various law enforcement agencies such as the South African National Defence Force, the South African Police Service, Tembe Traditional Leadership and Umhlabuyalingana Community Against Crime.

**Highlights of the project**

The participants have assisted the law enforcement agencies to recover stolen vehicles in the province.



### EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME CONTRIBUTES TO THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19 IN MPUMALANGA

Article and pictures By: Lefentse Ratsela



Before assumption of duties, the participants were divided into two groups and received relevant training offered by DR JS Moroka Environmental Health practitioner and the official of the Department of Health respectively. Participants were also provided with protective clothing to ensure safety when executing their duties.

The participants are responsible for cleaning of classrooms, sanitising the learners as they enter the school premises, monitoring social distancing amongst the learners and demonstrating the correct way of washing hands.

**All 75 participants have been deployed to the following sites and work on a rotational basis:**

- Ukukhanya Junior Secondary
- Ukuphumula Combined Primary
- Nkosabo Primary School
- Libangeni Sec
- Mbongo Primary
- Masana Primary
- Mbuduma Primary
- Emfundweni Primary School
- Ekuphakameni Primary
- Hlalahle High School

In responding to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) (Expanded Public Works Programme and the Independent Development Trust) is working with the Department of Health in implementing Covid-19 project to assist with controlling the spread of the virus in Mpumalanga Province.

To date a total of seventy five (75) EPWP participants have been recruited and placed at Impilo Community Centre which is a Non- Profit Organisation (NPO) based at Vaalbank-Libangeni within the jurisdiction of Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality.

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