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THE POWER IS IN MY HANDS

EPWP PARTICIPANTS AWARDED NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Article and Pictures by Kgomotso Mathuloe

“The graduation today is the beginning of another chapter in your lives” this was said by the MEC for Agriculture, Rural Development, Land Affairs and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA), Mr Vusi Shongwe in his keynote address during the graduation ceremony of 47 EPWP Participants.

These participants were awarded National certificates in Public Administration, which is accredited by Public Service Sector and Education Authority (PSETA) at NQF level 5. The glittering ceremony took place at Nutting House in Mbombela, Mpumalanga on 23 February 2021.

Amongst the attendees were senior managers from PSETA, DARDLEA, Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) and the Principal of Step Ahead Training Academy. MEC Shongwe congratulated the learners for a splendid personal achievement. He also quoted Orrin Hatch who said that graduation is not the end; but a beginning.

He thanked the leadership of the PSETA, DPWI and the training provider for this partnership which has ensured that youth are empowered with critical skills that will assist them in their future endeavours.

He said that these partnership will continue to ensure that more young people in the province are provided with skills to become employable or start their own businesses.

Mr Isaac Mothapo, Manager responsible for Environment and Culture Sector in Mpumalanga thanked PSETA and Step Ahead Training Academy for their commitment in ensuring that learners complete this training programme amid Covid 19 which resulted in the National lockdown.

Mr Mothapo acknowledged the role that DARDLEA always play in skills development and upliftment of youth as well as the implementation of EPWP. He said that DARDLEA has always invested in the high level accredited Skills Programmes.

“The Department has been participating in EPWP Grant for the past five years; and you have qualified for over 5 million of EPWP grant for the new financial year.” Mr Mothapo said. He said that they will continue to provide support to provincial departments to ensure they intensify the creation of work and training opportunities for young people. ■

NORTH WEST SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROVIDES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LEARNERSHIP TO EPWP PARTICIPANTS IN LICHTENBURG

Article by Michael Mokoena
Pictures by Rhoda Moroe



Towards the end of the Learnership Programme, the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI), through its EPWP Enterprise Development directorate, provided Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) training for the participants. The SIYB training module delivered to the participants was Generate your Business Idea.

The training was conducted over a period of 2 days. The Generate Your Business Idea was relevant to the target audience because they were not sure of the type of business to pursue or what to do after exiting the Programme.

According to Rhoda Moroe, the EPWP Enterprise Development Manager in North West, after the SIYB training, the directorate made follow up with the trained participants. Some of the participants were very much willing to start their own businesses.

The directorate was able to provide support to those who expressed interest in starting their own businesses. The support started by way of conducting an assessment of the business viability to enter this market and the support continued from 2018 and still continues to date.

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EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME

The Department of Social Development in the North West provided a Community Development Learnership to Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants in Lichtenburg.

The Learnership is accredited at NQF Level 5. Seventeen (17) EPWP participants were part of this training. The Learnership Programme prepared the participants to be able to support individuals and the communities in the development objectives that they have identified.