



public works

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Public Works
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EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME

EPWP NEWS

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EPWP Phase4 to build on the success of previous phases

Article by: Michael Mokoena

Pictures by: Emmanuel Jiyane



As we usher in the fourth phase of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), the government will build on the strong successes of the third phase of the Programme, the Deputy Director General (DDG) of the EPWP in the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure, Mr Stanley Henderson said.

He said despite the EPWP not reaching its phase 3 work opportunity target, of creating 6 million work opportunities, the Programme had succeeded in lifting millions out of poverty and contributing to the development of many communities.

“By March 2019, the government had created over 4.5 million EPWP work opportunities. Of the total number of work opportunities created, a total of 66% of them (work opportunities) benefitted women, while the youth participation in the Programme stood at 46% and the participation of people with disability was 1%,” Mr Henderson explained.

“Through the EPWP, we have contributed towards creating a better life for millions of our poor and unemployed South Africans. We have transferred income to poor families, given our people skills they can use to enter the formal job market and delivered key community assets and services that continue to benefit communities,” Mr Henderson said.

He pointed out that the challenges that were encountered during phase 3 such as under-reporting, were being ironed out to ensure that phase 4 achieved its target.

“We continue to work with all role-players to improve the efficiencies in the Programme. We are working very hard to ensure that EPWP Phase 4 achieves its target by 2024,” Mr Henderson said.

EPWP performance on work opportunities created

The table below shows the overall yearly performance of EPWP since 2014:

Financial year	EPWP work opportunities created
2014/15	1 103 983
2015/16	741 540
2016/17	779 245
2017/18	900 234
2018/19	997 286
Total	4 522 288

EPWP performance on the training of participants

The training of participants is at the heart of the EPWP. Tens of thousands of EPWP participants were trained on various skills from April 2014 to March 2019. Below is some of the training that occurred during Phase 3:

- A total of 330 learner contractors have been trained through the EPWP Vu'kuphile Learnership Programme.
- We have trained a total of 391 EPWP Pharmacy Assistants.
- We have trained over 25 000 EPWP Early Childhood Development practitioners

Performance in brief

Expanded Public Works Programme in the process of developing the EPWP overarching policy documents

Article by: Lesego Moretlwe

Pictures by: Lesego Moretlwe



The National Department of Public Works is in the process of developing the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) overarching policy document to provide guidance on the role of the EPWP, as well as roles and responsibilities of all public bodies implementing the Programme. This process is spearheaded by the EPWP Branch and once it has been finalised and signed off for implementation, the policy will ensure streamlined, standardised, effective and efficient implementation of the EPWP.

The process is at an advanced stage where consultations with stakeholders which comprises of the Programme Managers, EPWP Executive Committee members and representatives of EPWP implementing bodies provided inputs for the policy formulation.

It has been fifteen (15) years since the implementation of the EPWP which has done exceptionally well in adhering to its mandate of alleviating poverty and unemployment through the provision of training and work opportunities to the poor and unemployed South Africans. However, there has been a challenge of not having an EPWP overarching written policy to serve as a guide to the implementation of the Programme by all implementing bodies.

The draft policy objectives as in May 2019 were outlined as follows:

- Enable efficient coordination mechanisms that minimise duplication
- Ensure accountability of key stakeholders through clearly defined roles of key governing bodies, positions and additional accountability measures
- Strengthen the role of monitoring for all public bodies implementing the EPWP
- Standardise requirements for all spheres of government involved in the implementation of the EPWP

The EPWP will be conducting further consultations with other relevant stakeholders in an effort to take the process forward and ensure the solicitation of more inputs before the approval of the final policy document by Cabinet.

PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP BOOST SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE IN LIMPOPO

Article by: Lesego Moretlwe

Pictures by: Lesego Moretlwe



In the wake of the high unemployment rate and lack of skills among youth, the Limpopo Department of Public Works through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and the Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (LDARD) have set up a youth focused initiative dubbed Agriculture Youth Enterprise Development Programme.

This is a pilot programme for the 2019 financial year which has started in April 2019 and has seen the recruitment of fifty (50) learners/participants within the following five Municipalities in Limpopo- Mopani, Vhembe, Sekhukhune, Waterberg and Polokwane. This is a 10-12 months training which consist of 80% of on-the-job-training and 20% of theory, the aim is to capacitate these young people through skills transfer, workplace experience and educate them about the EPWP Ministerial Determination which serve as the Basic Conditions of Employment which governs the implementation of the Programme. If successful, the programme will be extended for another four years.

The table below illustrates the induction sessions according to project names and district municipalities:

Name of the Project District Municipality Number of participants

Company	Municipality	No of Participants
NTL Barak	Mopani	10
Reimbander	Vembe	10
Swara o tiishe	Sekhukhune	10
Kolobe	Waterberg	10
TM Foods	Polokwane	10

These learners are placed at different private companies such as TM Foods and NTL Barack which are both Agro Processing companies etc. and other agricultural companies in Limpopo.

Speaking during the induction session, Ms Mamabolo, EPWP Deputy Director in the LDARD encouraged the learners to use the opportunity to their full advantage and explained what benefits they will get after the completion of the training. "At the end of the training/programme, you will either be employed in the agricultural sector, form cooperatives or start your own businesses or any combination of these options. Those who opt to form cooperatives and start their own farms will be assisted by the relevant enterprise agencies to access land and other resources required" Ms Mamabolo emphasised.

In conclusion, The Deputy Director: EPWP Enterprise Development in Limpopo Ms Victoria Mphahlele has encouraged the participants to remain focused throughout this learning programme. "For you to fully benefit from this opportunity, I urge you to fully utilise the resources and services of different stakeholders at your disposal", she concluded.

Pretty Gumede is a 30 year old woman, who is a participant and a trainee in the department is willing to learn more about the corporate world and to equip herself with skills that she needs to become an entrepreneur. "I have a Diploma in Office Administration and Senior Office Administrator Certificate with the Institute of Certified Bookkeepers (ICB) and with the skills I would have equipped myself with I would like to start my own Promotion Company".

Donald Monyai who is also part of this training opportunity is willing to learn more about how to start a business and the necessary skills needed to establish a successful business. I matriculated in 2015 and then went on to do my 1 year business course at the University of Pretoria. I intend to establish my own consulting company working on business and entrepreneurship.

The following institutions play a role in the effective and efficient implementation of this programme as follows:

- National Department of Public Works (NDPW) - Provide enterprise development support; coordinate National Skills Funding for accredited training; provide participants with training in Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) initiative and

the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) facilitate the business linkages and source funds

- Limpopo Economic Development Agency (LEDA) /Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) /National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) ensure that the participants businesses/cooperatives are properly registered; advice on available market in relation to the project; advice on and facilitation of business training; explore and make available opportunities to benefit the established enterprises
- District –Local Municipalities- working with LDARD and an identified farmer Play a Project facilitation and Management role
- Participating Farmers – provide training and mentoring to participants



Expanded Public Works Programme in partnership with different stakeholders are assisting in improving community access to essential services

Article by: Kgomoetso Mathuloe

Pictures by: Kgomoetso Mathuloe

South Africa experienced incessant rainfall conditions during the week of 22 April 2019 affecting mainly KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape and some parts in Free State Provinces. The impact of the rainfall conditions ranged from deaths (standing at 83 for the three provinces) infrastructure damages as well as injuries and loss of personal belongings. Since the outbreak of the incidents, government has been hard at work to ensure that humanitarian and service needs of the affected people and communities are addressed.

To this effect, the then Minister Public Works Mr T.W. Nxesi, the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula; the former Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA), Dr Zweli Mkhize visited some areas in the Eastern Cape Province on 06 May 2019 to assess the damages caused to a number of bridges by those floods and mudslides. The Inter-Ministerial visit was also intended to view Pedestrian bridges which were constructed as temporary measure to assist the communities to access essential services such as schools, clinics, South African Social Security Agencies (SASSA) pay points as well as voting stations.

A total of seventeen (17) bridges are being constructed in areas that require emergency intervention in the Eastern Cape Province and six (6) temporary pedestrian bridges had already been completed. In some areas, the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) indicated that due to the terrain and the fact that some rivers have a wider gap, the temporary structures will not be possible and in such cases, it was recommended that permanent structures be the only solution.

Addressing the media after the visit Minister Nxesi alluded that there is a need to continue with the community bridge project. The department will liaise with the National Treasury to get more funding for the community bridge project.

According to SANDF, various departments will urgently begin planning and costing to build permanent bridges that would also accommodate vehicles. After the permanent structures are built, the temporary bridges will be dismantled.

Speaking on site, the Mayor of Mbizana Local Municipality, Cllr Faku indicated that Mbizana as the largest municipality in the district with 31 wards, has been the most affected with nineteen (19) of its bridges destroyed by floods. She expressed appreciation for the work done by the Inter-Ministerial

Committee to assist the people of Mbizana.

The Deputy Director-General of EPWP, Mr Stanley Henderson said that the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) will continue to provide technical support for the bridge project and ensure that the communities have easy access to their amenities.



Department of Public Works lead a government's drive to create EPWP work opportunities for the residents of Graaff Reinet in the Eastern Cape

Article by: Michael Mokoena

Pictures by: Michael Mokoena



A total of 29 Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants have been appointed to work with various Non-Profit Organisations (NPOs) to deliver community services in Graaff-Reinet, in the Eastern Cape. The participants will work with the NPOs to deliver community services such as cleaning, caring for the ailing and the elderly people in the community as well as working with the local police to combat crime in the area.

The announcement of the appointment of the participants was made by the then Minister of Public Works, Mr T.V. Nxesi at a departmental event that was held on 25 April 2019 at the Masizakhe Sports Centre in Graaff-Reinet.

Minister Nxesi said the participants will contribute to the government's work of creating a better life for the residents of Graaff-Reinet. He added that 14 of the 29 participants were already placed at various NPOs and that the remaining 15 participants will start work in April 2020.

Minister Nxesi has also acknowledged other Department of Public Works/EPWP projects such as the Household Contractor Development Project which has created 360 work opportunities; the Graaff-Reinet Cleaning project which has created 248 work opportunities and the Community Work Programme (CWP) which has created 380 work opportunities.

He also commended the National Youth Service (NYS) project which has created 10 work opportunities and the DPW School Project where six top performing learners of Nqweba Secondary School will be earmarked for bursaries to study at tertiary institutions in 2020.

Minister Nxesi was accompanied by the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Dr Zweli Mkhize and various senior government officials. In his address, Dr Mkhize hailed the EPWP for creating work opportunities for the poor and unemployed South Africans.



Mpumalanga Provincial Government has appointed 490 EPWP participants to assist police with safety of tourists

Article by: Masego Maselwanyane

Pictures by: Masego Maselwanyane



The Mpumalanga Department of Community Safety, Security and Liaison has appointed a total of 490 Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants to assist the police with the safety of tourists who visit the province. A total budget of R13 million had been allocated to this project for 2018/19 financial year.

The participants – EPWP Tourism Safety Monitors – are placed at various tourism sites throughout the province where they work 16 days a month and receive R140 daily wage.

The participants are deployed with the help of the South African Police Service (SAPS) at various strategic tourist destinations, police stations and at the shopping malls to deter and address any possible criminal elements that might negatively affect both tourists and the community at large.

Participants in this project are directly linked to police stations and have police officials that they report to.

The project activities include:

- Provision of safety to tourists visiting various tourism sites
- Distribution of safety tips to tourists
- Contribution to the reduction of crime

- Contribution to the increased number of tourists
- Enhancement of tourism safety through visibility at tourist destinations
- Distribution of safety tips booklets and brochures or any necessary and relevant information in any form to tourists and communities.
- Participation in roadblocks with South African Police Services.
- Provision of information and give directions to tourists upon request.

The successful implementation of this project has seen an increase in the number of tourists who visit the province as well as the significant decrease in the number of muggings at tourism sites.

Role-players who are participating in the implementation of this project include the Department of Public Works, the SAPS, Mpumalanga Tourism & Parks Agency, Business Against Crime and Community Policing Forums/Community Safety Forum.

EPWP safety officers assist police to combat crime in Polokwane

Article by: Emmanuel Jiyane

Pictures by: Emmanuel Jiyane



The Department of Public Works (DPW) in partnership with the South African Police Services (SAPS) and South African National Defence Force (SANDF) have created work opportunities for 13 community safety participants through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) in a project called The IG Community Safety Officers which is based in Polokwane - Limpopo.

These participants have started to work in the project in July 2018, after the City of Polokwane Municipality identified a high level of criminal cases that were reported by schools in the area and an escalating of unlicensed hawkers operating in Central Business District of Polokwane, Seshego, Aganang, Mankweng, Chuene Maja and Sebayeng cluster. The participants have received an on job training whereby they acquired certificates of competency on law enforcement training which was acknowledged by the Provincial Commissioner of Police.

The participants' duties include office administration, patrolling the areas with hot crime spots, gathering information on stolen or hijacked vehicles that have been recovered, identifying routes in the bushes that the offenders use to cross the border with the stolen cars, conducting patrols and crime awareness at schools along the border line to discourage participation of learners in cross border crimes, issuing warning notices on illegal hawkers, trade and vehicle permits inspection, removal of illegal trade goods and expired goods from the shelves in the shops.

Since the implementation of this initiative, the SAPS and SANDF have praised the efforts and contribution of EPWP participants in the fight

of crime which had significantly decreased the theft of vehicles at Umhlabayalingana vicinity. Some of their outputs are as follows:

- Municipal Site visits: 32
- Total number of files filed: 36 296
- Total number of files archived: 576
- Warning of illegal hawkers: 195
- Permit inspection: 118
- Joined operations with SAPS: 26
- Data Capturing: 83

A 26 year old Ms Mahlodi Nkanyane, who is residing in Polokwane has joined the EPWP in July 2018. Before she joined the Programme she was unemployed and it was difficult for her to afford and basic needs and one of them was not having money to make photocopies to apply for employment. Ms Nkanyane holds an N6 certificate in Electrical engineering from Capricorn Ramokgopa College in Botokwa, with the income that she is receiving she can now buy groceries for her family, provide for the needs of her child and make applications for employment.

She is one of the trainees of law enforcement and received a competency certificate which allows her to be a law enforcement officer and increase her chances of being a police officer when such opportunities are available.

In closing, "I would like to encourage youth to apply for training opportunities that are offered by government as they will enhance their skills and increase their chances to get employment" she said.

EPWP graduate owns an Electronic Waste Management company

Article by: Emmanuel Jiyane

Pictures by: Emmanuel Jiyane



An Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) graduate who was trained by the Mpumalanga Department of Culture, Sports and Recreation (DCSR) has started his own electronic waste management company. Mr Floyd Nyathi's company has been appointed by the University of Mpumalanga to provide electronic waste management training to the students at the institution.

"Being appointed by the university to provide training to students on electronic waste management is a wonderful opportunity to improve the lives of young people in my community," Mr Nyathi said.

Mr Nyathi is one of the 35 young people who were trained in Environmental Practice Skills Programme with (NQF Level 2) which is accredited by Local Government Sector Education



and Training Authority (LGSETA) under the DCSR's EPWP My Village, My Art project. He joined the the Programme in 2016 and exited in 2017.

"The training I received through EPWP provided me with a good insight about electronic recycling and waste management. I got to understand how to turn electronic waste (such as old computers) into valuable items such as earrings and necklaces. I am also able to repair broken computers," he explained.

Mr Nyathi's business operations are based in two branches in the area of Matsulu (in Mpumalanga) and he has created work opportunities for five other young people.

Commenting about how the EPWP changed his life for the better, Mr Nyathi said: "Before I joined the Programme I was unemployed, but today I own and manage my business and I have created permanent employment for other young people in my community and their duties is to collect the waste, classify it and sell it. I have also travelled to countries such as India, Dubai and China to learn more about electronic waste management.

Mr Nyathi's future plans are to establish other branches in other parts of the country and create more work for the youth.

Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) change lives for the better

Article by: Emmanuel Jiyane & Lesley Nthangeni

Pictures by: Lesley Nthangeni

The Department of Public Works and the Department of Culture Sports and Recreation through Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) marked an exit of EPWP participants from the Programme during a graduation ceremony that was held in White River, near Nelspruit in Mpumalanga on 19 February 2019. A total of 35 participants were trained on Environmental Practice Skills Programme (NQF LEVEL 2) which is accredited by the Local Government Sector Education and Training Authority (LGSETA).

The graduates were mainly the youth from Enhlanzeni, Gert Sibande and Nkangala Region in Mpumalanga. They were participating in My Village My Art project which is focused on creative arts such as visual arts, sewing (fashion and design) beadwork, leatherwork, woodcarving, film and media, mosaic and recycling.

After participating in MyVillage My Art- EPWP project, Vincent Chawuke who is residing in Matsulu near Nelspruit, has managed to establish a Radio Station in Matsulu village called Ekasi FM with the slogan “Livi Lomphakatsi”. “Participating in an EPWP project has opened my eyes, today I see the world in a different vision”.



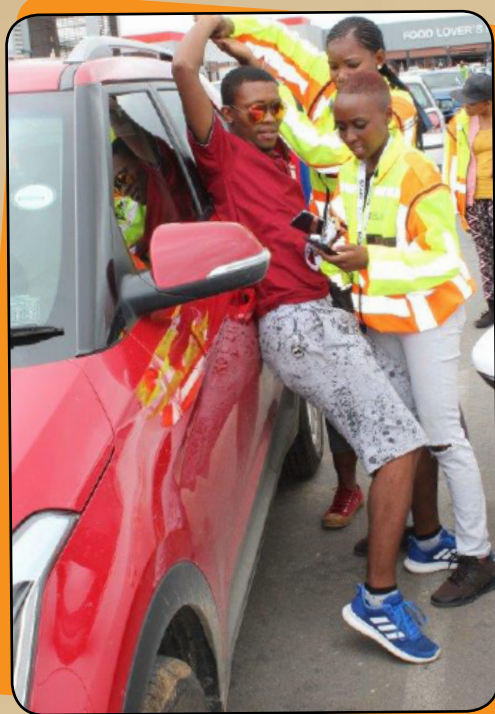
Mr Chawuke identified a gap in the community he lives in because there was no community radio station to inform and educate the community about the current issues and developments in the community through multilingual languages such as Zulu, Ndebele, Swati, English and other official languages. Through this initiative, Mr Chawuke created 26 employment opportunities to mostly young people who work as receptionists, news readers, cleaners, radio DJs etc. He added that the radio station has created an impact by sending 15 young people to tertiary institutions.

“In the next five 5 years I want to see this radio station as the voice of the community and taking a lead in the community media industry. I would also want to start a newspaper and to create more opportunities to the unemployed youth and change others’ lives as the EPWP has changed mine” he said. On the other hand, Chawuke is doing paper recycling and making money out of it. “I have also taught other people on how to make money out of waste”



EPWP participate in fighting crime in the North West

Article by: Emmanuel Jiyane
Pictures by: Emmanuel Jiyane



The Department of Public Works (DPW) in partnership with the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management in the North West province, have appointed a total of 60 Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants to assist the local police in the fight against crime in the capital city of the North West Province, Mahikeng. The participants were appointed into the Programme in July 2018 and their duties include doing community patrols, reporting suspicious activities to the police as well as assisting during community Imbizos in the area.

The aim of this project was to involve community members in the fight against crime in the area and some of the achievements that the participants have made include the identification and recovery of stolen municipal rubbishbins in the neighbouring villages.

The participants have attended training on community patrolling, which was credited by Safety and Security Sector Education and Training Authority (SASSETA).

One of the participants, Ms Alettah Sedumpane (47), has 4 children and resides in Mocoseneng village in the Mahikeng. She said life was hard before she joined the Programme.

"I was struggling to pay for my children school transport fees but through the EPWP, I can now manage to pay those transport costs. I also love my work in the project because I get to contribute to the safety of my community. The feedback that we get from the police is also positive as it indicates that we (EPWP participants) have contributed towards reducing crime in the area."

Ms Sedumpane encouraged unemployed community members to consider participation in EPWP projects when they become available.

"Unemployed people, especially youth, should join these kind of programmes so that they can acquire skills and stand a good chance to enter the labour market"

GALLERY

