



Creating crucial WORK OPPORTUNITIES AND SKILLS

THE EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME HELPS CREATE A BETTER LIFE FOR ALL

The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) is a nationwide government programme aimed at drawing a significant number of unemployed South Africans into productive work in a manner that will enable them to gain valuable skills and increase their capacity to earn an income and help develop their community and country.

The EPWP is an attempt by the public sector to use expenditure on goods and services to create work and training opportunities for unemployed South Africans.

The EPWP is co-ordinated by the National Department of Public Works and is being implemented within five-year phases, of which the first phase ran from 2004-2009 and the second phase from 2010-2014. The programme is implemented by all government spheres (national, provincial and local) across four EPWP sectors, including Infrastructure, Non-State, Environment and Culture, and Social Sector.

PHASE THREE OBJECTIVES

The objective of this phase is to provide work opportunities and income support to the unemployed through the labour-intensive delivery of public and community assets and services, contributing to development.

The EPWP focuses on three outputs: the creation of work opportunities, income support and the development of community assets, and the provision of services. The injection of income into communities, participation of beneficiaries

and utilisation of assets enhance the livelihood of the communities and stimulate local economic development.

THE EPWP SECTORS

1. Infrastructure sector

This sector involves the use of labour-intensive methods in the construction and maintenance of public sector-funded infrastructure projects. Labour-intensive infrastructure projects under the EPWP entail: using labour-intensive construction methods to provide work opportunities to local unemployed people; providing training and skills development to local unemployed people; and building cost-effective assets.

2. Non-state sector

The Non-State Sector Programme (NSS) was introduced in 2009 and uses wage subsidies to support Non-Profit Organisations (NPOs) in their community development initiatives. It comprises two programmes: the Community Work Programme (CWP) and the Non-Profit Organisation Programme.

The CWP is area-based and managed by the Department of Co-operative Governance & Traditional Affairs, while the NPO is institution-based and managed by the Department of Public Works.

The NDPW, as the custodian of the programme, offers an administration fee and a subsidy for the wages of the people employed by NPOs. The wage subsidy is designed to provide additional funds to different types of programmes that create employment.

3. Environment and culture sector

The environment and culture sector's contribution to the EPWP involves employing people to work on projects to improve the local environment through programmes spearheaded by various departments. This sector is led by the Department of Environmental Affairs.

The sector builds South Africa's natural and cultural heritage in order to create both medium- and long-term work and social benefits. The overarching objective is to create work opportunities while generating useful outputs in the areas of environment, heritage, biodiversity and land care.

The Environment and Culture Sector run a number of programmes:

- Sustainable Land-Based Livelihoods (working for water, working for wetlands, working on fire and greening projects).
- Waste Management (working on waste, urban renewal and cleaning of open spaces).
- Tourism and Creative Industries (working for tourism, museums, creative industries and chef development programmes).
- Parks and Beautification (working on the cleaning of public open spaces, cemeteries and illegal dumping sites).
- Coastal Management (working for the coast and for fisheries).
- Sustainable Energy (working for energy).

4. Social sector

The Social Sector, such as Early Childhood Development, Home Community-based Care, primarily focuses on providing work opportunities to unemployed and unskilled people through programmes that deliver social and community protection services, such as early childhood development, home community-based care, the National School Nutrition Programme, the Khari Gude Mass Literacy Programme and the Mass Participation Programme. The sector



is led and co-ordinated by the Department of Social Development.

for people with disabilities.

Due to the services offered by EPWP participants, 124 079ha of alien plants have been removed, 11 698km of low-cost roads have been constructed, upgraded and rehabilitated, 4 805 households have been provided with home community-based care and 48 452 school pupils received home-cooked meals.

EPWP PROGRESS

The EPWP has so far created 189 150 work opportunities in the first quarter across all sectors. It's exceeded its targets when it comes to women – 68,3% of work opportunities were created for females – and 1,9% were created



public works

Department:
Public Works
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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