

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME AIMS TO INTENSIFY THE CREATION OF WORK OPPORTUNITIES**

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The National Department of Public Works is hard at work, pursuing the dream of providing a better life by alleviating poverty and unemployment.

This is the main message that is coming out of the EPWP Summit that is hosted by the Department with all 278 municipalities and other relevant stakeholders at St George's Hotel in Gauteng.

The Department and the municipalities are charting the way forward in accelerating the implementation of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and vastly improve its contribution to the alleviation of poverty and unemployment. Municipalities are expected to contribute 29% towards the overall EPWP targets for the period 2009/10 to 2013/14 financial period. This is the phase two period of the EPWP.

During his keynote address, the Deputy Minister of Public Works, Mr Jeremy Cronin, highlighted the importance of local government in creating work opportunities and contributing to the socio-economic upliftment of communities thereby contributing to the 4.5 million work opportunities by 2014.

Since 2010, the National Department of Public Works (NDPW) has annually hosted the EPWP Municipal summit aiming at engaging all the municipalities and ensuring that the municipalities fully implement the Programme.

To date, all spheres of government have cumulatively created 2.6 million work across all four sectors of EPWP, i.e. *Infrastructure Sector, Non State Sector, Environment & Culture Sector, and the Social Sector*.

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