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Department of Public Works
Departament van Openbare Werke
Lefapha La Ditiro Tsa Setshaba

OFFICE OF THE MEC

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YOUTH AND WOMEN TO BE BROUGHT CLOSER FOR ASGISA SAYS MEC YAWA.

North West MEC for Public Works, Honourable Howard Yawa says his department has spend more than R1, 2million to train 304 Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) beneficiaries involved in public infrastructure renovation in the Southern Region.

MEC Yawa was speaking at the Certificates Awarding Function for EPWP beneficiaries held today at the Witrand Hospital Hall in Potchefstroom.

He said his department has also spent over R700 000 towards salaries for payment of the beneficiaries.

MEC Yawa highlighted that according to the EPWP Third Quarterly Report, the 57 projects executed in the Southern Region created 2687 job and training opportunities.

Yawa applauded the beneficiaries for their determination and achievement and committed his department to work closely with women and youth to achieve the goal of the Accelerated Shared Growth Initiative of South Africa (ASGISA) Programme of halving unemployment and poverty by 2014.

"We will increase women participation in Expanded Public Works Programme and ensure their significant participation beyond SMME's to fast track them out of the second economy." said MEC Yawa.



MEC Yawa further said, "We are encouraged by the determination of our beneficiaries to succeed. All of us as individuals and collectively can make a difference and should contribute to give new content to our Age of Hope.

Through our collective effort we can make poverty history. The time is always ripe to do right."

An overjoyed, Mr. Matthews Kubu speaking on behalf of the beneficiaries commented the Department of Public Works for the opportunity to acquire skills to make them employable.

NAFCOC Regional Chairperson, Mr. Abdullah Wanyane pledged to assist the beneficiaries to register as cooperatives or close corporation and to link them with funders.

**ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
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