



public works & roads

Department:
Public Works and Roads
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Purpose of the day outlined by the HoD of the Department of Public Works and Roads, Mr Moss Kgantsi at ``The Pearl'', Klerksdorp on Friday, June 23, 2023...

Programme Director: Mr Kenneth Gill

Acting Premier of the North West Mr Nono Maloyi

MEC for the Department of Public Works and Roads: Gaoage Molapisi

Provincial Members of Executive Council (MEC's) present here tonight

Deputy Director General – National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure, responsible for EPWP, Ms Carmen-Joy Abrahams

Executive Mayors and Mayors in attendance

All staff of the Department of Public Works and Roads

Distinguished guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good morning to you all,

On May 30, 2023 during the tabling of the Budget Speech of the Department of Public Works and Roads in the Provincial Legislature, we made several pronouncements on Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP). The pronouncements made then, demonstrated our commitment and the support to the ``Orange Brigade'' and also what we want to achieve, through EPWP.

There is no doubt this programme, if we all put hand on deck, can and must be one of the flagship success story of Government going forward. Here in the province, our new intake of 15 000 EPWP beneficiaries or participants, will be recruited from August 2023.

This is part of our ongoing contribution, to help push back the frontiers of poverty and joblessness especially among the poorest of the poor in our province. As we up our game, priority will be given to women, youth and persons living with disabilities during the recruitment phase, which I am informed will be fair and transparent.

We have also pitched and elevated to the level of Chief Directorate: Community Based Programme, this critical job-creation machinery in our department. This move will ensure proper and better coordination of EPWP across all spheres of government in the province. At this time we are fully capacitating that unit, to have all the necessary hands on deck and guarantee a visible footprint in every district, town and village of our province.



This will ensure better and proper coordination of EPWP activities with regards to fair and transparent recruitment processes of new beneficiaries, as well as accurate reporting on the number of job opportunities in the EPWP sector by other government departments and municipalities.

Programme Director, I deliberately chose to mention all these, to demonstrate to all of you gathered here, just how serious we take this programme, and feel our passion and vision to see EPWP in in all its formations, improve and work. That is what has brought us here.

We have come to put heads together to make EPWP work, and for it to work even better going forward into Phase V (five) of the programme.

This two-day summit, which we are indeed very privileged to host as North West, and the Department, is convened under the theme:

“Fostering Collaborations and Partnerships for the Successful implementation of EPWP”

We do have amongst us various stakeholders from the private sector, National, and Provincial government, Districts and Local Municipalities and State entities.

We are in a for festival of ideas, when we share experiences, challenges and even success stories in the implementation of the EPWP to date, and how we hope to raise the bar during Phase V (five of the programme).

The challenges of EPWP may far outweigh the success stories. But that is the reason why we are gathered here to find instant solutions aimed at addressing the acute challenges of poverty, joblessness and soft skills among our people.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, we represent hope for multitudes of people out there. Let us not disappoint them. I wish you a very productive stay here in the North West and we are all looking forward to a very successful and enriching Provincial EPWP Summit.

I thank you.

Ends





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