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PRESS RELEASE

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MEC YAWA ANNOUNCES NYS ROLL-OUT

North West MEC for Public Works Howard Yawa says his department has identified ten projects for implementation of the National Youth Service Programme (NYS) for the 2007/08 financial year.

Through the NYS, government aims to support nation-building by involving young people in volunteering their services towards crucial government services.

In the process participants stand to acquire critical skills essential for them to access economic opportunities upon completion of the programme.

North West Premier Edna Molewa launched the provincial chapter of the NYS in Mothotlung near Brits in March this year, following President Thabo Mbeki's announcement of the programme in his State of the Nation Address a month before.

Speaking during the presentation of the departmental budget on Thursday, MEC Yawa said the department had committed to engage about 500 youth for participation in the programme.

He said the implementation of the programme would be mainly through the maintenance and renovation of public infrastructure.

He added that the projects would be implemented in partnership with the Youth Commission, Umsobomvu Youth Fund and the Department of Labour.

The MEC further announced the department's intention to launch the NYS in Building Maintenance and Infrastructure sector during August this year.

“We are confident that our target will be met and that the implementation of these projects will contribute towards job creation, improved provision and maintenance of public infrastructure,” MEC Yawa said.

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