

**SPEECH BY MEC FOR PUBLIC WORKS, HON H.D.YAWA, MPL AT THE
LAUNCH OF THE MODIMONG EPWP PROJECT, IN MODIMONG
VILLAGE- 17 FEBRUARY 2006**

Programme Directors

Honourable Premier-Mme Edna Molewa

Colleagues in the Executive Council

The Executive Mayor of the Bophirima District Council

The Mayor of the Greater Taung Local Municipality

Kgosi T Mankuroane of the Baphuducwana Traditional Council

Kgosi Mothibi of the Ga-Mothibi Traditional Council

Kgosi Motlhabane of Ga-Maidi Traditional Council

Members of Parliament

Members of the Provincial Legislature

Honourable Councillors

Government Officials

Ladies and Gentlemen

We are gathered here to launch another initiative of government to advance the People's Contract to create work and fight poverty.

The People's Contract demands of us that we create work and fight poverty through the Expanded Public Works Programme.

This Programme is one of government's initiatives to breach the gap between the growing economy and the large number of unskilled

and unemployed people who have not yet enjoyed the benefits of economic development.

Since the Launch of our flagship, the Integrated Modimola Expanded Public Works Programme in September 2004 under the brand name Semelela, which means roll up your sleeves and work, we have rolled up our sleeves and are hard at work to implement the People's Contract to fight poverty and create work.

Provincially we have thus far in this financial year created 13847 job and training opportunities through the expanded public works programme. In the Bophirima Region, we embarked on 48 EPWP Projects that created 2788 job opportunities. We are excited because 1888 women, 1006 youth and 900 males benefited. The challenge remains involvement of disabled people in the Programme. We hope that this will be improved in this specific project.

Today we are here in Modimong to launch yet another intervention to mitigate against poverty, joblessness and the legacy of deprivation, neglect and marginalisation of our people and our communities as a result of apartheid and failed Bantustan policies.

Since the Modimong Expanded Public Works Programme Project is a replica of the Modimola Project in terms of road construction and farming, we believe that the lessons and experiences that we have gathered in that project will help us to move at an accelerated pace.

We are confident that with the support and cooperation that we have received from the Department of Transport, Roads and Community Safety, the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment, Baphuduhucwana Traditional Council, the Greater Taung Local Municipality and the Bophirima District Municipality, that the project like the Modimola Project will be a thunderous success.

On behalf of my department and colleagues MEC's Mayisela and Thibedi with whose departments, my department is involved in this Project, I am honoured to present to you the Honourable Premier of the North West Province, Mme Edna Molewa to formally launch the Project.

Pula Batlhaping Pula

Ke a leboga.