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

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## OFFICE OF THE MEC

### PRESS RELEASE

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### EPWP HAS CLOSED CURTAIN OF DESPAIR SAYS 55 YEARS OLD WOMAN.

A 55 years old Ditsobotla woman says the Expanded Public Works Programme has closed the curtain of despair and opened a new chapter in her life.

Maria Tlhakanye was expressing gratitude to North West MEC for Public Works, Honourable Mr. Howard Yawa at the Fifth Expanded Public Works Programme Certificates Awarding Function held today at Barolong- Boo Ratshidi Community Hall in Mafikeng. The excited beneficiary said that despite her age, she was afforded an equal opportunity to acquire skills that would enable her make a livelihood for herself and her family.

In his Keynote address, MEC Yawa said that government's vision is that by 2014 South Africa should have a restructured and adoptive economy characterised by growth, employment, equity, built on the full potential of all person, communities and geographic areas.

MEC Yawa said that his department would need to work more closely with women and youth in order to contribute towards the achievement of ASGISA's goal of halving unemployment and poverty by 2014.

110 beneficiaries received certificates for three months accredited training in brickmaking, building, electrification, painting, plastering, tiling, landscaping and life-skills during the construction of Public Works Storage Buildings at District Offices in Ditsobotla, Lehurutshe and Montshioa. Some of the beneficiaries are engaged in Phase II of the R3million Mmabatho CBD



and Garona Gardens Landscaping Project.

Thus far government has created 3092 job and training opportunities through 34 EPWP Projects in the Central Region. MEC Yawa said the skills and practical training that the beneficiaries have acquired has increased the pool of much needed skilled workers in the construction sector.

**ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

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