

DPW launches a revamped innovative website

By Pearl Nicodemus & Sharone Ndhlovu

The Department of Public Works' (DPW) Director-General (DG) Advocate Sam Vukela says everyone needs to have access to Information and Communication Technology (ICT) services irrespective of the nature of their work. He was speaking during the launch of the revamped DPW website held at the Departmental headquarters in Pretoria on 20 June 2018.

The DG emphasised the importance of ensuring that when we improve as a department, every single employee is a part of that journey. "Anything good that we do we should do for everyone," said Advocate Vukela while also mentioning that he was once a shop steward and as a result is able to be considerate towards all workers.

Advocate Vukela's words articulated a sentiment that was shared earlier by the Deputy Director-General (DGG): Corporate Services Mr Clive Mtshisa when he presented the purpose of the day. Mr Mtshisa told DPW staff members that they all contributed to the change in the website. "The little comments that you made about the website that you may think were not important, is what led us here (to the launch of a revamped website)," said the DDG. He said the website was the most important platform that presented the face of the Department of Public Works. "If that face is good, the kind of reception and perception we create out there, also becomes good," explained Mr Mtshisa.

The improved website is more visually appealing, interactive and easier to navigate. Some of the great features of the new website were highlighted by the Director of Internal Communications and Mobilisation Mr Petrus Sibiya. The website has all the Departmental social media links, is compatible with most mobile devices and more visually appealing. All staff were taken through the website and new features much to the pleasure of the audience. There are less pages to navigate and Mr Sibiya urged everyone to make the website very interactive.

The best feature of this project is not only the new developments, but also the fact that this website was developed internally. Internal Communications and Mobilisations as well as IT Applications were the two units spearheading the project. They had no budget to work with and solely relied on the internal capacity and skillset of the Department.

The DPW Choir ended the launch on a high note leaving the audience captivated and to rapturous applause.