



public works & infrastructure

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DPWI Women Celebrate Leadership, Positivity, and Empowerment this Women’s Month



Article by Fanisa Makhubela, Pictures by Tumelo Sekwele

In a vibrant display of blue and white, the women of the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) gathered at Akasia Community Hall in Pretoria to celebrate Women’s Month 2025. Held under the national theme “Building Resilient Economies for All”, the event brought together colleagues from Head Office and the Pretoria Regional Office for a day of reflection, learning, and inspiration.

The celebration was graced by Deputy Minister Bernice Swarts from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), alongside DDG: Project Management Office, Luyanda Kafile, Pretoria Regional Manager, Thembi Hlatshwayo, and Chief Director for Gender, Youth and Persons with Disabilities Dr Mveleli Gqwede. Their presence highlighted the importance of supporting and empowering women in both professional and personal spheres.

DDG Kafile addressed a critical workplace issue, speaking on the need to tackle bullying and foster a culture of respect, inclusivity, and professionalism. Dr Gqwede encouraged attendees to spread love and cultivate positive environments at work and in their personal lives, reminding everyone that resilience is nurtured through mindset and action. Regional Manager Hlatshwayo motivated women to invest in themselves through education, emphasising that knowledge and skills are powerful tools for personal and professional growth.

The event not only celebrated women’s achievements but also reinforced their vital role in driving empowerment, fostering inclusive growth, and building supportive and resilient workplaces. The messages from the speakers resonated strongly with the 2025 theme and G20 priorities on women’s empowerment, showing that women’s impact extends far beyond one month.



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