



JOB CREATION: Joburg's EPWP created 6330 jobs in three months.

extended EPWP job opportunities

Department of Public Works which aims to reduce unemployment and alleviating poverty.

The programme seeks to ensure that public funds serve to create employment in the government projects. EPWP projects are designed to benefit local communities by recruiting only locals for available work opportunities.

City manager Dr Ndlovu Lukhwareni welcomed the improvement in the city's EPWP performance and vowed to intensify EPWP implementation across the city and its entities.

"EPWP participants get exposed to the world of work and some go on to obtain full time jobs or to use their newly acquired skills to make a living," he said.

From 2015 to this year, the JMDP took on board 275 Peace Officers as part

of the EPWP. Of these, 216 have now been absorbed into the metro police. More EPWP participants were also absorbed by Pikitup when it introduced a third shift in the inner city, but participation in EPWP projects is meant to be on a short-term basis and does not guarantee employment.

Head of the EPWP in the department of economic development, Edwell Gumbo, said many EPWP participants acquired skills and experience which prepared them better for the world of work.

"In the city, participants have gone away with varied sets of skills, including data capturing, plumbing, painting, bricklaying and machine operating," Gumbo said.

Gumbo said some of the EPWP par-

ticipants went on to set up their own cooperatives and then tendered to provide services to the city. He also said these cooperatives are able to receive support from the cooperatives sub-unit in the department of economic development.

Assistant director of monitoring and evaluation in the EPWP unit of the department of economic development said each city department and entity had an EPWP champion who sat on the city's EPWP steering committee.

The role of the EPWP Champion is to ensure that all the projects implemented by the department or entity builds in EPWP principles and report on EPWP work opportunity creation.

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