

REFILWE MAGASHULE  
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THE provincial public works and infrastructure department has identified infrastructure as one of the key drivers that contributes immensely to job creation and skills development initiatives.

The initiatives have been geared towards addressing job creation in the

# Infrastructure key driver in job creation – public works

form of short- to medium-term opportunities which address the needs of the people in the province.

The department's head of communication, Mlungisi Maqubela, said the initiatives or programmes were run

under the banner of the expanded public works programme (EPWP), which includes the national youth service, contractor development programme, EPWP massification placements, the township revitalisation programme,

cleaning and greening programme, as well as a cemetery cleaning initiative.

Maqubela said as an infrastructure driver and implementing agent for infrastructure related projects for client departments like the department

of health, education and social development, they ensure that work opportunities and skills transfer initiatives are adhered to for the benefit of unskilled local labour within communities and emerging contractors.

“Our job creation initiatives cut across the province. In the Mangaung metro for example, these initiatives include those under the EPWP, the township revitalisation programme in Botshabelo, Dewestdorp, Wepener and Thaba Nchu as well as massification at the Ratlou complex,” Maqubela said.

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