

## **Vuk'uphile training programme leaves many destitute**

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RUSTENBURG - Emerging construction contractors are claiming a government training programme has left many of them destitute.

The Department of Public Works' Vuk'uphile training programme has seen some successes countrywide.

In theory, Vukuphile is a brilliant program and has worked in other provinces. But in the North West, things don't always go according to plan. And it was implemented around the time that Thandi Modise was leaving and Supra Mahumapelo was coming in.

Sixty five contractors were chosen, each forced by the government to employ five people if they want to join. At six people per contractor, that's 390 people and there's about 12 to 13,000 expanded works program (EPW) individuals that are going to be divided amongst them, that are going to help them with these projects.

They are going to get one project per year over three years. Six months into it, it collapses. According to the contractors the money disappears, the money dries up, and they start injecting their own money into government projects.

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