

Govt gives hope to the jobless

By TEBOGO MOKWENA

THE department of public works said more efforts will be made to create jobs.

It announced it would grow its expanded public works programme as part of a commitment made at the 2018 Job Summit, which was held at the Gallagher Convention Centre in Joburg earlier this month.

The programme employs people to work on various projects in communities.

The projects include community work programmes, early childhood development, home community-based care and extra support.

Stanley Henderson, deputy director-general of public works, said some of the projects that will be boosted include the National Youth Service, Youth Environment Services, the Vuk'uphile Contractor

Learnership programme and Working for Water programme.

“There are a range of interventions we are looking at and these include ways to work with businesses to increase the placement of our participants in workplaces.”

Henderson said they also wanted to ensure training provided to participants was linked with the demands of the private sector.

“We are looking at introducing a new initiative to assist in the monitoring and evaluation of the programme on the ground through social audits.”

Henderson said because of the various skills and training that participants received, they stood a better chance of entering the job market or becoming entrepreneurs themselves.