

GOVERNMENT HAS SIGNIFICANTLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY THROUGH THE CREATION OF WORK OPPORTUNITIES IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS

As we move towards the end of the fifth administration of the current government, the Department of Public Works is humbled and proud to announce that the government has made significant progress towards its endeavour to eradicate poverty through the creation of short- to medium-term Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) work opportunities. Since the launch of EPWP Phase 3 in 2014, the Government of South Africa has to date created over 4.3 million EPWP work opportunities.

The Department wishes to stress that despite the challenges experienced by the programme, such as poor reporting by public bodies, it believes the EPWP delivered its mandate of lifting communities out of poverty, unemployment and underdevelopment.

The information below seeks to shine the light on the performance of the EPWP Phase 3 since it was launched in 2014.

EPWP PERFORMANCE ON WORK OPPORTUNITIES CREATED

The table below shows the overall yearly performance of EPWP since 2014:

| Financial year | EPWP work opportunities created |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 2014/15 | 1 103 983 |
| 2015/16 | 742 179 |
| 2016/17 | 779 251 |
| 2017/18 | 900 234 |
| April to September 2018 | 845 162 |
| Total: April 2014 to September 2018 | 4 370 809 |



Minister of Public Works, Honourable Thembelani Thulas Nxesi

These opportunities were created in all four EPWP sectors, namely infrastructure, non-state, environment and cultures, and social. The Deputy Director-General, Mr Stanley Henderson, argued that "these numbers are not mere statistics, but represent the lives of our people that have changed for the better as a result of participating in the EPWP."

Mr Henderson explained that majority of participants in EPWP in the past four and half years were women. "The general annual participation of women in the EPWP stood at just above 69%. This was followed by youth participation which stood at around 46% in general."

EPWP PERFORMANCE ON THE DELIVERY OF COMMUNITY BENEFICIAL ASSETS AND SERVICES

Below are some of the community beneficial services rendered through the EPWP:

- Home community-based services – thousands of community members across the country are benefiting from home community based care services that are rendered by EPWP caregivers. These EPWP caregivers conduct home visits to care for the elderly and the ailing. They also ensure that those on