



public works
& infrastructure

Department:
Public Works and Infrastructure
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MEDIA STATEMENT

The Department Of Public Works and Infrastructure Continues To Produce Its Own Professionals.

The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) hosted a 2 day In-house Design Expo Awards ceremony to acknowledge and celebrate young engineers on various projects they have worked on since being with the department.

The two-day In-house Design Expo was held at the O R Tambo Garden Court hotel, where nominees presented to a panel of judges their work that has afforded them the opportunity to be nominated in this years' awards ceremony. Among those who attended the event were DPWI Regional Managers, the South African Institute of Civil Engineering (SAICE), the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA), the Consulting Engineering of South Africa (CESA), the South African Institute of Electrical Engineering (SAIEE), the South African Institute of Mechanical Engineering (SAIMEC), as well as Provincial Departments of Public Works and Infrastructure. In attendance of the Design Expo was DDG Batho Mokhothu, Acting DDG Vangile Nene and ECSA CEO, Ms. Bridgette Ssamula.

One of the prominent purpose of the Engineering Services Unit, in the department, is to provide civil, architectural, structural, electrical and mechanical engineering, as well as quantity surveying services to DPWI's client departments. The Engineering Services Unit has collaborated with the Human Capital Investment Unit to work with Young Professionals that have obtained their tertiary qualification, some of them being former DPWI bursary holders, in any of the above mentioned engineering disciplines. By doing so, the Engineering Services Unit provides first-hand experience to young graduates, while providing service delivery to client departments, and ensuring skills transfer between the department's senior engineers and the Young Professionals.

This also grants the Young Professionals adequate practical work in order for them to build up a portfolio of the work they have done with the department. Young Professionals produce portfolios of evidence during their training, which are submitted to their relevant professional councils such as the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA) in order for them to apply for professional registration.

In light of the country's shortage of skills within the Built Environment, DPWI has, through these awards, ensured that it highlights the efforts it has made to address the need for architectural and engineering skills in government. The Young Professionals programme resonates with the South African government's National Development Plan (NDP), as it is a catalyst for capacitating government's scarce skills pool to accelerate infrastructure projects. Furthermore, this programme has exposed and increased the number of built environment professionals from previously disadvantaged communities to represent the demographics of the country and ensure transformation of the built environment industry.

"For us at Engineering Services we hold these awards in high regard, they are like our own mini 'Engineering Oscars'. They give us an opportunity to shine and scream about what we are doing", this is according to Mr. Michael Tladi, PrEng who is a Director in the Engineering Services within DPWI. He is the man behind these awards.

Awards Categories:

There are 16 categories for the 2022 Engineering Services Design Expo under which the Young Professionals and their supervisors competed on, these are:

Best Civil Design (**Neo Raseala**),

Most Promising Public Sector Architectural Design (**Oliver Brown**)

Best Candidate Landscape Architectural Design (**Anele Ndawule**)

Best Candidates Architectural Design (**Nomfundo Mthembu**)

Best Candidates Mechanical Design (**George Molomo**)

Best National/ Provincial Public Works Innovative Design (**Andile Mjoka**)

Best Candidate Electrical Design (**Tshepo Msimanga**)

Best Candidate Structural Design (**Ntokozo Nkwinika**)

Best Provincial Public Works Engineering Candidate (**Ntokozo Nkwinika**)

Best National/ Provincial Candidate Supervisor (**Shane Palackal**)

Most Promising Public Sector Engineering Intern (**Thabo Khoza**)

Most Promising Public Sector Engineering Candidate (**Nozandi Njomi**)

Most Improved National/ Provincial Public Works Candidate/ Intern (**Itumeleng Setlhabane**)

Best Head of Projects for In-design Management (IDM) Projects (**Thuthuka Mbhele**)

Most Dedicated National Public Works Engineering/ Architectural Candidate
(**Babalwa Lekganyane**)

Best detailed Design Poster (**Thabo Khoza**)

ENDS

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