

03 June 2019

EPWP Bi-Weekly Bulletin

issue: 22

EPWP PARTICIPANTS TRAINED AS TOUR GUIDES IN THE EASTERN CAPE

Article & pictures by Emmanuel Jiyane



A total of 109 Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants have been trained as tour guides in the Eastern Cape during the 2018/19 financial year. These participants are part of an initiative of the Department of Public Works (DPW), Department of Tourism (DoT) and the Wildlife and Environmental Society of South Africa (WESSA). The participants joined the programme in 2018 and will exit next year (2020).

This initiative –titled Tourism Coastal Project – is aimed at developing inclusive, sustainable marine and coastal tourism along South Africa's rural coastline by up-skilling the unemployed youth, promoting coastal conversation through citizen science and environmental education and instilling sustainable practices in established and emerging tourism enterprises.

These EPWP participants were trained in Tourism Guiding which is accredited by the Culture, Arts, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport Sector Education and Training Authority (CATHSSETA) at NQF level 2. The course comprised modules such as workplace readiness, customer service, problem solving in the work place and how to provide a guided experience to customers.

The participants are currently placed at various workplaces such as hotels and lodges in Coffee Bay and Port St Johns where they do

various work such as being receptionists, chefs, housekeepers, bar tenders and tour guides. The Project Manager for the DOT's Green Coastal Project Eco Tourism Unit, Ms Kerry McLean said the Programme has provided much needed work opportunities to young people in the area.

"The Programme has given the participants skills that they can use to uplift their communities. Soft skills such as language skills, self-confidence, problem solving and public speaking to name a few have really boosted the self-esteem of the participating youth. A sense of pride of their role as Green Coast Stewards has also encouraged the participants to dream big," she said.

Participant Testimony

Ms Asanele Mbili is a 26 years old participant who is placed at Ocean View Hotel (in Coffee Bay). She performs the duties of being a chef, a waitress, a house-keeper and a receptionist. Ms Mbili currently holds a Diploma in Hospitality Management from Walter Sisulu University.

"I graduated in 2015 and since then, I have been struggling to get a permanent job until I joined the EPWP in May 2018." She added that participating in the EPWP "has changed my life for better." Ms Mbili added that after exiting the Programme, she hopes to be an entrepreneur and start her catering business.

DPW PROVIDED 659 WORK OPPORTUNITIES TO YOUNG PEOPLE IN NORTHERN CAPE

Article & pictures by Faith Nonyana



In a bid to improve the state of health facilities in the Northern Cape, the Department of Public Works (DPW) together with the Department of Health have recruited 659 young people in the province as Health Facility Assistants.

These young people - Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants- will be placed at various health facilities in the province to help with the general maintenance of the facilities. The

maintenance work that these participants will be executing includes cleaning of the facility, cooking for patients, retrieval of medical stock, administration and doing general upkeep of the facilities.

This project started in 2017 and targets various areas in Northern Cape. The EPWP Social Sector this week visited this project with the aim of ensuring that employment contracts are signed and that the project adheres to all EPWP requirements.

Also in attendance was the Deputy Director responsible for the Social sector in the Province, Ms Winnie Komape. During her interview with EPWP Communication, Ms Komape said that the project is funded through EPWP Social Sector Incentive grant and that 8 million has been allocated for this project in the 2019/2020 financial year.

This will assist in paying stipends. She also said that the Department of Health has allocated additional funding to ensure that the project is a success.

Bulletin issued by
Communications & Marketing



EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME