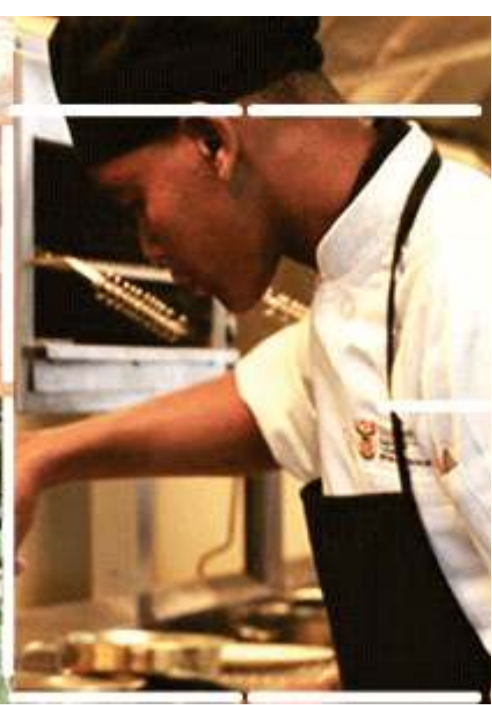


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EPWP HOSTED A BRANCH MEETING IN KEMPTON PARK, EKURHULENI METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY

Article & pictures by Michael Mokoena



The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) hosted its branch meeting in Kempton Park, Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality on Wednesday, 06 March 2019. The purpose of this meeting was to present the 2019/2020 Business plan, discuss the EPWP Phase 4 proposal and Performance of the EPWP phase 3.

Opening the meeting that was attended by all EPWP Officials from head and regional offices, the Deputy Director General of the EPWP, Mr Stanley Henderson thanked the officials for their hard work in the successful implementation of the Programme.

“I wish to commend all officials and all stakeholders from all spheres of government who play a role in the implementation of the EPWP. Thank you for working hard to ensure the successful implementation of the EPWP since the start of the Programme in 2004. I wish to also thank you all for your role in the successful implementation of the EPWP Phase 3. I am certain that you will continue to work hard to make the EPWP a success as we transcend into the EPWP Phase 4,” DDG Henderson said.

He reminded all EPWP officials that they played a vital role in the improvement of the lives of millions of South Africans. “Your hard work has ensured that government continues to alleviate poverty

through the creation of work opportunities for the poor and unemployed community members,” Mr Henderson added.

DDG Henderson said that although the EPWP Phase 3 was not likely to meet its five-year target of creating 6 million work opportunities, he was pleased with the Programme's contribution in alleviating poverty and improvement of communities through the creation of work opportunities for the poor as well as delivery of vital community assets and services.

Delivering a presentation on the performance of the EPWP Phase 3, the Acting Chief Director for Monitoring and Evaluation, Ms Kgomotso Zantsi stated from 2014 to December 2018, the government had created 4.3 million EPWP work opportunities.

Senior officials who also delivered presentations at the meeting included the Chief Director EPWP Operations, Ms Pearl Lukwago-Mugerwa, Chief Director EPWP Infrastructure sector, Mr Ignatius Ariyo; Chief Director EPWP Partnership Support, Ms Carmen-Joy Abrahams and Acting Chief Director Sustainable Livelihoods, Convergence and Compliance, Ms Lindiwe Nkuna as well as the Director EPWP Finance, Mr Kopano Lesoetsa.

Upcoming events

- EPWP Recruitment Guidelines Provincial Roadshow on the 12 March 2019 at the Embassy Hall in Mafikeng, North West
- Vodacom Youth Academy/Non-State Sector graduation ceremony on the 12 March 2019 in Kempton Park, Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality, Gauteng
- National Public Works Career Expo on the 15 March 2019 at Joe Slovo Technical High School, Khayelitsha, Western Cape

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EPWP GRADUATE TO OPEN HIS OWN LODGE

Article & pictures by Michael Mokoena

The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) graduate, Mr Shawn Mashimbye who is originally from Limpopo is one step closer toward achieving his dream of opening his own lodge in Platfontein in Kimberley, Northern Cape.

Mashimbye (30) is an EPWP graduate who in 2018 successfully completed a course in City and Guilds Certificate in Preparation and Cooking (Culinary Arts). He enrolled in the course through the Department of Tourism's Hospitality Training Youth Programme. Speaking to the EPWP News team, Mashimbye explained that he joined the programme because of his passion for food and cooking.

After graduating in 2018, Mashimbye found temporary work at the Mittah Serepere Convention Centre where he was assisting the management of the centre with organising and managing of events. He later left the convention centre to work at the

Platfontein Lodge in Barkley West (near Kimberley). At the lodge (Platfontein Lodge) Mashimbye is assisting the manager of the facility with the daily administration work of the lodge.

“I think in a year's time I will be ready start managing my own lodge, however I need a funding to realise my dream. I also need further training on how to operate a successful lodge,” he added.

In closing he pleaded with the government to create more opportunities for young people in the tourism sector. The Department of Tourism has partnered with the South African Chefs Association (SACA) to offer the City and Guilds Certificate in Preparation and Cooking (Culinary Arts).



EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME