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## EPWP Bi-Weekly Bulletin

### A TOTAL OF 250 HOUSEHOLDS FROM VILLAGES AROUND LIBODE IN THE EASTERN CAPE STAND TO BENEFIT FROM THE ROAD CONSTRUCTION THROUGH EPWP LABOUR-INTENSIVE CONSTRUCTION METHODS

Article by Michael Mokoena and Lerato Mpiwa  
Pictures by Lerato Mpiwa



A total of 250 households from villages around Libode in the Eastern Cape stand to benefit from the road infrastructure project that is currently being delivered by the Nyandeni Local Municipality through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) labour-intensive construction methods. The 5.1 kilometer Access roads that are being constructed in the area will bring socio-economic opportunities to the villages of Mdima, Mcwili, and Mbobeleni.

The municipality has appointed 19 EPWP participants to assist in the construction of these gravel roads. The Manager responsible for this Project at the municipality, Mr. Mpendulo Mgudlwa explained that the project has alleviated poverty by creating work opportunities for the unemployed community members.

"Upon completion, this project will not only bring about socio-economic opportunities to the community but will also bring our people together and provide the community members with easy access to government services such as health care and social services" Mgudlwa said.

He added that the municipality would continue to use the EPWP to deliver public assets and services as well as alleviate poverty through the creation of work opportunities for the poor and unemployed members of the community.

These participants have also received training in road construction from the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI).

"During training, participants were exposed to theoretical work with several unit standards including Health and Safety, Establish and prepare the work area and Investigate life and work-related problems using data and probabilities. They were then deployed to the site where they are putting what they studied into practice," said the DPWI's EPWP Training Coordinator in the Province, Mr. Sanelisiwe Funani.

The manager at the site, Ms. Celiwe Zulu commended the participants for their commitment to the success of the project.

#### Participants' Testimonials

The participants have thanked the government for appointing them to the EPWP project. Ms. Nompandolo Cekwana explained that being part of the programme has given them hope. "We have gained skills that we can use to make a living for ourselves," she said.

Anitha Nobhe- also a participant in the project- said that they were proud of being part of a project that brings development to the community.



### EPWP LEARNING PROGRAMME ATTENDEES AWARDED CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE

Article and pictures by Michael Mokoena, Lerato Mpiwa, and Phelokazi Baliso

The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure recently hosted a successful five days EPWP Learning Programme workshop which ended with awarding certificates of attendance to the officials who participated in the Programme. This Learning Programme was held from 22 to 26 August 2022 in Pretoria.

The EPWP Learning Programme was aimed at providing attendees with in-depth knowledge and understanding of the EPWP. Furthermore, the Programme sought to ensure that these officials are well capacitated to efficiently and effectively implement the EPWP in their respective communities.

The workshop was attended by officials from various municipalities and provincial departments across the country who are responsible for the implementation of the EPWP in their respective entities.

In her opening remarks, the Deputy Director General (DDG) of the EPWP, Ms. Carmen-Joy Abrahams urged the attendees to use the session to learn as much as they can about the Programme so that they can contribute to the creation of work opportunities for their communities.

"This training will give you an in-depth understanding of the EPWP. It will assist you to come up with innovative ways to create the much-needed work opportunities in your communities," she said.

She added that the attendees were part of a very important government initiative whose aim was to lift millions of people out of poverty and provide hope to communities.

Closing the event at the end of the five days, the National EPWP Coordinator, Mr. Lungisani Dladla urged the attendees to go back to their respective public bodies and implement what they had learned from the workshop.

"I hope that everyone attending this session gained more information regarding the Programme and will go back to their communities to drive the government's work of tackling poverty through the creation of EPWP work opportunities", Mr. Dladla said.

#### Official Testimonials

The officials who attended the workshop praised all facilitators for providing the detailed information about the EPWP. Ms. Kwezi Mabaso from Mkhambathini Local Municipality in KwaZulu-Natal, said that the training was fruitful. "It provided clarity on what we have to do to ramp-up our efforts of creating the much needed work opportunities in our respective communities".

Mr. Nyiko Sibisi from the Gauteng Department of Community Safety said the training has given them an opportunity to learn from each other on how to effectively implement the EPWP.

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EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME