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## EPWP Bi-Weekly Bulletin

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### Upcoming events

Minister of Public Works Mr T.W. Nxesi will on 25 April 2019 launch the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) poverty alleviation programme in Graaff Reinet in the Eastern Cape.

National Youth Service (NYS) exit workshops to be held in Bloemfontein Regional office and Baviaanspoort prison in Pretoria on 26 April 2019.

## MINISTER OF TRANSPORT LAUNCHES THE EPWP ROAD MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME IN THE NORTH WEST

Article & picture by Maanea Maselesele



Minister of Transport Dr Blade Nzimande launched the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) Job Maximisation Through Labour Intensive methods in Potchefstroom in the North West on 13 April 2019. Itirele Maintenance Programme, which is affectionately called “Operation Ntsha Tlala”, has a set target to create more than 7000 EPWP work opportunities during the current financial year (2019/20).

The objective of the project is to carry out roads maintenance activities using household contractors through labour intensive methods. Some of the activities involved in this programme are: clearing of vegetation, patching of potholes, clearing of drainage structures, as well as replacement and maintenance of road signs and markings.

In his key note address, Minister Nzimande emphasised the importance of using labour intensive methods in construction as it allows for creating more work opportunities for the poor and unemployed South Africans.

Minister Nzimande said the Programme is meant to showcase the government's continued commitment to provide on-going sustainable work opportunities for destitute households in an effort to reduce poverty, enhance growth and contribute positively to the economy.

“As government we are committed to expanding this Programme throughout the whole country”.

The launch was attended by senior, national and provincial government officials, traditional leaders, EPWP participants and community members from the province.

The Deputy Director General (DDG) of the EPWP in the Department of Public Works, Mr Stanley Henderson said he was excited about the Programme and that he looked forward to its national roll-out.



Picture for Article 2

## EPWP GRADUATE OWN AN ELECTRONIC WASTE MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Article & picture by Emmanuel Jiyane

An Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) graduate who was trained by the Mpumalanga Department of Culture, Sports and Recreation (DCSR) has opened his own electronic waste management company. Mr Floyd Nyathi's company has been appointed by the University of Mpumalanga to provide electronic waste management training to the students at the institution.

“Being appointed by the university to provide training to students on electronic waste management is a wonderful opportunity to improve the lives of young people in my community,” Mr Nyathi said.

Mr Nyathi is one of the 35 young people who were trained in Environmental Practice Skills Programme with (NQF Level 2) which is accredited by Local Government Sector Education and Training Authority (LGSETA) under the DCSR's EPWP My Village, My Art project. He joined the the Programme in 2016 and exited in 2017.

“The training I received through EPWP taught me a lot about electronic recycling and waste management. I got to understand

how to turn electronic waste (such as old computers) into valuable items such as earrings and necklaces. I am also able to repair broken computers,” he explained.

Mr Nyathi has opened two branches in the area of Matsulu (in Mpumalanga) and has created work opportunities for five other young people.

Commenting about how the EPWP changed his life for the better, Mr Nyathi said: “Before I joined the Programme I was unemployed, but today I own and manage my business and I have created permanent employment for other young people in my community and their duties is to collect the waste, classify it and sell it. I have also travelled to countries such as India, Dubai and China to learn more about electronic waste management.

Mr Nyathi's future plans are to open other branches in other parts of the country and create more work for the youth.

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EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME