

Meet the New Deputy Director-General (DDG) of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) Branch, Ms. Carmen- Joy Abrahams

Article by Michael Mokoena

Picture by EPWP Communications



The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms Carmen-Joy Abrahams as the new Deputy Director-General (DDG) of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) with effect from 03 November 2021.

Ms. Abrahams has acted in this portfolio on various occasions since 2020.

Before being appointed to DDG of EPWP, Ms. Carmen-Joy Abrahams was a Chief Director: EPWP Partnership Support, from 2010, where

she was responsible for coordination of EPWP across nine Provinces. Ms. Abrahams has been in the public sector for the past 23 years in various fields such as trade economics, anti- money laundering, counter terrorism financing, deposit insurance, exchange control and Public Employment Programmes.

She has vast experience in economics and has represented South Africa at various International forums. She represented South Africa at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 2017, moreover in being part of this delegation to work with the OECD and various Regional bodies on anti-money laundering matters, awarded her the opportunity to contribute in the development of the South Africa's Financial Intelligence Centre Act (FICA). She also served on the Board of the National Development Agency (NDA).

In terms of her academic credentials, Ms. Abrahams is a qualified economist who holds a B.Com Honours Degree from the University of Western Cape. She further completed a Master of Arts in International Economics, Finance and Business from the Brandeis University in Massachusetts in the United States of America (USA). She was awarded the Nelson Mandela Economic Scholarship to study in the United States and performing a leadership role of representing South Africa in various forums with United States Agency for International Development (USAID), as well as being afforded the opportunity to work in Washington DC on economic solutions.

Furthermore she was a finalist in the Old Mutual/ Nedbank Annual Budget Vote Competition, which recognises a limited number of young economists annually for their insights on key economic issues. She also received training at the London School of Economics and the Colorado Institute for Economics.

The DPWI congratulates Ms. Abrahams on her new appointment and wishes her well in her role of moving the EPWP forward.



EPWP participants who qualified as Artisans get permanent employment

Article by Michael Mokoena
Pictures by Sanelisive Funani



Three Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants from the Eastern Cape who were trained as artisans under the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) and Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services Sector Education and Training Authority (MerSETA) Artisan Development Programme have been permanently employed by the training providers (host employers) they were placed with. Two of the participants – Mr Mihle Mpondo and Mr Amkela Mbeya – have been permanently employed by Kempston Group after completing a Diesel Mechanic Apprenticeship with the group, while one participant - Mr Elton Bawers - has been permanently employed by Ronnies Motors Beacon Bay after completing a Motor Mechanic (Automotive Motor Mechanic) Apprentice with the company.

The DPWI-MerSETA Artisan Development Programme is an EPWP programme that nurtures collaboration between the government and the private sector to develop eligible EPWP participants into qualified artisans. Participants who receive training through this Programme are recruited from a range of EPWP projects throughout the country.

In the Eastern Cape, both DPWI and MerSETA have worked with Kempston Group and Ronnies Motors Beacon Bay to provide theoretical and practical training which have successfully added to the development of the three EPWP participants into qualified artisans. According to the EPWP Training Coordinator for the Programme in the Eastern Cape, Mr Sanelisive Funani, the Programme aims to develop artisan skills in the province.

“The Programme is about the development of our skills base, our people and province as well as making the dreams of our youth come true. Many of our youth, especially those in rural areas, wish to enter the artisan field and through this Programme, we can give

them hope and a chance to achieve their full potential in this field,” Funani explained.

He added that the Programme was focused on developing a range of technical artisan skills such as motor mechanics, spray-painting, diesel mechanics, and other such skills.

Participants’ Testimonials

Mr Mpondo expressed gratitude to both the government and the private sector companies for an opportunity to participate in the Programme. Meanwhile, Mbeya said that he believed that the knowledge, skill, and dedication he had towards his work helped him to secure permanent employment with Kempston Group.

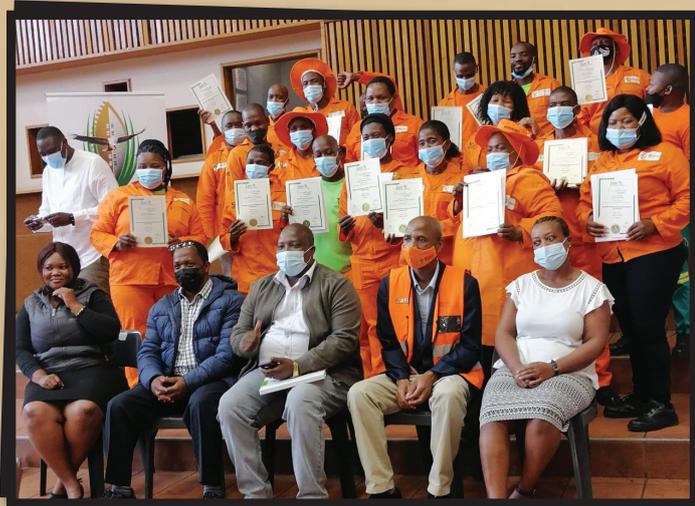
In conclusion, Mr Bawers said that “the training has taught me a lot about motor mechanics. I am now familiar with and knowledgeable in the scope of work that a motor mechanic does. The skill imparted in me has proven to be invaluable in the work that I do. The culture of learning provided at Ronnies Motors has encouraged me to better myself both as an individual and as an artisan.”



Durban Regional Office delivers a skills programme to EPWP participants in Umhlathuze



By Sduduzo Simelane and Velile Jiyane
Pictures by Velile Jiyane and Sduduzo Simelane



The ground was damp and the sky overcast in the KwaZulu-Natal north coast town of Empangeni on Thursday, 07 October 2021, contrasting with the celebratory mood inside the Civic Centre building where 23 Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants were gathered to receive certificates for completing training in National Certificate: Horticulture NQF Level 2. The participants are currently employed as horticultural EPWP workers in the Municipal Halls (including the Thusong Centres) as well as parks across the Umhlathuze Local Municipality.

The training was a collaborative effort between the Durban Regional Office of the National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (NDPWI), public bodies, and the training provider being JNV Landscape AND Training (PTY) LTD. These participants were identified from the Umhlathuze Local Municipality validated clustered EPWP projects.

Notwithstanding the challenges of COVID 19, training commenced at Umhlathuze between 30 August 2021 and 7 October 2021 running for a total of 28 days (8 days of theory and 20 for workplace). In terms of the national equity targets, out of 23 EPWP participants, 6 were women, 1 with disability, and 17 were men. The skills programme in which the participants were trained on comprised of the following unit standards:

- Identifying various soil types and their uses in plant propagation and landscaping, SAQA ID - 264179
- Identifying common ornamental plants, SAQA ID - 264184
- Operating brush cutter in the horticultural environment, SAQA ID- 264182
- Preparing plants for interior environments, SAQA ID - 264183

The excellent work conducted by the training team for the duration of the training period was marked by ovation from the audience signifying gratitude and honour for their hard work. The representative of the participants, Mr. Sbonelo Mvubu, praised the Training Facilitator, Ms. Wendy Nxumalo, for 'being so fantastic as to bear with us even when we were troublesome'.

Another heart-warming side to the story of employment of these participants includes utilizing the EPWP Integrated Grant funding from the NDPWI whereby the Umhlathuze Municipality recruited 245 workers in 2018/2019 to provide gardening services. According to the EPWP Chief Officer in the Municipality, Mr. Busisane Mathebula, the Municipality has since decided to further uplift these participants' socio-economic conditions by gradually absorbing them into permanent employment as and when an opportunity to do so arose. Currently, 154 participants out of 245 are permanently employed and only 91, of whom 23 were awarded certificates remain on contract with the prospects of being permanently employed by the municipality. This is indeed a good story to tell especially during this challenging period of high unemployment rate exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic whereby many employment sectors are shedding jobs. There is also a collaborative effort among several business units within the Umhlathuze Municipality in ensuring that there are exit avenues for participants.

Among the attendees were senior officials and representatives of different spheres of government such as the Umhlathuze Local Municipality, Thusong Centres, and the National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (NDPWI). All the speakers unanimously encouraged the participants to look for other opportunities where they can utilise their skills to augment their income. The NDPWI team that was in attendance was led by the KwaZulu-Natal EPWP Programme Manager Mr Sduduzo Simelane who spoke on behalf of the Department. He told the participants that there is a Ghanaian proverb that says 'a healthy person who begs for food is an insult to a generous farmer'. He went on to say it can similarly be a shame when somebody has been trained in a certain skill such as horticulture but they do not try to use it to their benefit. In his closing remarks and vote of thanks, Mr. Bongani Masuku: manager of Halls and Facilities in Umhlathuze Local Municipality echoed Simelane's words by encouraging participants to start using social media to advertise the skills they have acquired.



Built Environment in the age of pandemics and transition to the Future of Work

Article by Lesego Moretlwe

The National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (NDPWI) together with the Council for Built Environment (CBE) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) have recently hosted the Built Environment Stakeholder Seminar to discuss the future of work and adaptation to the emerging issues which have an impact in the built environment. This virtual seminar was hosted under the theme **“COVID-19 Disruptions within the Built Environment: Expert inputs and sharing of good practice in the age of pandemics and transition to the Future of Work”**.

The CBE as an entity of the NDPWI has a shared responsibility to coordinate policies and good practices that promote economic equality, social cohesion, and decent employment opportunities and skills development within the built environment. This has become a great challenge during Covid-19, hence there was a need to advance platforms to engage and look at the future of work in the construction and Built Environment.

During the seminar, experts shared their knowledge and experiences on job creation initiatives towards Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan as well as good practices in addressing the challenges affecting the Built Environment especially during the COVID-19 pandemic which has severe consequences in the construction industry, affecting the livelihoods of workers performing the labour intensive work such as the participants of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP).

The Acting Deputy Director General in the EPWP, Mr Ignatius Ariyo emphasised the importance of the seminar as it presented the platform to look at how COVID 19 has affected the future of work and more importantly job creation in the EPWP and the use of labour intensive methods and technology.

The discussions revolved mainly around the technologies which can assist in the COVID-19 age in the Built Environment and being responsive and adaptive to disruptions within the Built Environment. Furthermore, it explored the innovation and initiatives around the development of built environment professionals and identified new knowledge areas for consideration in curriculum reviews in higher education institutions.

Speaking during the seminar, the Chief Executive Officer of Amanzi4ALL (Pty) Ltd. Dr Mpafani Deyi said as the new normal continue with Covid-19 disrupting businesses and livelihoods, his team together with the Department of Health, Department of Water and Sanitation and Water Chamber came up with an initiative to pioneer the testing for Covid-19 from wastewater in Ekurhuleni and City of Tshwane in Gauteng, South Africa, the first to carry be carried out in Africa. The tests were conducted to determine and quantify the viral load in wastewater and the results thereof were communicated to decision makers and advised about the increasing of the viral loads in waste water which signalled a high infection of COVID 19 among community members.

Bruce Becker, the other speaker based in the USA, shared experiences about his architectural work such as converting an old building into a hotel with net zero energy consumption.

Among the attendees were representatives from government, private sector and tertiary education institutions.



DPWI through the IDT contracted a total of 418 NPOs to implement EPWP Non-State Sector NPO programme for this current financial year

Article by Michael Mokoena and Mosima Ndlanzi
Pictures by Mosima Ndlanzi



The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) in partnership with the Independent Development Trust (IDT) have contracted a total of 418 Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs) to implement the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) Non-State Sector NPO Programme across the country in the current financial year.

Subsequent to the appointment of these NPOs, DPWI together with the IDT conducted the NPO induction workshops to provide the newly appointed NPOs with an overview of the EPWP NPO Programme, its objectives, as well as the reporting requirements. One of these workshops was held at the IDT National Offices in Gauteng and it was attended by 35 representatives of NPOs appointed to implement the programme within Gauteng province.

The appointed NPOs will work with various government entities across all spheres and other state institutions to implement a wide range of EPWP Non-State Sector projects and programmes such as the:

- Cleaning of community facilities such as hospitals, clinics, graveyards, and police stations
- Establishing, maintaining and managing community gardens
- Providing learner-teacher assistance work and early childhood programmes
- Providing social support services to people with disabilities, elderly people, and vulnerable members of the public and
- Contributing towards the fight against hunger by providing a meal to the vulnerable members of the public through the community soup kitchens initiatives.



DPWI partners with Limpopo Department of Sports, Arts, and Culture to provide work opportunities to unemployed residents in the province

By Maanea Maselesele
Pictures by Maanea Maselesele



The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) in partnership with Limpopo Sports, Arts and Culture Department (Limpopo-SAC) has appointed 51 EPWP participants to provide maintenance work at various museums in the province. These participants were appointed on a 12-month contract (from April 2021 to March 2022).

At Dzata Museum in Makhado Municipality, the two departments (DPWI and Limpopo-SAC) appointed 15 participants to carry out a range of maintenance work such as de-bushing, repair of fencing, and fire breaking.

The purpose of the EPWP Museum Project is to create work opportunities and address the challenge of poverty within various communities in the province. This programme provides income relief through temporary work for the unemployed to carry out socially useful activities.

The participants receive a daily stipend of R140 and work for a maximum of 21 days in a month.

Ms Mpho Tshikosi, the museum curator, expressed gratitude to both departments for the programme.

“We are happy to have EPWP participants at our museum. They have bridged the gap of human resources. We appreciate their commitment and dedication to the work that they do on-site. These participants make our day-to-day running of the museum easier,” she said.

Participant’s Testimonials

Mr Lutendo Dzhuvha, a participant in the programme said: “We are very happy to be part of this EPWP project. The Programme has provided us with an opportunity to earn an income and provide for our families.”

The EPWP Museums project is also being implemented at the following museums in the province:
Muti wa Vatsonga (15)
Schoemansdal Museum (15)
Head office (6)



Mthatha Regional Office of DPWI hosts NYS graduation ceremonies



Article by Michael Mokoena

Pictures by Nonhlanhla Ntuli-Mahlilikhla



The Mthatha Regional Office of the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) recently hosted a graduation ceremony for 30 National Youth Service (NYS) Programme learners who took part in the project to renovate the Nelson Mandela Museum in Qunu village. The learners were placed on-site in August 2018 and received training on a range of work including painting, plumbing, fencing, and paving the facility.

The Manager responsible for NYS at the regional office, Ms Nonhlanhla Ntuli-Mahlilikhla explained that the Department worked with Lezmin Contractor, Councillor Daniso of King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality as well as the local Chief - Inkosi Nokwanele Balizulu - to ensure the successful implementation of the training.

Learner's Testimony

Ms Emma Ndevu, one of the 30 young people who participated in the project, said that the training provided her with skills she can now use to improve her chances of employability. "This training gave me skills to do paving work. As we speak I have already applied for work with some of the local contractors in my community and I believe that I will get employed soon," she said.

Meanwhile, the Regional Office (Mthatha Regional Office) also hosted other NYS graduation ceremonies in August. One ceremony was hosted on August 17 and it was aimed at exiting 12 NYS learners who participated in the refurbishment of the local police station in Idutywa.

Ntuli-Mahlilikhla explained that these learners received a 12-month training in painting.

"The learners joined the Programme in August 2020. They spent 3 months in the classroom doing theoretical work on painting before moving on to the site (Idutywa Police Station) where they spent the remaining 9 months doing practical painting work," she said at the time.

She pointed out that the learners were recruited from the local community in Ward 1 in Idutywa.

Ntuli-Mahlilikhla added that the NYS project was implemented by DPWI in partnership with Coega Development Cooperation while the police station refurbishment project was headed by Botani Construction.

Learner's Testimonials

Mr Sibusiso Dodi, who spoke on behalf of the learners, stated that being part of the NYS has given them skills they can use to make a living for themselves post their participation in the Programme.





DPWI partners with LGSETA to train EPWP participants from Sol Plaatje Local Municipality in Environmental Practice

Article by Michael Mokoena
Pictures by Sandra Mocumi



The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) has provided Environmental Practice training to 20 Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants who were appointed by the Sol Plaatje Local Municipality in Kimberley, Northern Cape to assist the municipality to provide cleaning services to all its Wards. The 20 participants are part of a group of 250 EPWP participants who were appointed on a 12-month contract to assist the municipality to provide cleaning services to all its 33 Wards.

About the Training

The Department partnered with the Local Government Sector Education and Training Authority (LGSETA) and Electives Training Institute-training provider to provide this training.

According to DPWI's Sandra Mocumi, the training was delivered over 28 days and competent participants will respectively be awarded National Qualifications Framework (NQF) Level 3 National certificate in Environmental Practice.

"The training equipped participants with knowledge and understanding of various legislations regarding environmental practices. Furthermore, the training gave participants knowledge and skills to become champions against illegal dumping which is a daily problem in their communities," Mocumi said.

She explained that the unit standards covered in this course included:

- Application of safety, health, and environmental protection procedures
- Care for customers in a community environment
- Coach a team member in order to enhance individual performance
- Conduct basic forestry map reading

Mocumi added that the training has been completed and that the Department was awaiting competency outcomes. "Participants who have completed the training will be awarded certificates," she said.

About the EPWP Sol Plaatje Municipal Cleaning and Greening project

This EPWP Project is known as IG Sol Plaatje Cleaning and Greening and it is a Mayoral Project that is aimed at assisting the municipality to keep all its 33 Wards clean. The project is implemented using the EPWP Incentive Grant allocation to the municipality. Each Ward is allocated 10 participants including a Team Leader. Each team has backup workers (participants) responsible for grass cutting when the need arises. The project has a total of 13 Supervisors that all teams report to, and 2 Managers that oversee the smooth operation of the Project.

"This project has contributed to the socio-economic upliftment of the community of Kimberley as it created work opportunities for locals. The implementation of various skills programme training courses has also lifted participants' morale and participants expressed their gratitude during testimonials in training," Mocumi added.

Participant's Testimonials

Participants indicated that the activities within the training unit standards were of utmost importance to them as they are daily confronted with hazardous waste materials being dumped in open spaces by the communities. The training and unit standard on Environmental protection procedures will go a long way to capacitate them to identify various waste materials as well as the required handling and disposal of it as per legislation.

The training has equipped them to acquire a deeper sense of understanding in the daily execution of their tasks. The learners also indicated that they are more enlightened about the issue of illegal dumping in their areas of work. Having been exposed to the Kimberley Landfill during the practical training, has broadened their mindset about different aspects of waste management as well as recycling.



EPWP participants at Sol Plaatje Municipality trained in Landscaping

Article by Michael Mokoena

Picture by Sandra Mocumi



Twenty (20) Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants who are working under the Sol Plaatje Local Municipality in Kimberley recently received training in landscaping. The 20 participants are part of a group of 250 EPWP participants who are contracted by the municipality to assist in the cleaning of all 33 municipal Wards. This training was provided by the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) in partnership with the Agricultural Sector Education and Training Authority (AgriSETA) and the training provider called JNV Landscaping.

DPWI's Sandra Mocumi said the landscaping course - National Certificate: Landscaping – is accredited at NQF Level 3.

She pointed out that the training was delivered over 33 days and covered the following unit standards:

- Identifying a range of ornamental plants used in the horticultural industry and maintaining health and safety standards in horticulture
- Pruning and dethatching grassed areas
- Mowing and dethatching grassed areas

Mocumi explained that the training was meant to assist participants to acquire a better understanding of landscaping and enhance their skills and employability outside of the project. "The training will also assist them to explore other areas to sustain themselves i.e. independent garden services and possibly offer independent cleaning services to the municipality," she said.

Mocumi added that upon completion of the training, the participants received Certificates of Attendance and they will receive Certificates of Competency once the project is completed.

About the EPWP IG / Sol Plaatje cleaning and Greening project

The Sol Plaatje Local Municipality is the implementing agent of the project and receives funding from the National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure through the Incentive Grant. The project aims to conduct cleaning activities in all 33 wards and create work opportunities within the Sol Plaatje Municipality area. Each ward consists of 10 workers including a Team Leader. Each team has backup workers (participants) responsible for grass cutting when the need arises.

Participant's Testimonials

Participants attested that the activities within the training unit standards were of utmost importance in the Sol Plaatje municipal area as there are many open spaces that are unkempt and unserved due to capacity challenges within the municipality. Also, during the current COVID 19 climate the municipality is constrained in respect of capacity.

Community Work Programme participants receive training in Early Childhood Development



Article by Michael Mokoena
Pictures by Vincent Ramashau



The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) recently partnered with the Education, Training and Development Practices Sector Education and Training Authority (ETDP-SETA) to provide Early Childhood Development training to 25 Community Work Programme (CWP) participants in Ratanda, Gauteng. The participants, who are all women, perform community beneficial work such as cleaning of the schools, doing community agricultural work, assisting with community environmental work, providing Home Based Care and Early Childhood Development within the community of Ratanda (Heidelberg).

About the training

The training that these participants attended - FETC: Early Childhood Development (NQF Level 4) - was workplace-based. It covered the following unit standards:

- Prepare Recourses and Set Up the Environment to Support the Development of Babies, Toddlers and Young Children (244468)
- Work with families and communities to support Early Childhood Development (244462)
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the development of babies, toddlers, and young children (244484)

The training was implemented over 22 days – from 31 May 2021 to 30 June 2021.

Participants' Testimonials

One participant – Ms Vuyiswa Ndlela - explained that the training taught her a lot about the behaviour of children.

"I learned that when you work with children you must be patient. I also learned that it is important to know the children's ages and treat them according to their ages because we deal with babies, toddlers, and young children. Babies want more attention... if you leave them unattended they will move around and crawl or walk to other children. The older ones also do the same, which is dangerous since we are dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic," she said.

"I also learned that they should eat in the morning and at 11 am and they must also have enough time to sleep. As the caregivers we must always keep the places they are looked after clean," Ndlela added.

Another participant - Ms Masabata Kobetsi – expressed gratitude for the training. "Before exposure to this training, I did not know anything about children, or how to control children or their anger, and also how to help children to play together. The training gave me an understanding of how to work with children. I now know how to control them and how to talk to them. For instance, I am not supposed to shout at them, however, I have to speak to them in a non-threatening tone," she added.



Gauteng Health Department appoints EPWP participants to improve service delivery at health facilities in Tshwane, Pretoria

Article by Michael Mokoena

In a bid to improve service delivery at health facilities in Tshwane in Gauteng, the Department of Health in the province has appointed 94 Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) participants to assist with activities such as data capturing, clerical duties, and cleaning of the facilities. The participants also assist with queue marshalling and filing.

The manager of the project, Mr Nnoke Rakgoale, explained that the project started on 01 April 2021 and that its objective is to create work opportunities for poor and unemployed members of the community in Tshwane.

“The project is aimed at enabling these community members to earn an income and to acquire the necessary skills to access the labour market upon exiting the EPWP. The objective of the project is to also support the Department of Health to effectively deliver services to the community. EPWP participants are deployed in various health facilities to provide admin/clerical work, client liaison to reduce waiting times in queues, and cleaning to reduce infections acquired at facilities,” he said.

He pointed out that the project is funded through the EPWP Social Sector Incentive Grant for Provinces 2021/2022.

“The project recruited 94 participants and was guided by the EPWP Recruitment Guidelines and the internal Human Resource unit was involved in the recruitment process. The participants are remunerated through PERSAL system and are contracted for 12 months period,” Rakgoale said.

He stated that the participants, most of whom are women, earned a daily wage of R175.00 and worked for 20 days a month.

In terms of the impact of the project, Rakgoale indicated that the participants provided relief to overworked full-time permanent personnel and reduced long queues at the facilities where they are deployed. “Cleanliness has improved and thus reducing the risk of infections. Patients’ files are also well-organised and the tracking rate is faster,” he added.

This project will be implemented until 31 March 2022 and is registered and reported on the EPWP Reporting System.



DPWI partners with the private sector companies to implement the EPWP-AgriSETA Artisan Development Programme

Article by Michael Mokoena

A partnership between the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) and the Agricultural Sector Education and Training Authority (AgriSETA) has led to the training of 75 artisans in Gauteng. The Artisan Training Development Programme is an Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) initiative that is aimed at developing artisan skills. Through this Programme, DPWI and AgriSETA work with private sector companies to train artisans in the country.

In the Pretoria Region, the government has partnered with private sector companies such as Tim Brown Electrical Works (Pty) Ltd to implement this Programme. DPWI Manager responsible for this Programme in Gauteng, Mr Tshifhiwa Nkumeleni, explained that five participants have been placed at Tim Brown Electrical Works (Pty) Ltd for training.

“The five participants will spend 3 years (from 2021 to 2023) in the EPWP-AgriSETA Apprenticeship Programme and they will receive theoretical, practical, and workplace training,” he said.

He indicated that the participants were being trained in the electrical trade.

“The training will expose the participants to the workshop and also provide them with skills to use various hand tools and equipment in the electrical trade,” Nkumeleni said.

Participants’ Testimonials

The five learners who are being trained at Tim Brown Electrical Works (Pty) Ltd are Ms Reabetswe Mabena, Ms Millicent Ramahanedza, Ms Oratile Mamabolo, Mr Wisan Ngobeni, and Mr Tshebeletso Mphahlele.

Ngobeni, who has previously participated in the National Youth Service (NYS) Programme, said: “I want to use this opportunity to become a qualified Electrician. I am committed to completing the training and I believe that one day I will be able to start my own business.”

Ngobeni has completed a certificate in N2 Engineering Studies and also passed a module in Electrical N2 Trade Theory.

Both Mabena and Ramahanedza mentioned that the EPWP-AgriSETA Apprenticeship will help them to gain practical experience in the electrical field.

Mamabolo said that she was confident that she would find employment upon completing the training.