

# Mishumo

**Official newsletter for the Department of Public Works**

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## **PUBLIC WORKS JOIN HANDS WITH IDT**

By: Belinda Chabalala

On 19<sup>th</sup> August 2013 MEC for Department of Public Works Mr. Dickson Masemola and CEO for Independent Development Trust (IDT) Ms. Thembi Nwendamutswu signed a Memorandum of Understanding. This came as a result of a recovering plan/turnaround strategy that was developed by the executive team of DPW.

The Department of Public Work's primary mandate is service delivery and to maintain government infrastructure. The event held was to make sure that the department lives up to its mandate to deliver infrastructure on behalf of the Departments of Education, Health and Sport, arts & Culture by signing a MOU ( Memorandum of Understanding) with IDT. "The millions that we have been given by the government should be used to implement tangible social infrastructure, we don't want to find out at the end of this financial year not even a cent has been used, HOD Mr Madidimalo Chaamano and the Administrator Mr. Mbuyi Dondashe will take overall administrative responsibility and I will take full responsibility for this implementation," MEC Masemola indicated. The MEC also said he has full

confidence in the senior management of LDPW and have full confidence in IDT together we can make this happen" he concluded.

It was indicated that before the end of April 2014 contractors should be on site. The CEO for IDT thanked the MEC for such an opportunity which the MEC has entrusted them with full responsibility for this project ; they promised to respond to the government requirements in order to deliver this programme. She also mentioned that planning is critical for any implementation of any social infrastructure and she said it is important that we begin to prioritize so that by April the implementation may commence.



Dickson Masemola (MEC for Public Works) and Thembi Nwendamutswu (CEO :IDT) sign a Memorandum Of Understanding.

# MINISTER THULAS NXESI VISIT PROJECTS IN LIMPOPO

By: Tendani Tshidavhu

National Public Works Minister Hon. Thulas Nxesi, MP, along with Public Works MEC's from the provinces, visited projects in the Waterberg district as part of the MinMec session, which is chaired by the minister and attended by all MEC's of Public Works including the Director General and Head's of Department.

The session which is a two day affair, kicked off with visits to projects that construction works is being managed by the Provincial Public Works led by MEC Namane Dickson Masemola.

The idea is to showcase projects being implemented and also share best working models and innovation in infrastructure delivery.

One of the innovative projects that were visited was the Rapotokwane Traditional council office in kwa-Litho, Waterberg District under Chief Mahlangu valued at R5.2 Million which included labour and material. The model is such that no contractor was appointed, but Public Works itself tested its internal capacity and recruited at least 68 beneficiaries from the community through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and discovered, it is possible.

The confidence to deliver on Rapotokwane, which is still under construction, comes from the fact that, the same approach was used in the Construction of the Mulima Traditional council office and it worked. Rapotokwane area was also strategically chosen as a project to be visited as it had been off the government radar for a long time, "Rapotokwane has been one of those places which Limpopo Government thought it was under Mpumalanga and Mpumalanga in turn thought it was under Limpopo and because of that, very little or no service was rendered in that area" said MEC Masemola as he walked the delegation through the projects, which also included a library about one kilometre away from the traditional council office. The Library is also a new facility delivered by Public Works as a drive to do more

for the community that had been forgotten. The library which is complete and awaiting to be officially handed over to the client department was strategically placed adjacent to the kwa-Litho Secondary School, in order for it to be optimally used.

The delegation further travelled to Bela Bela where two schools were under construction, the first stop was at Thushanang Special School. It started in 1990 at Bela Bela community hall through Mma-Kale who had a child with special needs. The school has since grown and now accommodates children with special needs and this has necessitated the construction by government of additional hostels for the learners. Scope of work included the demolition of the dilapidated boy's hostel and the construction of a new hostel and an administration block. The project started in May 2013 and is scheduled to be completed in July 2014. The project has cost just above R16m. The social impact of the school it is that it very accessible as it is within the community and it accommodates severely intellectual, Autistic and Down syndrome learners.

Khabele Primary School also made the list. It was started in 1940 as a Dutch Missionary school in Bela-Bela. The project is in three phases and already two phases have been completed. The third phase which includes the demolition of 6 classrooms, construction of 1X5 and 1X2 classroom blocks is already underway. The work on the school will cost just below R7m.

MinMec sessions rotate per province as the Minister uses these platforms to expose both internal and external stakeholders to what is being done in the Public Works family, so the family can learn from each other.

After the projects visit, the delegates converge in a closed off meeting to discuss issues concerning the Public Works body.

# Maximization of Integrated Planning for Sustainable Jobs

BY: Belinda Chabalala



The arrival of the MEC Mr. ND Masemola accompanied by from left: Mayor of Greater Tzaneen Municipality Cllr. Dikeledi Mmetla and Executive Mayor Joshua Matlou.

The Provincial Department of Public Works hosted the Second Annual EPWP Summit, which was held from the 25th-26th July 2013 at Tivumbeni Multipurpose Education Centre. The centre was filled with more than 300 delegates from provincial municipalities and lead sector departments. This follows the inaugural summit that was held last year July, with 300 delegates participating, the summit was aimed at looking at the progress made from last year's resolutions, progress on the provincial EPWP phase 2 performances and the unpacking of the EPWP phase 3 plans, towards 2015. The theme for this year was: **"The Maximization of Integrated Planning for Sustainable Jobs."** MEC ND Masemola addressed the delegates for the first time as the MEC for Public Works. In his speech he mentioned the main objective of the meeting which he said it was to "evaluate our contribution as the province towards the alleviation of poverty through the creation of labour intensive work opportunities". The MEC further said, "we also expect maximum participation from all and sundry, particularly because a strong foundation has now been laid .....let us use the lessons learned to date to plan an aggressive up-scaling strategy and increase job creation, alleviating poverty in this Province" with all the motivation from the MEC

the summit continued successfully where the following 13 resolutions were taken.

**Municipal Policies:** Summit notes that seven municipalities have endorsed EPWP municipal policies. The Summit resolves all policies must be endorsed by 31 October 2013. The Provincial Department of Public Works and the National Department of Public Works to provide technical support. The Summit resolves that a beneficiary recruitment policy guideline will be included within the EPWP Municipal Policy.

**District Forums:** The Summit notes the progress attained in establishing all five District Forums. The Summit resolves that District Forums will:

- meet on a quarterly basis,
- have an annual corporate calendar as developed by the Provincial Department of Public Works;
- ensure that presentations be done by Municipalities and Lead Sector Departments on 50/50 basis;
- ensure that sector representation improves and that participation is compulsory, with the support from Lead Sector Departments;
- monitor the implementation of the EPWP protocols; and
- Fulfill the terms of reference of the District Forums.

**Summit Resolution Monitoring:** The Summit resolved that District Forums, Sector Committees and the Provincial Sector Committee will monitor, report and ensure that Summit resolutions are implemented.



1. **EPWP Social Sector:** The Summit resolves to expand job creation in the social sector through a robust drive to involve municipalities and innovation of new social sector programmes among sector public bodies. The Summit resolves to engage non-participating public bodies.
2. **EPWP Non-State Sector:** The Summit notes that the non-wage cost for the Non-Profit Programme has increased from 3% to 5%. The Summit resolves that institutional arrangements for the Community Work Programme and in relation to other EPWP structures will be improved within the province.
1. **EPWP Infrastructure Sector:** The Summit resolves that infrastructure sector will set-up compliance standards and enforcement measures at the implementing body, project and service provider levels.
2. **EPWP Environment and Culture Sector:** The Summit resolves that the Sector must explore and implement the ‘Culture’ part of the Environment & Culture in conjunction with Sports, Arts and Culture Department; as part of expansion.
3. **EPWP Training:** The Summit resolves that public bodies will budget, implement and report on training provided to EPWP beneficiaries. Public Bodies will engage Sector Education and Training Authorities for training funds, with the support of the Provincial Department of Public Works and National Department of Public Works. Sector Departments to identify priority skills interventions to ensure early planning and economies of scale.
4. **EPWP Enterprise Development:** The Summit resolves that sectors will identify enterprise development initiatives within various EPWP programmes to be supported and reported. Provincial Department of Public Works and National Department of Public Works will engage the Economic Development Department to lead on the support offered to enterprises.
5. **EPWP M&E:** The Summit resolves to strengthen reporting and compliance with EPWP standards across all sectors and spheres through the establishment of a Monitoring and Evaluation oversight committee.
6. **EPWP Champions:** The Summit resolves that Municipalities must appoint a political champion for EPWP and establish an EPWP Portfolio Committee. Further an EPWP champion must be appointed at a senior staff level to oversee all four sectors of EPWP. Such a champion must be a section 57 manager. Departments must also appoint a person at Senior Management level to oversee the EPWP.
7. **EPWP Incentives:** The Summit resolves that the incentive grant will be strictly monitored in accordance with the Division of Revenue Act by National Department of Public Works and the Provincial Department of Public Works.
8. **EPWP Communication:** The Summit resolves that EPWP communications efforts will improve through:
  - the continuation of MEC led EPWP Public Participation Programmes;
  - the introduction of a provincial events calendar;
  - the Limpopo Province contributing and enhancing the EPWP website ([www.epwp.gov.za](http://www.epwp.gov.za));
  - MECs, Executive Mayors, Municipal Managers and HoDs including EPWP in speeches for all major public events; and
  - Public Bodies to budget for EPWP Communication.



MEC ND Masemola, Paulinah Makgatho (Mayor of Molemole municipality) and Maria Thamaga (Blouberg Municipality)



## MEC MASEMOLA ON ROAD SHOW TO CONSULT ON LIMPOPO CONTRACTOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

BY: Tendani Tshidavhu

The Department of Public Works led by MEC Namane Dickson Masemola, in a surge to reposition the contractor and construction management, embarked on a road show to do things differently.

In the two months MEC Masemola has been with the Department his mission has been to move with speed on issues of infrastructure delivery. Fresh from signing a Memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Independent Development Trust (IDT) relating to infrastructure delivery support, MEC Masemola met with organised associations of contractors belonging to the South African Women in Construction (SAWIC); National African federated chambers of Commerce and Industry in construction (NAFCON) and the National Black Contractors and Trades Forum (NEBCAT) to consult on the Limpopo Contractor Development Programme (LCDP), a concept which the Department has brainstormed on in an attempt to resuscitate contractors as they are the people that assist government in the delivery of infrastructure, “We have been brainstorming on how best to reinstate construction to be one of the key elements....our main aim is to see people in Limpopo glowing.” This Masemola said in reference to what he would want to see when contractors get tenders, make profit deliver quality infrastructure and in turn benefitting the overall citizens of Limpopo.

The consultation process was staged in order to get input from the contractors on how the development programme can best be rolled out and also look at models that can be followed. development programme which some of the outcomes of this programme have been outlined as follows:

- To improve performance of contractors in terms of quality
- Improve the grading status of contractors
- Create sustainable contracting enterprise
- Increase the number of black, women,

disabled and youth owned companies

This road-show, which will also be taken to other districts in the province and be presented to municipalities and other construction bodies, is important for Public works as it will help build and rectify mistakes that were committed during such a developmental programme launched in the past known as Sakhasonke, which during its implementation it was realised that the programme needed to be remodelled in order to achieve the intended goals.

Lessons learned from Sakhasonke have been incorporated in the new model for the contractor. The contractor’s present expressed gratitude to MEC Masemola and the Department for the consultation process as it proved to them that they are being considered as departmental stakeholders in decision making processes which involve them.

All inputs were taken and would be worked into the concept document before implementation of programme commences.



**MEC Namane  
Dickson Masemola  
Addressing the  
Ccontractors**



**MEC Namane Dickson Masemola  
together with some of the  
contractors**





*LDPW CELEBRATES HERITAGE DAY AND WOMANS DAY*







# Ministers Project visit in Pictures







# Ministers Project visit in Pictures





## “THE POWER OF POLITICS IS RESIDENT IN THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION” SAYS MEC MASEMOLA

The newly sworn in MEC for the Department of Public Works, MEC Namane Dickson Masemola, minced no words, during his inaugural address to Middle and Senior Management Service Members, at the Departmental Strategic Planning session held just few days after his arrival.

Masemola, a man known for his eloquent, clear and forth right speaking, wasted no time in outlining the importance of a strong and efficient public service and how it can impact on the leadership of the day, “The power of politics is resident in the public administration, if it is not, politics remain slogans”.

This was after listening to highly charged officials, who actively engaged each other on issues that pose a threat to the non-realisation of the vision for the Department, challenges that are being encountered in the execution of the mandate, which is to deliver Infrastructure and manage Government Properties and Facilities as well as the coordination of the Expanded Public Works Programme.

Management thrashed out ways on how to deal with issues concerning the departmental core functions and how the department can address the challenges in order to achieve a clean audit report in 2014.

In order to achieve these, there was a consensus that there need to be a culture of work and people taking responsibility for their actions, change in attitude and above all, officials need to “negate what seems to be an internal opposition to your conscience”, which basically means that officials need to consult their conscience in dealing with any aspect of their work including the time in which they report to work.

MEC Masemola concluded the session by indicating that there are “quick –wins”, things the Department can do now towards changing the negative perception the public and other client stakeholders have of Public Works, which is to start tightening government systems and becoming ‘REVO-CRATS’- revolutionary bureaucrats, who are there for a cause which is to drive the agenda of government with no compromise.

The same message was given to the Senior Management Service Members, in their initial introductory meeting with the MEC, who further encouraged them to read James 3:1 of the Christian Faith Bible, and use the message as a guide in their further execution of the work.

Building from the Strategic Planning Session, MEC Masemola, immediately commenced with his visit to District offices in all five district starting with Vhembe and Mopani on the same day, followed by Waterberg and Capricorn District, ending with Sekhukhune. This was his way of meeting frontline operatives of the Department who are closer to the ground.

Masemola’s message to the districts was consistent, a message of encouragement and a message of confidence he has on them to deliver on behalf of government and make the department proud.

“You are a very formidable team of men and women, who are more than prepared, going forward.’

A turn-around strategy to strategically deal with the issues raised is currently being implemented.



**MEC ND Masemola addressing employees during his district visit.**

# LDPW Officials Celebrates Mandela Day

BY: Lethabo Moloto

Nelson Mandela devoted 67 years of his life to combating injustice and fighting for human rights. In 2009 the United Nations honored his legacy by officially making his birthday 'Nelson Mandela International Day'. Every year on July 18, people around the world mark the day by dedicating 67 minutes of time to volunteering and helping others.

It is more than a celebration of Nelson Mandela's life and legacy; it is a global movement to take his life's work into a new century and change our world for the better. Mandela Day asks us all to embrace Madiba's values and honour his legacy through an act of kindness. Who knows, it might leave you inspired enough to make every day a Mandela Day!

In celebration of Mandela Day, the LDPW officials spent 67 minutes of their time to do activities that include washing the departmental cars. Public Works visited Molelekeng Pre-School in Sekororo Village, outside Tzaneen where it helped with painting the school and interacting with the kids in honour of the world icon's selfless contribution to humanity. This day has given us a chance as officials to do the work ourselves with the community, to show that we care.

Lets keep the Madiba spirit of giving pass through all of us South Africans and the world. Let every day be a Mandela Day!!



DPW Official painting during the Mandela Day



The Children Having a fun Day



Don Hlongwani and Tendani Tshidavhu playing with the little ones.

# LDPW PLOUGH BACK TO COMMUNITY

BY: Happy Lekgothoane



Mr. Sedibe showing one of the models created by EPWP learners during training.

Limpopo Department of Public Works is directly responsible for the development and implementation of massive programmes in building the economic and social infrastructure, by transforming structural economy in the development and maintenance of infrastructure of the province.

Through the departmental in-house skilled Artisans that portray various skills (Carpentry, Bricklaying, Welding and Plumbing), Mokopane Cost Centre have been tasked with the responsibility of maintaining and to revamping damaged infrastructure in Schools and repair broken desks in support of the client department in particular Department of Education. The Cost Centre provided skills transfer to appointed EPWP learners in the form of Landscaping, carpentry, bricklaying and Welding for the last financial 2012/13 using available resources at the cost centre.



Mokopane bricklaying team after completion of paving at Sekgooa Kgala Lower Primary School Mahwelereng



# PLANT A TREE AND SAVE THE WORLD

Arbor month provides us with the opportunity to raise awareness of South Africa's urban greening initiatives and encourages all communities and businesses to participate in various greening activities. We will encouraged people to participate in tree planting activities and related environmental programmes.

Trees play a vital role in rural and urban populations. They are needed to enrich and anchor soil, to maximise water supplies, to beautify and humanise townships and urban areas and to provide shade and shelter. They are also crucial for biodiversity conservation.

## How to Plant a Tree

- Dig a hole, 1/2 metre wide x 1/2 metre wide, square in shape.
- Separate the top soil (darker soil) from the bottom lighter soil.
- Put the dark topsoil into the bottom of the hole.
- Remove the tree from its container or plastic bag.
- Place the tree into the hole. The tree base should be below the How to Plant a Tree
- Dig a hole, 1/2 metre wide x 1/2 metre wide, square in shape.
- Separate the top soil (darker soil) from the bottom lighter soil.
- Put the dark topsoil into the bottom of the hole.
- Remove the tree from its container or plastic bag.
- Place the tree into the hole. The tree base should be below the ground level.
- Plant either a pipe at an angle, or use a 2 litre plastic

coldrink

bottle with holes cut in the bottom of the bottle, next to the roots of the tree, with the top of the pipe or plastic bottle sticking out of the ground.

- Mix a small amount of compost into the lighter soil, and pack it into the hole.
- Measure one spade length space around the tree.
- Remove all the grass and weeds from this space.
- Water the tree.
- Add a 10 cm layer of mulch (leaves, straw, or strips of newspaper), around the tree but not touching the tree.
- Once a week, water the tree through the pipe or water funnel. This sends the water directly to the roots (and prevents wasting water)
- Put the lid onto the bottle to prevent the water evaporating.
- After the 1st year, water the tree only when the soil is dry.
- Dig a straight wooden stake or stick next to the tree. Using something soft - like a stocking or piece of fabric - tie the tree to the stake to assist the tree in growing straight.
- Love and enjoy your tree!

In 2013 the trees being highlighted are:

Common: Blossom Tree or Keurboom (*Virgilia oroboides*)

Rare: Cross-Berry or Kruisbessie (*Grewia occidentalis*)

Powder-puff Tree or Poeierkwasboom (*Barringtonia racemosa*)

**SOURCE: Internet**

## From Anonymous' Pen

With fraud and corruption being associated with government spheres and officials, the arrest of government officials only adds petrol to the ever roaring protests about service delivery.

Recently some with my colleagues we had the liberty of meeting the new MEC for Public Works Mr Namane Dickson Masemola. The meeting turned out to be enlightening and significant.

He gave everyone a task to go and read with understanding James 3 vs. 1 which reads as follows: ***“Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers; for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.”*** I took the liberty of reading it further, which turned out to be a script which teaches a lot more.

Going back to the verse at hand, I understand it talks to all employees of government. That being in government comes with accountability and responsibility for public accounts, honesty, trust and passion are requires in making that a reality. Of cause not all South Africans can be on management positions/be government officials/be political heads, **don't get me wrong here, if the opportunity arises grab with both hands provided you possess the qualities and requirements.** All I am saying is if it happens that you are on that management position/government official/political head just know that you will be accountable for every decision and action made which is not for the benefit of the public and service delivery.

If we live up to the quote, maybe Auditor General, Public Protector, SCOPA and Portfolio Committees even media will spend less time stressing issues of

fraud and corruption amongst government officials. Maybe, just maybe, we would not be under administration. Perhaps public protests would not be so violent and constant. Perhaps government will stop blaming apartheid for its mishaps and give the public what is duly theirs. Perhaps we will stop wasting state resources by going in and out of court. Perhaps prison will be reserved for serious crime committers, not fraudsters and corrupt officials.

All I can say is I hope this one stays; we had enough change to last the department a lifetime. They come, raise our hope, act like they care and leave faster than Zimbabwean dollar.

The dream of a clean audit, accountability and transparency and don't have to go with him and them all, but **MUST** be engraved in us all. At the end of the day, they come and go; we stay which is a clear indication that we are responsible for that clean audit, maintaining asset register, giving the public value for money kind of service and eliminating fruitless expenditures.

Just maybe the employer will then realise and recognise us as the hardworking women and men we are and grand us with better performance bonus percentage.

Signing off until next time!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



**government  
communications**

Department:  
Government Communication & Information System  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## Government News

### Did You Know

Life has changed since 1994

### Outcome 1: Improved Quality of Basic Education

#### Further Education and Training (FET)

- Bursaries to students increased from R100 million in 2007 to R1, 7 billion in 2012.
- R200 million was provided to the National Student Financial Aid Scheme for Loans to students who have completed their studies.
- A further R50 million was provided for postgraduate students who required financial assistance to complete their honours, masters and doctoral degrees.



**Working Together We Can Do More**



## VISION

A leader in the provision and management of land and buildings.

## MISSION

Optimal utilization of resources in the provision and management of provincial land and buildings and the coordination of Expanded Public Works Programme.

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Designed & produced by Communication and Stakeholder Management

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EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME

The heartland of Southern Africa - *development is about people!*

*Re a Soma*