



DPWI and AgriSETA collaborate on R66 million to train 400 Artisans

Monday, 24 August 2020 - The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) today announced the provision of R66 million to AgriSETA, to train 400 EPWP participants to become Artisans.

This funding of R66 million was provided by the National Skills Fund (NSF) of the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET). The funding received from the DHET through a partnership and confirmed in a Memorandum of Agreement is for training EPWP participants on skills programmes, learnerships and artisan development programmes over a multi-year period.

“We partnered with AgriSETA, as they previously implemented a similar project and we were satisfied with the results. The department is committed to develop and nurture scarce skills as part of DPWI on-going transformation process of the built industry”, says Mr Imtiaz Fazel, the acting Director-General of the DPWI.

The Agreement between DPWI and Agriseta to implement the artisan development programme shall commence immediately and will continue up until 30 September 2023, and until completion of the Project, whichever comes first.

AgriSETA will manage the implementation and provide technical support to the Project, in order to ensure that 400 artisans are trained and certificated.

“This is no small feat for us and we are honoured as AgriSETA to perform the obligations of the Project implementation, which includes administration and reporting, as well as the procurement and contracting of relevant training providers, which will be done in consultation with DPWI to ensure clear guidelines and transparency”, says AgriSETA’s CEO, Mr Zenzele Myeza.

AgriSETA is also responsible for sourcing relevant workplaces for all 400 trainees in artisan development, as well as to certify all accreditation requirements of training and appointment of service delivery agents for the duration of the project.

AgriSETA will ensure joint monitoring with DPWI, continuous quality assurance, verification and the timeous completion of certification of successful participants.

“This is indeed an empowering collaboration, which is going to benefit many unemployed people and will increase the much needed essential skills that is required in all sectors of the country”, says Myeza.

The National Skills Fund Executive Officer, Mr Mvuyisi Macikama said that this project aligns to the National Skills Development Strategy (NSDS) III and the National Skills Development Plan 2030 which prioritises artisan development programmes to address technical skills shortage, and in line with the envisaged catalytic role of the NSF, to drive change towards partnership-based programmes and contribute significantly to raising the low base of education and training in the country, guided by government strategies and policies of redress and equity.

Ends

Issued by the Department of Public Works & Infrastructure, Communications Chief Directorate and Agriseta Marketing and Communications Unit

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