



Local Municipality • Mmasepala wa seLehae • Plaaslike Munisipaliteit

To : MEDIA
From : Maluti-A-Phofung Local Municipality
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South Africa is a water stressed country with the average rainfall that country receives annually is way below the world average, on the 02nd March 2018 Maluti a Phofung Local Municipality Water Entity (MAP Water Pty. Ltd) jointly with Magubane Plant and Contractors company assembled at Phuthaditjhaba Multipurpose Hall to orientate more than 300 youth from the government Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP) that will undergo a three months skills and development training funded by the Energy and Water Sector Education and Training Authority (EWSETA).

“The municipality is relentlessly striving to alleviate poverty and curb the unemployment rate, thus the initiative seeks to enhance and enrich the EPWP participants’ skills and afford them the opportunity to obtain qualifications pertaining scarce skills for classified jobs or ignite entrepreneurship among youth”, said Simtholile Ndlovu, Skills Development Facilitator at Magubane Plant and Contractors. She further deliberated that the company approached the municipality late last year after realising that there is a dire need of scarce skills within the community of MAP such as water and reusable energy, thus reached a consensus to assist with the application for the discretionally grant and skills programme from EWSETA primarily to educate the communities about water preservation.

Talking more about their placements within the water utility during the training programme; Phori Mosia a beneficiary of LGSETA programme from Sedibeng Water currently acting as Senior Process Controller at MAP Water enunciated the prominence of recognising the TVET College students and SETA programmes as they are the solution to the challenges currently encountered by municipalities. “Re thabetse batjha bana haholo hobane sena seo re sebonang kajeno kwano setla thusa lefapha la tsa metsi lela infrastructure hobane re tlabe re sebeta ka batho ba seng bana le bo ipihlelo ba mosebetsi oo re o etsang”, he said.

Vuyo Janjiies from EWSETA Monitoring and Evaluation explained the necessity of conducting such skills development training, focusing on energy and water as it continues to play a vital role in the development of the South African economy. He further stated that “one of our primary objectives as the SETAs is to collect skills levies from employers within each sector, in terms of the Skills Development Levies



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Act and avail funds within the sector for education and training similar to this one here but one must bear in mind that we are not mandated to do job placement”.

In continuation of accelerating the National Development Plan Vision 2030 MAP through EPWP supplement intensive labourers with scarce skills to empower the community at large, Portia Ndaba, MAP EPWP Coordinator clarified the processes of identifying deserving candidates and the selection criteria used. “Re file ditho tsohle tsa EPWP monyetla ho tloha lemong tse 18 ho fihla ho tse 45 ba nang le bonyane lengolo la grade 10, mme ba senang lengolo la grade 10 le bona ha reya ba siya morao hobane rele masepala maikemisetso a rona ke ho etsa bonnete ba hore reba anela kaofela”, she emphasised. She further explained how the municipality will monitor the training on a daily basis by ensuring that people attend classes and obtain certificates within the specified time frame. “All the 300 registered learners will receive a monthly allowance of R600 for the period of the training” she concluded.

Malinga Sibongile, a 22 year old girl from Hara Nkopane village was among the learners who will participate in the skills training programme and couldn’t hide her excitement about getting a chance to go back to class again after dropping out with only grade 10 some time ago “I want to thank the mayor Cllr Vusimusi Tshabalala for the great live changing opportunity and I promised to work hard to achieve more” She conveyed. The training will complete on the first week of June this year.

By: Masilo Malakwane