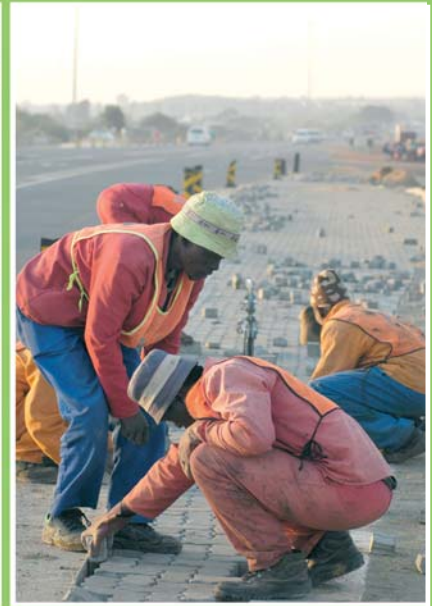
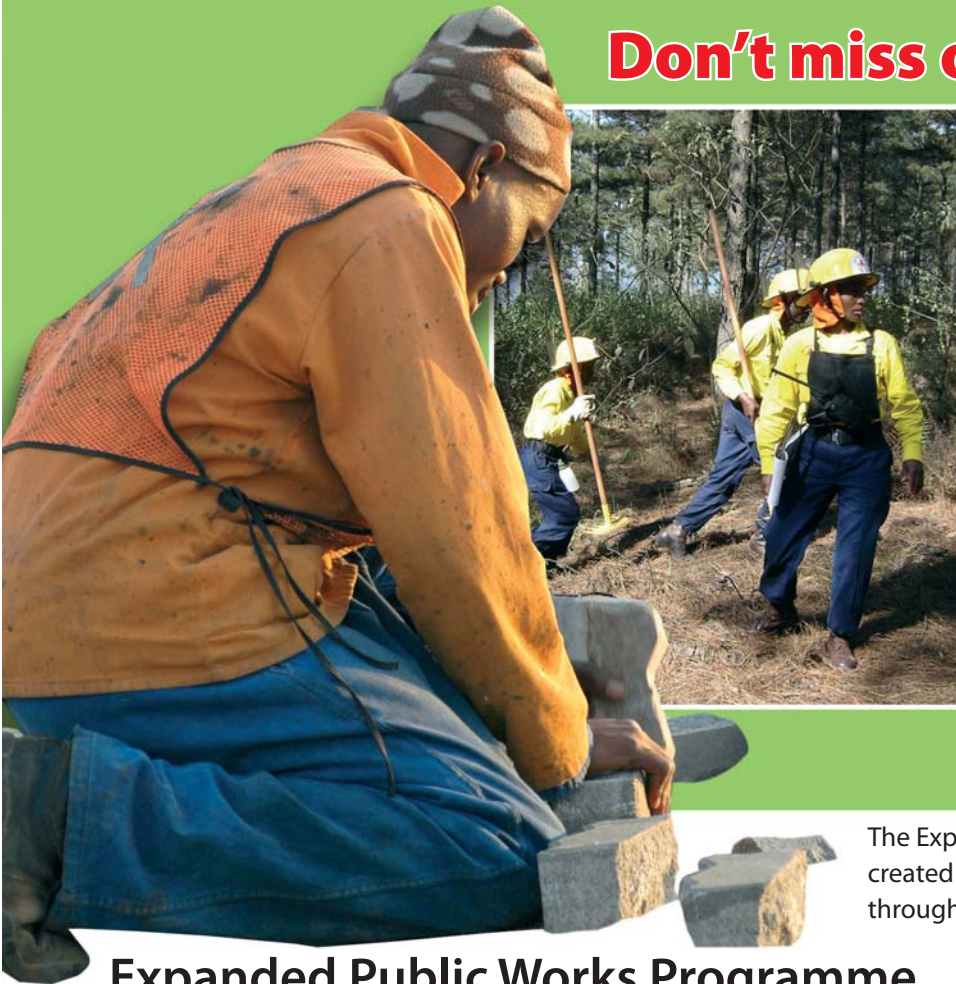


Don't miss out when...



Photos: Franci du Toit and Kagiso Communications

The Expanded Public Works Programme has created more than 220 000 temporary jobs through 3 400 projects.

Expanded Public Works Programme

Opportunity knocks

By Ndivhuwo Khangale

It's possibly one of the best kept secrets in the country. More than 220 000 temporary jobs have been created by a government programme, but there has been very little publicity.

Last year, government announced a new national programme to increase temporary jobs with training opportunities for unemployed people.

Today, 17 months later, the programme — called the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) — has created more than 220 000 jobs through 3 400

projects countrywide.

This is how it happened.

The Department of Provincial and Local Government receives grants from the national government to improve services.

The money is given to municipalities to create more jobs and train people.

The EPWP is co-ordinated by

the Department of Public Works.

EPWP Deputy Director-General Bongani Gxilishe told *Vuk'uzenzele* that the government has invested more than R15 billion in the programme.

■ Economic opportunities

"The EPWP is in its first year. Unfortunately, it seems as if many municipalities do not inform people about the programme and its opportunities. Municipalities have to use this programme to create jobs. Our main focus is the rural areas where there are many unskilled, unemployed people who have not yet enjoyed the benefits of

**To find out more about
the Expanded Public
Works Programme**

Gateway Call Centre 1020
e-Gateway www.gov.za