

## **Media Release**

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Ref: KZN EPWP INDABA AND KAMOSO AWARDS

Date: 10 October 2018

TO: ALL MEDIA

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SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKS MEC HOSTS 2018 KZN EPWP INDABA AND KAMOSO AWARDS

DURBAN - Excellence and best practices in the provision of short to long-term public employment opportunities are set to be recognised this Friday evening (12th October 2018) evening when various municipalities and non-governmental organisations across KwaZulu-Natal vie for the top prize during this year's 2018 Kamoso Awards ceremony.

Kamoso (seSotho for future) Awards recognise the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) as a key government programme aimed at improving the general socio-economic conditions of all South Africans.

In addition, the Awards are a platform to recognise municipalities, provinces, departments, public entities and individuals who have excelled in implementing the EPWP in the preceding year.

It is against this background that KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Human Settlements and Public Works Ravigaseni Pillay will this Friday evening host fellow members of the Provincial Executive Council (PEC) as well as Municipal Mayors and other stakeholders at a glittering ceremony to be held in Umhlanga north of Durban.

The inaugural Kamoso Awards were held in 2007. Provinces, municipalities and public entities as well as other stakeholders compete among themselves with Provincial winners becoming eligible to compete in the overall national Kamoso Awards.

The objectives of the Kamoso Awards include the acknowledging of implementing agents or bodies that have performed well in creating work opportunities that have an element of skills transfer.

Another objective include the promotion of the creation of labour intensive work opportunities particularly within Government-funded infrastructure projects whilst providing training and skills development to locally employed workers.

The Friday evening Kamoso Awards ceremony will be preceded by the two-day KZN Public Works EPWP INDABA scheduled to be held tomorrow Thursday 11 October 2018 and Friday 12 October 2018.

MEC Pillay will deliver the keynote address at the EPWP INDABA whose objective is to promote organisational capacity for effective implementation of EPWP by all public sector entities including municipalities, State-Owned Entities and other provincial Departments.

The critical objective of the Expanded Public Works Programme INDABA is to take stock of what has been done in the past and also looking forward at set objectives for the future.

In addition, the INDABA will also deliberate on the reporting protocols expected from all public sector organisations having EPWP components within them so as to ensure that there is no duplicity while at the same ensuring the accuracy of information provided as Public Works Department continues with the implementation of the present Phase of the EPWP in the province.

The Public Works Department is presently overseeing infrastructure coordination of various mega infrastructure projects in the province running into multi-billion of rands.

All these projects have EPWP components as their critical components in line with Government's Job Creation Priority Apex.

The two-day INDABA will be attended by 300 participants drawn from national departments, municipalities, parastatals as well as Non-Governmental Organisations.

Members of the media are invited to report on this critical milestone that seeks to finding sustainable solutions to the scourge of unemployment particularly among our youth. Please RSVP to Mr Mbulelo Baloyi to confirm your attendance. For more information and media queries, please contact Mr Baloyi on 083 320 0274

The details of the two-day INDABA are as follows:

Venue: Public Works Conference Centre, Mayville, KZN Public Works, 455a King Cetshwayo Highway (formerly Jan Smuts Highway)

Time: 09H00

Date: Thursday 11th October and Friday 12th October 2018

The details of the KAMOSO Awards are as follows:

Date: Friday 12th October 2018

Venue: Coastlands Hotel, Umhlanga

Time: 18H00