

**CLOSING REMARKS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF TLOKWE
CITY COUNCIL AT THE CERTIFICATE AWARDS CEREMONY
FOR THE EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME
PARTICIPANTS HELD AT THE POTCHEFSTROOM CIVIC HALL**

July 31, 2008

Programme Director

Member of the Provincial Executive Committee, Mr. J D Thibedi

Executive Mayor of Dr Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality, Mme Pinky Moloi

Head of Department of Public Works, Mr Obakeng Mongale

Acting Regional General of Public Works, Ms. B V Mofulatsi

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I feel very much privileged to also be afforded an opportunity to do the honours at this auspicious occasion. Being called to make a vote of thanks is an unenviable task because you may often omit to mention or acknowledge the role of some important role players. Projects of this nature as those of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), by virtue of their scale, impact and reach obviously require a collaboration of a wide range of role players and stakeholders for them to be successful. I therefore would like to begin by thanking everybody else who have had a role in the conception and implementation of the projects and who I might not call by name.

On behalf of the Executive Mayor (who was unfortunately not able to be here today) as well as for the sake of the Tlokwe City Council and all the residents under its jurisdiction i also extend our heartfelt thanks and warm gratitude to MEC Thibedi and his Department for having recognised the need in our city for the implementation of some projects of the of the EPWP.

Today we have seen the first fruits of the venture. Our community is not only the beneficiary of excellent projects that were implemented by the recipients of the certificates in this ceremony, but the recipients themselves have acquired various skills ranging from paving, painting, construction, etc. these are skills that will be critical that will help the recipients start or sustain their businesses at higher level. I wish them all the best for their future venture in whatever field they are getting into.

I also take this opportunity to thank the National Youth Service for their resolute commitment and partnership during the conception and implementation of the projects. They have demonstrated without doubt their commitment to an integrated approach to youth development and youth employment in particular.

In the final analysis, I would like to commend and congratulate the recipients for their sterling work. Their dedication and commitment in the projects that they were involved in has finally paid off. The certificates awarded is yet another window of opportunity for them to demonstrate what they have acquired and that which no one can ever take away from them, experience and skill.

The ceremony also demonstrates the government belief in the fact that true development is about people. We do not only believe in putting infrastructure to deserving communities, but we also place high premium in developing its people and leaving behind a living legacy.

Ladies and Gentlemen: lastly but not least, I restate our city council's commitment to the development and maintenance of good inter-governmental relations and continued collaboration in the implementation of projects such as these.

I thank you all.