

CWP programme in Matjhabeng linking up with Clean Free State

The Clean Free State Campaign is currently being extended to the Matjhabeng Municipal Area with the linking up of the project with the Community Work Programme (CWP) based at Welkom, covering Welkom, Odendaalsrus, Virginia, Hennenman and Ventersburg.

The CWP, an element of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), has the following characteristics:

- It is an area-based programme, tasked with identifying useful work on an ongoing and sustained basis at local level, allowing it to target special poverty traps and provide a source of income security over time.
- It is designed to operate at scale – to build up and maintain participation level of an initial target of 1 000 participants per site in one year, expanding yearly to reach an average of 4 000 in each participating municipality.
- It is an employment safety net, not an employment solution for participants. Its purpose is to ensure a minimum level of regular work for those who have no alternative – i.e. two days per week, or the equivalent over a month. This is to complement not to replace the existing livelihood strategies of unemployed people.
- The CWP is intended to be an ongoing programme at the local level – with participants moving in and out of the programme as their need changes, but with the programme providing a constant safety net at the local level offering a baseline in terms of income security and adaptation of the concept of a minimum employment guarantee.

The purpose of the CWP could thus be summarized as following to create access to a minimum of regular work for those who need it, to provide an employment safety net and to supplement livelihood strategies.

The Mercy Life Community Projects, established in 2005 as a non-profitable and church-based organization, is sponsored by the National Development Agency (NDA). The focus of the project is to address homestead gardens for food security and improvement of the nutritional status of the community, children development through Early Childhood Development programs and feeding schemes for vulnerable children and unemployed people in the community around the Matjhabeng Municipal Area.

In June 2009, Mercy Life Community Projects went in partnership with Teba Development and became the local implementing agent of the CWP in the Matjhabeng area. The area being covered include selected wards in Welkom (Reitzpark, Dagbreek and Rheederspark), Bronville, Thabong, Hani Park, Ventersburg, Hennenman, Virginia and Allanridge. The CWP thus covers 21 wards within the Matjhabeng Municipal Area, intending eventually to roll out to all 36 wards.

Work being done within the communities are divided into the following departments: Social department, Agricultural department, Community services –

Technical and Community Services – Environment. The latter department focuses on waste management, eradication of illegal dumping sites and community education on waste management.

The CWP has to date created more than 3 000 jobs.

Against this broad background, the CWP is now linking up with the Clean Free State Campaign as regards the operations of its Dept. for Community Services – Environment. In this regard it is inter alia envisaged to utilize the branding of the Clean Free State Campaign to promote public awareness in the Matjhabeng area as regards not littering, cleaning up around your own home or workplace, consciousness about recycling at source, care for the natural environment and reducing carbon footprint as far as possible.

In so doing, Clean FS is extended to Welkom as the other city in the province besides Bloemfontein.

On the flip side, the CWP has developed in such an advanced stage at dealing with recycling on a structured basis, that the Clean FS Campaign could fruitfully implement some positive elements of the CWP in the Mangaung Municipal Area, as well as at other towns in the Free State.

In the Matjhabeng Municipal Area the CWP has adopted 10 community schools, where cleaning of class rooms, bathrooms and sports fields is done on a weekly basis.

There are also other CWP initiatives which address identified neglected facilities, such as outdoor cleaning of clinics, outdoor cleaning of community halls, indoor and outdoor cleaning of old age homes, outdoor cleaning of ECD centres, cleaning and maintenance of parks and cleaning of storm of water channels.

Together with the municipality, the CWP is working towards better management of storm water channels in hazardous areas.

Once a month, a community education campaign is conducted by CWP participants on waste management, recycling and eradication of illegal dumping areas, with the municipality offering waste removal to ensure successful operations.

In order to assist in dealing with a high rate of leaking points in the municipal area, the CWP is training plumbers and in conjunction with the municipality is deploying them to fix leaking points.

The CWP is in the process of establishing compost and landfill sites with a view to establish opportunities for young entrepreneurs and jobs for community members residing on landfill sites.

As informal stakeholders, CWP has on board the Matjhabeng Local Municipality, COGTA Free State, the National Development Agency (NDA) and Lima.

CWP is currently liaising with Clean FS to roll-out the branding of the campaign in appropriate instances in the Matjhabeng Area.

For more information on the CWP, contact Peter Jooste at 057 344 1224 or 071 1417 067 or email peej@mntloaded.co.za.



Above, below and bottom, various stages in CWP glass recycling process underway.



DEA to supply recycling bins to households

Engineering News is reporting that the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) plans to assist municipalities in providing waste receptacles for recycling to households as part of its National Waste Management Strategy (NWMS).

The NWMS advocates for separation at source and aims to promote waste reduction, reusing, recycling and recovery of waste. It also intends that all metropolitan municipalities, secondary cities and large towns should establish separation at source by 2016.

The DEA has issued an expression of interest for companies to supply a three-bin recycling system, which would be distributed to households. The bins should be separate or separable to allow for individual units to move independently and have different colours to distinguish between wastes, or have the same colour with different lid colours.

Further, the DEA specified that each bin

should have a 50l capacity and must be robust and sturdy to withstand knocks and rough treatment. The bins must also be stable and unlikely to topple over, while it must be lightweight and easy to move on wheels.

Local procurement for the materials would play a role, as all procurement processes undertaken by government follow the Public Finance Management Act, while the procurement process of the Department would also be followed. Therefore the DEA is looking at locally based companies that can supply the required bins as the specifications state. Funding streams for the supply of these bins are expected from both local and international investors.

This news confirms that the concept of recycling at source, be it at home or at the working place, is a coming given, also for the Free State. Stakeholders need to take cognizance of this development.

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