

**MINISTRY**

**PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Department of Public Works l Central Government Offices l 256 Madiba Street l Pretoria l Contact: +27 (0)12 406 1627 l Fax: +27 (0)12 323 7573

Private Bag X9155 l CAPE TOWN, 8001 l RSA 4th Floor Parliament Building l 120 Plein Street l CAPE TOWN l Tel: +27 21 402 2219 Fax: +27 21 462 4592

[www.publicworks.gov.za](http://www.publicworks.gov.za)

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 2245 [NW2547E]**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO.: 21 of 2023**

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**2245. Ms. A M Siwisa (EFF) asked the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:**

With reference to his announcement during his Budget Vote speech on 23 May 2023, (a) which small-, medium- and micro-enterprises (SMMEs) have been assisted by his department, (b) where are the SMMEs located and (c) what assistance did his department provide to the SMMEs? **NW2547E**

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**REPLY:**

**The Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:**

1. In the 2022/23 financial year, the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) branch has supported a total of 271 small-, medium- and micro-enterprises (SMMEs) or enterprises. Below is a breakdown of the type of the enterprises supported:
   1. 93 Private Companies
   2. 73 cooperatives
   3. 11 Non-Profit Organisations (NPO) or Social Entrepreneurs
   4. 5 Not yet determined (as they are in the process of registration) and 3 being Close Cooperation
   5. 86 Vuk’uphile contracting companies
2. The SMMEs supported through the EPWP Branch are located throughout the country. Below is a table showing the provincial breakdown:

Table 1: Provincial breakdown of SMMEs supported in 2022/23 financial year

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Province** | **Number of Enterprises Supported** |
| Eastern Cape | 49 |
| Free State | 10 |
| Gauteng | 0 |
| KwaZulu-Natal | 31 |
| Limpopo | 63 |
| Mpumalanga | 14 |
| **Northern Cape** | 20 |
| North West | 63 |
| Western Cape | 21 |
| **Grand Total** | 271 |

1. The aim of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) Enterprise Development programme is to support enterprises from Programmes implemented by the EPWP sectors. Through Enterprise Development, EPWP participants are supported in their quest (desire or drive) to start and operate businesses so as to achieve sustainable livelihoods. The support offered in Enterprise Development varies from formation of enterprises to training of enterprises in business principles. Additionally, other support measures offered include but is not limited to:
2. Identification of potential enterprises in EPWP sectors and programmes
3. Providing business training
4. Building capacity of EPWP-created enterprises`
5. Providing assistance with business compliance, including business registration
6. Linking these enterprises with business development agencies and other opportunities
7. Forming linkages to aid access to markets providing financial and non-financial support

For contractors supported in the Vuk’uphile Programme, the support offered entailed facilitation of allocation of training projects for development of contractors.