



PRESIDENTIAL
YOUTH
EMPLOYMENT
INTERVENTION

PYEI QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT:
Q1: APRIL – JUNE 2023

Accelerating young women's pathways to earning

LEAVE **NO**
ONE BEHIND



THE PRESIDENCY
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





Message from the Deputy Minister in the Presidency

The Presidential Youth Employment Intervention (PYEI) concluded the first quarter of the new financial year with some significant progress towards its targets. The National Pathway Management Network now reaches more than 4 million young people. Young people have been supported to access over 1 million earning opportunities – including those delivered through the Presidential Employment Stimulus, the revitalised National Youth Service and private sector efforts such as the Youth Employment Service. Drawing from the collective efforts of partners in the PYEI, this quarterly report spotlights some of the emerging learnings about what works to address the barriers that young women face.

As these results highlight, a substantial portion of the energy in the partnership has gone into bringing young people into the NPMN, where they are supported to access learning to earning opportunities.

With this foundation in place, the PYEI is placing greater emphasis on transitions into sustainable earning opportunities. This involves both unlocking demand in priority growth sectors as well as developing an effective mechanism to track young people's movements in the labour market through the NPMN.

In addition, we are focusing our attention on two critical priorities to ensure the sustainability of the PYEI. Our first priority over the next quarter is to secure funding for the PYEI's key programmes over the medium term.

This process is underway with the National Treasury, and the outcome will be announced in the Medium Term Budget Policy Statement. Our second priority is to review and enhance the institutional arrangements to appropriately embed the intervention within government.

Going forward, we will share our progress on these priorities and implementation of the PYEI through our quarterly reports. As always, detailed data can be accessed through the PYEI dashboard at www.stateofthenation.gov.za/presidential-youth-employment-intervention/tracking-progress-and-facilitate-learning. These findings will also provide an opportunity to highlight learnings that emerge from the partnership along the way.

With warm greetings.


Mr Kenny Morolong MP

**Deputy Minister in the
Presidency**



Introduction

The President launched the Presidential Youth Employment Intervention (PYEI) in 2020 as a comprehensive approach to address the country's youth unemployment challenge. The PYEI is a multi-stakeholder partnership that accelerates efforts to transition young people from learning to earning.



The Presidency's Project Management Office (PMO) coordinates and provides strategic direction while key national departments and entities lead the implementation together with a diverse set of partners.

In the PYEI, partners are working to achieve three core objectives:

- ▶ Drive systems change to address the barriers that young people face in establishing themselves in the labour market
- ▶ Aggregate existing opportunities and create new opportunities for young people
- ▶ Link young people to opportunities and available support in a single national network

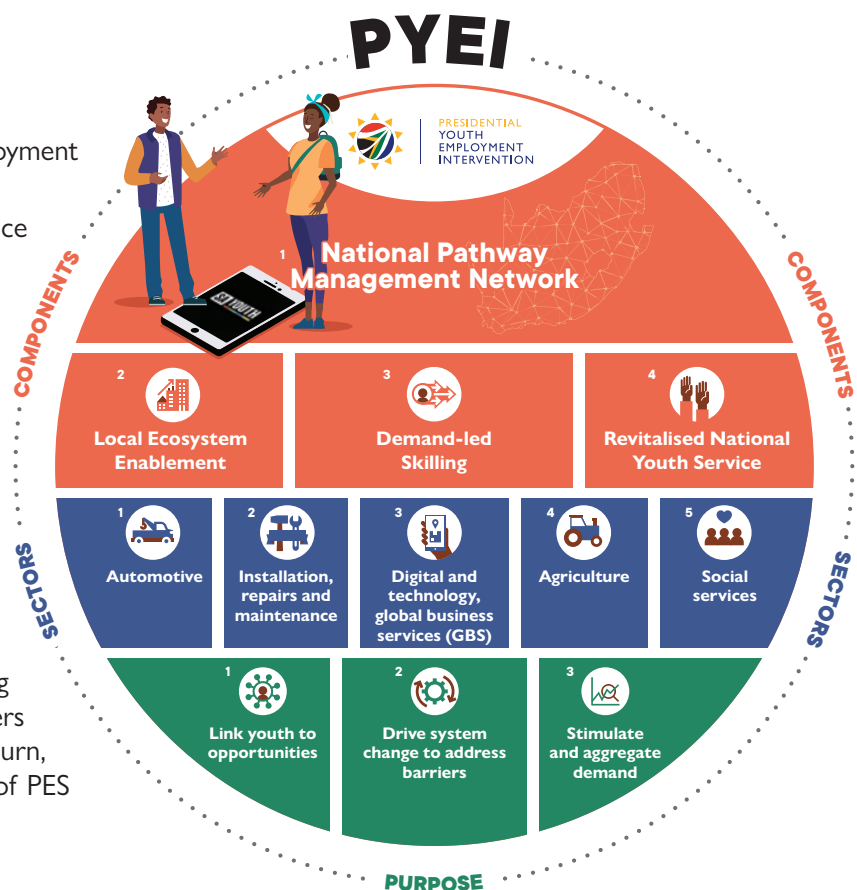
Central to the PYEI's efforts is the establishment of a National Pathway Management Network. The NPMN allows young people to find and seize opportunities that unlock earning pathways.

Other PYEI components include:

- ▶ Demand-led skills development
- ▶ Enabling local ecosystems to facilitate self-employment and enterprise opportunities
- ▶ The revitalisation of the National Youth Service (NYS)

The desired impact is to **contribute to a South Africa where young people are actively participating in the economy with greater dignity and a sense of agency over their contribution to society.**




The PYEI closely integrates with other interventions coordinated by the Presidency to drive structural reforms and enable job creation, such as Operation Vulindlela and the Presidential Employment Stimulus (PES). PES provides funding for several PYEI components and directly delivers public employment opportunities for youth. In turn, the PYEI's NPMN supports the implementation of PES programmes.



What has been achieved since inception?

The PYEI is on track to achieve its targets for engaging young people and linking them to earning opportunities.

The PYEI has three overarching targets that capture how the intervention seeks to support young people on their journey to sustainable earning. This includes reaching the most vulnerable young people and providing them with targeted support that helps them build their profile and earning potential.

TARGET (2020 – 2025)	ACTUAL (2020 – to date)	
At least 5 million young people are engaged in the National Pathway Management Network and access services to help them grow their employability and pursue opportunities.	4.1 million young people are registered and accessing opportunities in the National Pathway Management Network.	
Young people supported to access 1.5 million temporary earning opportunities including work-based placements, work-integrated learning opportunities, and paid service opportunities.	Young people have been supported to access 1.06 million temporary earning opportunities including work-based placements, work-integrated learning opportunities, and paid-service opportunities.	
500 000 young people engaged in sustainable earning opportunities through workforce development programmes.	Work-in-progress. Evaluations and tracing studies have commenced.	





Achievements and highlights from quarter 1

(APR – JUN 2023)

Young people secured over 135 000 earning opportunities through the NPMN

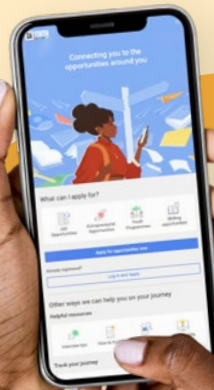
In the first quarter of the new financial year, **108 061 earning opportunities** were secured by young people on the SA Youth platform. A further **27 088 earning opportunities** were secured on ESSA.



employment & labour

Department:
Employment and Labour
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SA YOUTH



Expanding workplace experience opportunities to support young people to get their first job

The Youth Employment Service, a private sector led initiative, placed **10 695** young people in workplace experience opportunities in various sectors of the economy. In addition, the Department of Higher Education and Training placed **1 933** young TVET learners and graduates into workplace experience opportunities.



higher education & training

Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



The first cohort of the revitalised National Youth Service complete their community service



The first round of the PYEI's revitalised National Youth Service is coming to an end. Over **47 000** young people gained insights into different fields of work, built their agency and were enabled to contribute to their communities.

National Youth Service

Proud to serve

Enabling own-income generation through support for young people's enterprises

Young people continued to receive direct support for their enterprises. A total of **12 787** financial and non-financial enterprise opportunities were provided by the Department Small Business Development and the National Youth Development Agency.



small business development

Department:
Small Business Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



nyda

NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
OUR YOUTH OUR FUTURE



SPOTLIGHT

Accelerating young women's pathways to earning in the PYEI

Examples from PYEI partners showcase emerging insights into effective approaches to address the barriers young women face in the labour market.



LEARNING 1:

Providing a Basic Package of Support that responds to young women's unique contexts



The Basic Package of Support (BPS) is a programme led by a consortium of partners at the University of Cape Town, University of Johannesburg and DG Murray Trust. Several BPS pilot sites are run under the umbrella of the PYEI. BPS reaches out to young people who are Not in Employment, Education, or Training (NEET) and offers face-to-face coaching to help them solve for the multiple challenges that are keeping them trapped in NEET status. Young women are especially vulnerable to this; they are more likely to live in income poor households and to carry a heavier burden of care in the household.

Mikayla's story illustrates how BPS is supporting young women to get onto a longer-term trajectory and keep them connected to opportunities, while solving for the difficult circumstances and setbacks that they face.

Mikayla is a 21-year-old woman from Atlantis (Western Cape), who joined the BPS in June 2022. Since joining, her Youth Coach has supported her in creating a CV, setting up a professional email address, and applying for a new ID document.

Mikayla's primary goal was to pursue her studies, but she also felt a responsibility to financially support her grandmother. Consequently, she initiated a job hunt and achieved success. After securing employment, her BPS coach encouraged her broader ambitions for higher education. Mikayla applied for a Foundation Phase teaching course; however, she was unfortunately not accepted. Undeterred, she persevered, having developed a Plan B with her coach. As a result, she is now pursuing studies in Human Resource Management.

The BPS programme helped me a lot. It changed my line of thinking to just remain positive and believe things will come your way when the time is right. **I am studying today through all the love, support, and guidance I received from BPS.** I am what I am today through the individual coaching sessions and [I] would encourage other young people to make use of the BPS programme.

– MIKAYLA



LEARNING 2:

Linking young women to programmes designed to break down barriers and achieve inclusion

The PYEI's National Youth Service programme for young individuals with intellectual disabilities provided transformative opportunities for over **1608** young women with disabilities, yielding remarkable achievements. Facilitated by Special Olympics South Africa (SOSA), with Sports for Social Change as lead implementing partner, the programme not only reconnected young people with their former school facilities but also allowed them to impart invaluable fitness and health training to learners at those schools. A partnership with CATHSSETA led to learners with intellectual disabilities also obtaining industry-recognised qualifications.

Additionally, through the NYS opportunity, many young women with intellectual disabilities were empowered to participate in sport. Support was given to athletes like Innocentia Msikinya, enabling her and four others to excel at the 2023 Special Olympics Summer World Games. Innocentia's achievements caught the eye of ESPN, leading to an incredible interview (<https://youtu.be/fAPUTFsL9Mo>) where she highlights her journey and the incredible potential of individuals with intellectual disabilities when provided with equal opportunities and support. In addition to her sporting achievements, Innocentia has demonstrated remarkable entrepreneurial spirit. She expanded her nail business and trained as a skilled nail technician, embodying resilience and determination in both her athletic pursuits and business endeavours.



Watch Innocentia Msikinya's incredible ESPN interview.



Other examples from the SA Youth network show that when given an equal opportunity, young women seize it. In the Department of Basic Education (DBE) school assistant programme, **70%** of the SA Youth network in these roles are women, versus **65%** representation in the overall SA Youth network. This is an example of a programme where many of the traditional barriers to women's employment were broken down by design: fewer educational requirements, placement close to their homes, a relatively safe working environment and mandated equal pay. Though temporary, these roles have proven to be a stepping stone for many women.



The PMO in the Presidency continuously monitors progress with implementation. Information on the PYEI and quarterly updates are published on the PYEI website available here:

stateofthenation.gov.za/pyei



The Presidential Youth Employment Intervention is funded from the fiscus and is implemented by participating departments. Strategic oversight is provided by the Project Management Office in the Presidency. Development partners provide technical and research support to the PYEI.



Implemented by:
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
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