



PRESIDENTIAL
YOUTH
EMPLOYMENT
INTERVENTION



PYEI QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT:
Q3: OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2023

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Successfully engaging an excluded cohort of work seekers

LEAVE **NO**
ONE BEHIND



THE PRESIDENCY
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





Message from the Deputy Minister in the Presidency

The PYEI concluded the third quarter of this financial year with significant progress towards its targets. The National Pathway Management Network now reaches more than 4.3 million young people. Young people have been supported to access over just over 1.27 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.

A significant achievement of the PYEI is that the vast majority of earning opportunities are accessed by the most excluded youth and this quarterly report spotlights how PYEI partners have designed their programmes to reach and engage this cohort of work-seekers.

The Jobs Boost Outcomes Fund will provide 4,500 sustainable, quality jobs to young people who have historically faced obstacles in securing employment. It is specifically targeted to unemployed youth, aged 18 – 34 that are excluded from the labour market based on a number of characteristics including education level, income, and proximity to support services

This quarterly report further spotlights the achievements of the Presidential Employment Stimulus' (PES) Basic Education Employment Initiative (BEEI) and the revitalised National Youth Service (NYS) and how both programmes have benefitted poor and marginalised young people, whose barriers to economic engagement were previously insurmountable.

With this foundation in place, the PYEI is now 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 is to secure funding for the PYEI's key programmes over the medium term. Engagements with National Treasury are ongoing and the specific allocations will be announced in the National Budget. Our second priority is to review and enhance the institutional arrangements to appropriately embed the intervention within government.

We will continue to share our progress on these priorities and the 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.

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

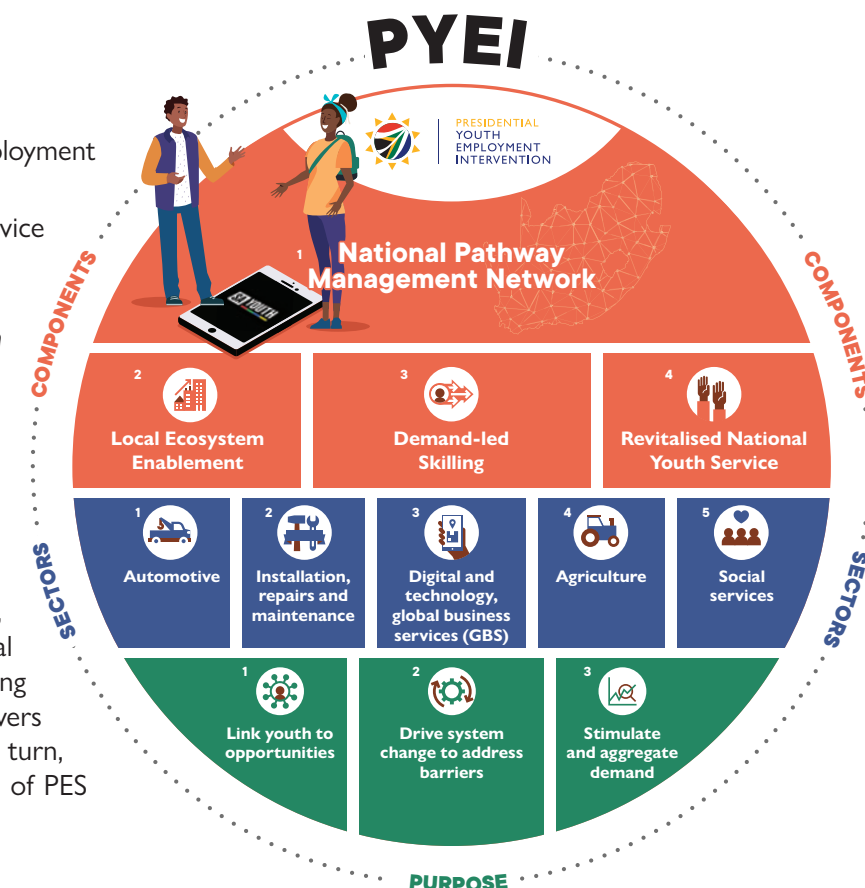
Central to the PYEI's efforts is the establishment of a National Pathway Management Network. The NPMN allows young people to find and seize opportunities that unlock earning pathways.

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 has made significant progress towards achieving its targets for supporting 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.	Over 4.3 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 1.27 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. 

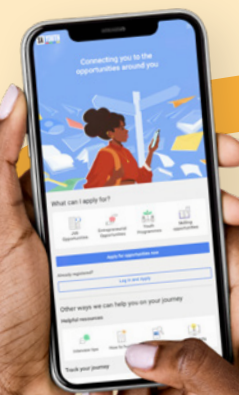


Achievements and highlights from quarter 3

(OCT – DEC 2023)

Young people have secured over **78 000 earning opportunities** through the **National Pathway Management Network**

In the third quarter of the new financial year, **51 616 earning opportunities** were secured by young people on the SA Youth platform. A further **26 804 earning opportunities** were secured on ESSA.



Over **13 000 young people** across the country have started their community service



The second phase of the PYEI's revitalised National Youth Service is underway and **13 656** young people across the country have started their community service. These young people will gain insights into different fields of work, strengthen their agency, skills and self-confidence and increase their employability. Young people will also support development and service delivery in their communities.



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

The Youth Employment Service, a private sector led initiative, placed **6 926 young people** in workplace experience opportunities in various sectors of the economy. In addition, the Department of Higher Education and Training placed **6 371 young TVET learners** and graduates into workplace experience opportunities



Supporting young people to build their enterprises

Young people continued to receive direct support for their enterprises. A total of **13 896** financial and non-financial enterprise opportunities were provided by the National Youth Development Agency in Q3.



SPOTLIGHT 1

Jobs Boost will provide sustainable, quality jobs for the most excluded youth

The R300 million outcomes fund will support the placement of excluded youth into quality jobs



In a transformative effort to combat youth unemployment, the PYEI, in partnership with the Department of Higher Education's National Skills Fund, has launched Jobs Boost, a R300-million outcomes fund. The programme is designed and implemented by research-led consulting house, Krutham. Unlike traditional approaches to job creation, which focus on inputs and activities like training, mentorship, and workshops, the Jobs Boost Outcomes Fund uses an outcomes-based pay-for-performance model that ensures that funds are allocated to implementing organisations upon the successful placement and sustained employment of young people in quality jobs.

Jobs Boost is a unique opportunity for implementing organisations to deliver sustainable employment solutions to young people in the country, particularly those who have historically faced obstacles in securing employment. Jobs Boost is specifically targeted to youth, aged 18 - 34 that are the most excluded from participation in the labour market. This refers to young people who have the following characteristics:

- ▶ Highest level of completed education is a Grade 12 certificate (NQF Level 4) and
- ▶ Attended a quintile 1, 2 or 3 public school or
- ▶ Has been a recipient of a child support grant

The R300 million Outcomes Fund will work with implementing organisations to skill 4,500 excluded youth and support them to secure sustainable, quality

jobs in sectors where there is demand for labour. Jobs Boost sets clear criteria for what constitutes a quality job.

- ▶ Full-time (minimum 30 hours a week)
- ▶ Permanent (or at least a 12-month contract)
- ▶ Salary at or above minimum wage
- ▶ Compliance with employment laws

Successful applicants will apply their expertise in a results-driven funding environment. The funding will be released to training providers as outcomes are achieved, based on specific milestones verified by an outcomes auditor, including enrolment in the programme (20% of funding flows), job placement (40% of funding flows), and sustained employment over three months (20% of funding flows) and then six months (20% of funding flows). Employment opportunities will be available for young people to view and apply from June 2024 on [SAYouth.mobi](https://sAYouth.mobi)

Jobs Boost opens a new frontier for training companies. This initiative is a partnership that goes beyond funding – **it is a commitment to equip South Africa's youth with the skills and opportunities they need for meaningful employment**

– RIYAADH EBRAHIM

SPOTLIGHT 2

Public Employment Programmes are activating and engaging an excluded cohort of work seekers



Basic Education Employment Initiative

Since its launch 2020, the Presidential Employment Stimulus' (PES) Basic Education Employment Initiative (BEEI) has created over a million placement opportunities for young people as assistants in schools across the country, becoming the largest youth employment programme in South Africa's history.

A significant success of the BEEI is that it reached a broad and inclusive cohort of work-seekers. In particular, the BEEI consisted of 65% young women, 23% higher than the 42% female representation in national youth employment. In addition, the BEEI programme benefitted the poorest young people, with 75% of participants reporting that they were from quintile 1-3 schools. This is a rare achievement, as learners from higher quintile schools usually find their way into employment easier than those from the poorer resourced quintile 1-3 schools. The BEEI also has a highly equitable spatial footprint that reaches even the most remote and marginalised communities. Each recruitment has seen increased participation and engagement from young people whose barriers to economic engagement were previously insurmountable.

The BEEI has provided a new example of how public employment programmes can go rapidly to scale, creating meaningful work at decent standards for young people, while delivering real public value.

Young people have reported **greater self-reliance and self-confidence, increased assertiveness and more hope** for the future as well as service satisfaction from doing meaningful work.

National Youth Service

The revitalised National Youth Service programme completed its first phase of implementation and is currently in its second phase. To date, over 60 000 young people have been enrolled in the programme and 35 000 have completed planned service activities with 14 000 transitioning from youth service into other sustainable employment opportunities as well as self-employment. In addition, 66% of NYS beneficiaries are female and 42% are from rural areas across the country.

At an individual level young people receive training which includes technical skills, work readiness, emotional intelligence and agency. For many young people, National Youth Service is the first time they have an experience of earning their own income. Young people have reported greater self-reliance and self-confidence, increased assertiveness and more hope for the future as well as service satisfaction from doing meaningful work.

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.



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