



**MINISTER
FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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Your Worship

INTRODUCTION OF THE EXPANSION OF THE SOURCE TO SEA PROGRAMME AND THE MASS PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME

The Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) has realised that more efforts are needed to reduce, and as far as it is practically possible, to eliminate marine litter originating from land-based sources. To that end, the department has conceptualised a national Source to Sea programme. The aim of this Programme is to combat marine litter and to ensure that our coastal areas are free from litter and plastic pollution. Rivers and other waterways such as canal systems and storm water channels are primary gateways that introduce land-based waste and discarded litter into the coastal and marine environment.

This letter serves to inform you of my department's plans to expand the Source to Sea Programme using the District Delivery model, as part of the Presidential Employment Stimulus Initiative, in all coastal district municipalities. The aim is to recruit 100 unemployed youth (aged 18-35) per district municipality, with special prioritisation of women, youth and persons living with disabilities. The participants who will be employed will collect litter along riverbanks and other waterways for at least 22 days per month, working closely with the appropriate line function units at municipal level. Cleared waste is to be collected as part of the municipal collection schedule of the relevant targeted locations. The total number of jobs to be created under the Programme is 1600 jobs.

The project is envisaged to take place for a duration of three months, commencing on 1 March 2021, with a possibility of an extension to five months. The DEFF will supply the project beneficiaries with the required tools of trade (litter picking sticks, recyclable and residual refuse bags, bulk bags, rakes, scales etc.) and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). A compensation budget has also been set aside for the project participants.



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The DEFF would like to request the assistance of your municipality to identify the target sites to be cleaned under the programme (that is at least six rivers and six waterways in total, depending on local circumstances). Since the recruitment of the 100 participants will be done in conjunction with the municipality, the department would like to request that the relevant officials within your municipality provide the DEFF with the names of 100 unemployed youth and their PPE sizes at your earliest convenience or **by no later than 29th January 2021**. A template for compiling the list of youth along with their personal particulars will be circulated in due course.

Should further information be required about the programme please feel free to contact the project leader (Dr Y Peterson, Tel: 021 819 2450 / Cell: 083 530 3127). We look forward to working with you on this mutually beneficial project.

Yours sincerely



MS B D CREECY, MP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 18/1/2021