

## **MOGALAKWENA GRADUATES YOUTH IN SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

**MOKOPANE:** The National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) in association with Mogalakwena Municipality have produced over 90 graduates in the skills development programme. The graduation ceremony was held in 28 September at Aboo-Tayob hall, Mokopane. The participants were trained under plumbing and welding programs over a period of two years.

NYDA representative Mr. Phuti Semenya said that the main aim was to promote socialism by giving participants practical skills to use on a daily basis.

“We want to create young, vibrant individuals who are able to change lives in their communities. This is an opportunity to make a change and the skills will assist in making a better living,” Semenya added.

The participants were trained under Dhivani Construction and Leps Training Center. All the graduates were dressed in their green work suits, ready to receive their accredited certificates.

Kgothatso Baloyi, a participant in the welding programme explained how grateful he was to the municipality and the NYDA for giving him an opportunity to better his life.

Tshegofatso Mashiloane who was part of the plumbing programme said, “It is a privilege to be part of this programme and it is important to note that the skills we have gained will alleviate poverty.”

Mogalakwena Mayor’s representative Cllr Dibeila believes that the programme will assist in taking the country forward.

“The future of this country is in the hands of the youth and therefore it is imperative that the government and the municipality in particular will lobby for the funds. These funds will be in a form of bursaries, learnerships and trust funds to name a few,” said Cllr Dibeila.

In conclusion, Cllr Dibeila said that the programme would be implemented annually for the benefit of the youth, and said he wished that the participants would be absorbed by the labour industry.