

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY
QUESTION NUMBER: 1906 [NW2288E]
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1906. Mr S J F Marais (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:

- (1) With regard to the R4,96 billion spent by the Jobs Fund since its establishment in 2011, (a) how much has been spent in each economic sector respectively, (b) in each case, what are the details of each project on which the money was spent, (c) how many sustainable jobs were (i) created and (ii) preserved over this period and (d) how many jobs were lost in each sector in this period;
- (2) with regard to the job opportunities created by the Jobs Fund, (a) what are the (i) full details and (ii) nature of these opportunities and (b) in which sectors were each of these job opportunities created?

NW2288E

REPLY:

The Jobs Fund has been designed to overcome barriers to job creation by providing public funding through four “funding windows” – Enterprise Development; Infrastructure Investment; Support for Work Seekers and Institutional Capacity Building. The Jobs Fund operates as a challenge fund – it competitively allocates funds to projects that catalyse innovation and investment in activities which directly contribute to sustainable job creation initiatives, as well as long term employment creation. In this way the Jobs Fund programme differs from other government job creation initiatives which primarily focus on the creation of short term jobs.

The fund attracts project applications by issuing an open call for proposals and thereafter competitively assessing the merits of the proposals. The intention is that a number of calls for proposals will be issued over the duration of the Fund (three years have been allocated to successful applicants to implement their projects). The period of implementation for individual projects will range between April 2012 and March 2016.

From inception to date the Fund has processed 8473 applications; approved 86 projects (7 projects withdrawn after approval across the 3 funding rounds); allocated R4.435 billion to these projects; and potentially leveraged an additional R6.567 billion from project partners toward job creation.

By the end of September 2014, R1.485 billion against a target of R2.162 billion (69%) in grants had been disbursed

(1a). R4.435 billion has been allocated to projects as per the sector breakdown below. The reason for discrepancy is the recent project withdrawals.

Sector	Grants Allocated
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	810 222 765.00
Community, social and personal services	407 700 484.00
Electricity, gas and water	20 943 060.00
Finance, real estate and business services	967 389 238.00
Information, communication and technology (ICT)	408 537 250.00
Manufacturing	415 328 778.00
Mining and quarrying	40 008 000.00
Tourism and hospitality	48 150 293.00
Training, Capacity Building & Education	1 233 389 999.00
Transport and storage	48 000 000.00
Wholesale and retail trade	35 580 460.00
Grand Total	4 435 250 327.00

(1b). The attached annexure1 provides a description of the projects that have been allocated Grant Funding.

(1(c)(i). The table below depicts the number of New Jobs per sector that the Jobs Fund has contracted with Jobs Fund Partners to date.

Sector	Total Contracted	Inception to Date Planned	Inception to Date Actual
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	42 799	16 207	18 160
Community, social and personal services	400	170	273
Electricity, gas and water	230	-	-
Finance, real estate and business services	14 881	2 236	2 807
Information, communication and technology (ICT)	5 626	1 108	954
Manufacturing	707	360	512
Mining and quarrying	-	-	-
Tourism and hospitality	602	110	110
Training, Capacity Building & Education	27 015	10 672	7 478
Transport and storage	367	271	282
Wholesale and retail trade	372	150	125
Grand Total	92 999	31 284	30 701

(1)(c)(ii). The number of preserved jobs is not a Jobs Fund indicator and therefore this information is not tracked.

(1d). The Jobs Fund does not track this information.

(2). The Jobs Fund indicators include:

(a) The number of New Jobs created defined as “a job that has been created as a result of the project, for which a permanent contract has been signed. The new job opportunity is expected to exist beyond the grant funding period and is not maintained or paid using Jobs Fund grant funds”.

(b) The number of beneficiaries placed in permanent positions with project partners defined as “participants/beneficiaries that have successfully completed the work seekers training and/or mentorship programmes as well as (where applicable) the time bound internship and have been employed by one of the project partners.

(c) The number of beneficiaries employed in permanent positions beyond project partners defined as “participants/beneficiaries that have successfully completed the work seekers training and/or mentorship programmes as well as (where applicable) the time bound internship and have found employment with companies/enterprises other than the project partners.

The table below depicts a breakdown of the number of placements contracted for with project partners and beyond per sector.

JOB PLACEMENTS CONTRACTED BY SECTOR OVER THE LIFE OF THE PROJECT			
Sector	Total Contracted	Inception to Date Planned	Inception to Date Actual
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	43	34	36
Community, social and personal services	3 565	1 260	1 339
Electricity, gas and water	70	-	-
Finance, real estate and business services	2 370	680	144
Information, communication and technology (ICT)	4 485	871	465
Manufacturing	5 322	576	116
Mining and quarrying	10 512	7 008	3 753
Tourism and hospitality	-	-	-
Training, Capacity Building & Education	23 695	10 692	11 575
Transport and storage	-	-	-
Wholesale and retail trade	-	-	-
Grand Total	50 062	21 121	17 428