

Conference Venue: Emperors Palace

Dates: 23 – 25 October 2019

Compiled by: **Tebogo Kganakga**

Introduction

Tebogo is a hardworking and self-motivated individual with a Biological Sciences background. She has worked as a Laboratory Technician for five years at North West University (Mafikeng campus) (2010-2015). She contributed immensely in the department during this period. Tebogo designed and developed practical manuals for Microbiology and Genetics modules from scratch when she started working in the Biological Sciences department. Tebogo is also passionate about health wellbeing of people. She displayed this when she took charge of the responsible removal of normal and hazardous laboratory waste; by organizing a waste removal company. Tebogo is a Transdisciplinary Health Promotion master's graduate. She is actively looking for job opportunities in the Public Health and Monitoring and Evaluation fields.

Pre Conference Workshops

Highlights: N/A

Challenges: N/A

Conference

Lessons learnt: I have learnt that Monitoring and Evaluation is so huge and found in many professional fields. I got to interact with people from Political Science, Developmental Studies, Anthropology etc. These are people I do not normally interact with in professional spaces.

Challenges: Although meeting and interacting with people from different educational backgrounds that are practicing M&E, what I was missing was a good representation of the Health field. There were a couple of Strands that presented on one or two topics that were health related, but I felt that there could have been more. So that I could not only make contacts but figure out how and when is M&E employed in Health, particularly Public Health research programmes.

Networking: I found it easier to network with my peers (other EEs) and fortunately for me, most of them were working and practicing M&E to various degrees in the work projects, so I learned something about the practical side of M&E and also exchanged contacts to share future opportunities and also to keep contact generally. ON networking with possible future employers, I did talk to a few managers that attended the conference.

Next steps: The next step for me is to continue looking for work in Monitoring and Evaluation. It would be great if I can get something that also involves Health, but after I'm stretching my net wider.