



TaseKHAYYA

Department of Human Settlements

Official External Newsletter

Second Quarter Edition 2015/16



PAGE **3**

IMPROVING THE LIVES OF NEEDY HOUSEHOLDS

PAGE **5**

MINISTER SISULU 'READS THE RIOT ACT'

PAGE **4**

YOUTH BRIGADE TO TACKLE UNEMPLOYMENT

Editorial Comment



Mr Freddy Ngobe
Head of Communications

Welcome to yet another entrancing external news publication for the second quarter inspired by the recent achievements the Department has embarked on.

We are highly encouraged by the achievement the Department had accomplished at the recent National Annual Govan Mbeki Awards held in Cape Town in August and scooped a second place in the country for delivering decent and quality human settlements.

The concerted effort pulled off by everyone in the Department to ensure proper delivery are commendable. These achievements have not gone unnoticed as they attracted even

more interests from the SABC to feature our projects in the Breaking New Grounds (BNG) programme that airs every Wednesday on SABC 2. The Department joined other private and public entities in celebrating one of our highly esteemed days in the African calendar - the Heritage Day. This day is important as it helps us to celebrate, embrace and promote our indigenous cultural traditions.

The Deputy President of the country, Honourable Cyril Ramaphosa made very astute declarations on the day and said, "Indigenous knowledge is not a relic of the past but a vital part of our present and future". This is indeed quite a good assertion that

should jog our memories not to forsake this day so that we may preserve our values and culture.

This goes along with the creditable deeds the Department together with key stakeholders at ensuring that people's needs are fulfilled. A common goal to help meet the essential needs of impoverished families during the Mandela month was reached as a result. We are grateful for the opportunity and a fruitful partnership we have had with our external stakeholders to help contribute to the needy. Indeed together we move South Africa forward.

That's it for now, enjoy your happy read.

EDITORIAL TEAM

CHIEF EDITOR

Mr Freddy Ngobe
(013) 766 6014
E-mail : flngobe@mpg.gov.za

EDITOR

Mr Winston Thekiso

CONTRIBUTORS

Mr Paul Mnisi
Ms Nonhlanhla Masango
Mr Winston Thekiso

DESIGN & LAYOUT

Mr Romeo Msibi

DISCLAIMER: Opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the Provincial Government, MEC or Management of the Department. The Editorial Team strives to ensure the publication of accurate and factual information. Comments regarding this publication can be forwarded to the Chief Editor.

MANDELA DAY WELL SPENT WITH THE IMPOVERISHED

-An orphaned family amongst scores of beneficiaries-

eMBALENHLE - Happiness enveloped an indigent child-headed family together with other 66 households in Govan Mbeki Local Municipality when they received food parcels, school uniform, blankets and clothing during the Mandela Day Campaign organised by the Department of Human Settlement in partnership with the municipality and contractor - D R Bongani Investments - celebrated in the municipality in July 2015. The United Nation declared campaign calls on everyone, institutions, private sector, and all role players within society to take part in improving communities.

One of the families that benefited from the Department and the sponsor was the Nkosi's who are a child-headed household. They described how harsh the realities life has been since the passing of their parents several years ago. A 20-year old Mbali Nkosi who's the eldest to her three siblings said that the family depended solely on the foster grant which was organised by the Social Development Department.

Mbali who has now completed her Grade 12 said that apart from the foster grant, the family is sometimes forced to fend for themselves and seek help from neighbours. **"I have decided to also do temporal jobs so that I can save up money for my registrations to further my studies. I could not be admitted at tertiary because my symbols were not matching the requirements of the course I was willing to do"**, she charged.

Upon engaging with the family, the Department has undertaken to build a proper house for them since they are still occupying a shack. During her Policy and Budget Vote, MEC Violet Siwela pronounced that the Department is working tirelessly to tackle informal settlements in the province and that of the R1.677 billion budget there will be focus to improve conditions of people living in squalor. **"For 67 years, Nelson Mandela devoted his life to the**



CHARITY: Govan Mbeki Local Municipality Executive Mayor Clr. Lindi Masina (third from left) with the Nkosi siblings after handing over gifts during the Mandela Day

service of humanity as a human rights lawyer, a prisoner of conscience, and an international peacemaker, amongst others. So let us dedicate time and work selflessly to improve the less fortunate", articulated Siwela. Later on the same day, long waiting for a government low cost house, 87-year old Gogo Fikile Zwane who stays with her five grandchildren in Siphumelele Township in Kinross received a fully furnished house.

Before her son was retrenched, Gogo Zwane was staying with him at the company's house where he was working. After being moved from the house, Zwane has been staying in a shack with her grandchildren.

In handing over the house, Human Settlements MEC, Ms Violet Siwela applauded the contractor D R Bongani Investment for partnering with government to change the lives of people in disadvantaged communities.

"Government alone cannot reach out to each and every citizen, those who are more fortunate must appreciate what they already have and plough back to their

communities," Siwela said. DR Bongani Construction donated furniture to Gogo Zwane and blankets and food parcels to 68 households.

Receiving the house, an elated Zwane said her family would no longer have to run for cover during windy and rainy seasons since they were occupying a one room shack. "Thank you very much, to me and my family this is an early Christmas present" she said.

Her house is part of a 500 housing units project being constructed in the municipality this financial year. Accompanied by Govan Mbeki Local Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr

Lindi Masina, MEC Siwela led a team of municipal and government officials donating the items at Bethal, eMbalenhle and Kinross. The day culminated with a symbolic construction of a house for 68-year old Mr Joseph Mabena who has been staying in a farm until local councilor intervened by getting them a stand in Siphumelele Township at Kinros.

Mabena has been staying in a shack for more than ten years and it is anticipated that he will occupy his house in no time, therefore restore his dignity. The Mandela Day Campaign is done to emulate the former president's ideals of reconciliation, gender equality and the rights of children and justice for all.

IMPROVING THE LIVES OF THE NEEDY

BUSHBUCKRIDGE - A 58-year old Ms Rita Shabangu from Ireagh Village in Bushbuckridge heaved a sigh of relief when the Department of Human Settlements began with the construction of her new RDP house.

Shabangu who is a custodian to six children says that her family depended entirely on the government's social grant and that they could not build themselves a proper house. The delivery of the project is through the People's Housing Process (PHP) which has made tremendous successes in providing adequate housing for the needy.

Expressing her gratitude, Shabangu said that these developments have come at the right time since their current house was beginning to collapse.

"We are grateful to our government for living up to their promise to help us. It has been a horrid experience to share the one roomed house with the kids especially during storms and rainy days," she said excitedly.

Though the construction of her new house is underway, the excited Shabangu pointed out that the gesture will bring massive relief for her family. During the Budget Votetabling for the current financial year, MEC Violet Siwela reiterated that the establishment of integrated sustainable human settlements did not by any chance undermine the delivery of housing opportunities to communities through other programmes.

She said, *"Given its rural nature; people who live in such parts of*

the province were also developed through the construction of 2 358 housing units. These opportunities were mainly provided through the People's Housing Process and rural interventions Programmes."

MEC Siwela added that as much as great success was recorded during the 2014/15 financial year, "We are not complacent. The delivery of quality services will continue to reach every corner of the province."

The delivery of PHP is part of the Department's plan to empower and develop communities in rural areas. The Department has planned to deliver 2725 PHP units in Bushbuckridge Local Municipality and 363 in the province during the 2015/16 financial year.



AUGMENT: Ms Rita Shabangu with her two children Sibusiso and Jabulile standing in front of their old one roomed house.

MINISTER SISULU READS 'THE RIOT ACT'

Officials urged to work harder

CAPE TOWN - The Mpumalanga Department of Human Settlements took a reputable second runner up in the country for its adequate delivery of decent and quality houses at the recent annual Govan Mbeki Awards celebrations held in Cape Town, Western Cape recently. Minister Lindiwe Sisulu read the 'Riot Act' by calling on all officials to improve on their performance. According to Sisulu, the overall performance of the sector is declining and officials need to up their game.

The main victor for the night was KwaZulu-Natal who emerged as the best performing Department. Minister Sisulu also recognized Mpumalanga on its remarkable delivery of Rural and Farm-worker and the People's Housing Process Programmes. Putting more emphasis on the improvement of the overall performance of delivering sustainable human settlements, Sisulu stressed that she had a rude awakening this year that the statistics remained dismally low as the previous years.

"Despite all the goodwill and effort put in I have resolved to be as frank with you as I was with my top management a few weeks ago. It will not go on like this, not in my time. It is shocking and unbelievable that over the

past six years, one of these years being in my time, we have delivered almost half of the number of houses that we delivered at the height of our delivery," she warned.



LEADERSHIP: Ms Lindiwe Sisulu addressing parliament during a recent sitting in Cape Town

The Minister has however, highlighted that she has taken steps to rectify the situation. She indicated that everyone in her institution will sign a pledge to recommit themselves to work harder. She added:

"I want to send a strong message to all of us, especially our officials and our contractors that, unless we change our attitude at all levels of government and entities, there can be no radical delivery on what we have promised."

In committing herself to the matter and seeking resolutions, Minister Sisulu strongly pointed out that it won't be long before she found out what the problem is. "I am keen to establish what precisely the challenge is. I have taken steps to ensure that MinMec quickly gets to grip with what is at the core of our challenges so that we can resolve it."

"I cannot over emphasize to all of us here, the economic value of a house. And unlocking this potential is in our hands. For, as long as we continue to work at the pace at which we are working, it will lie heavily on our conscience that the radical economic transformation for the indigent will not be realized, because of our lack of commitment."

WOMEN'S MONTH REWARDS FEMALE BENEFICIARIES

eMALAHLENI - An overjoyed Gogo Martha Mokhomasi received a shot in the arm when she was handed over a fully furnished house by the Department of Human Settlements in partnership with other provincial departments and stakeholders during the closing celebrations of the Women's Month at Hlalanikahle in eMalahleni in August.

The 85-year old Mokhomasi who lives together with her five grandchildren cheerfully said that though she was at the edge of giving up on her long dream to own a decent house, the Department made her dream come true.

Leading the cluster of delegates from the Provincial Administration, MEC Norah Mahlangu-Mabena highly commended the dedicated effort by one of the service suppliers trading as TSSN and Macheembe Construction and Projects, for putting furnisher to all donated houses in the area. "We appreciate their efforts to work and assist government in addressing the communal challenges our people are faced with every day.

By coming together and giving back for a good course helps every one of us to rapidly meet the needs of the less-fortunate," said Mahlangu-Mabena. Another excited beneficiary of the day was gogo Lilly Mabena who shared sentiments of gratitude with



RECEIVE: Mr Piet Khumalo and wife Ms Martha Mokhomasi standing with Mr Thulare Madileng (Portfolio Committee Chairperson) and Contractor Themba Nyati after receiving their new house

Mokhomasi. Having spent several years living in a derelict shack, Mabena expressed herself saying that she never would have built such a beautiful house on her own: "This is my small heaven. I am thankful to our government for never forsaking us. I feel honoured and safe that from now on I would not worry that my roof may fall down on us." Tabling the Department's 2015/16

budget vote, MEC Violet Siwela said that the Department will deliver a total of 17 561 housing opportunities which is constituted of 9 301 housing units and 8 260 sites across the province. "The Department has resolved to prioritize servicing of sites in order to ensure that water, sanitation, electricity and access roads come first before top structures," she said.

National Govan Mbeki Awards



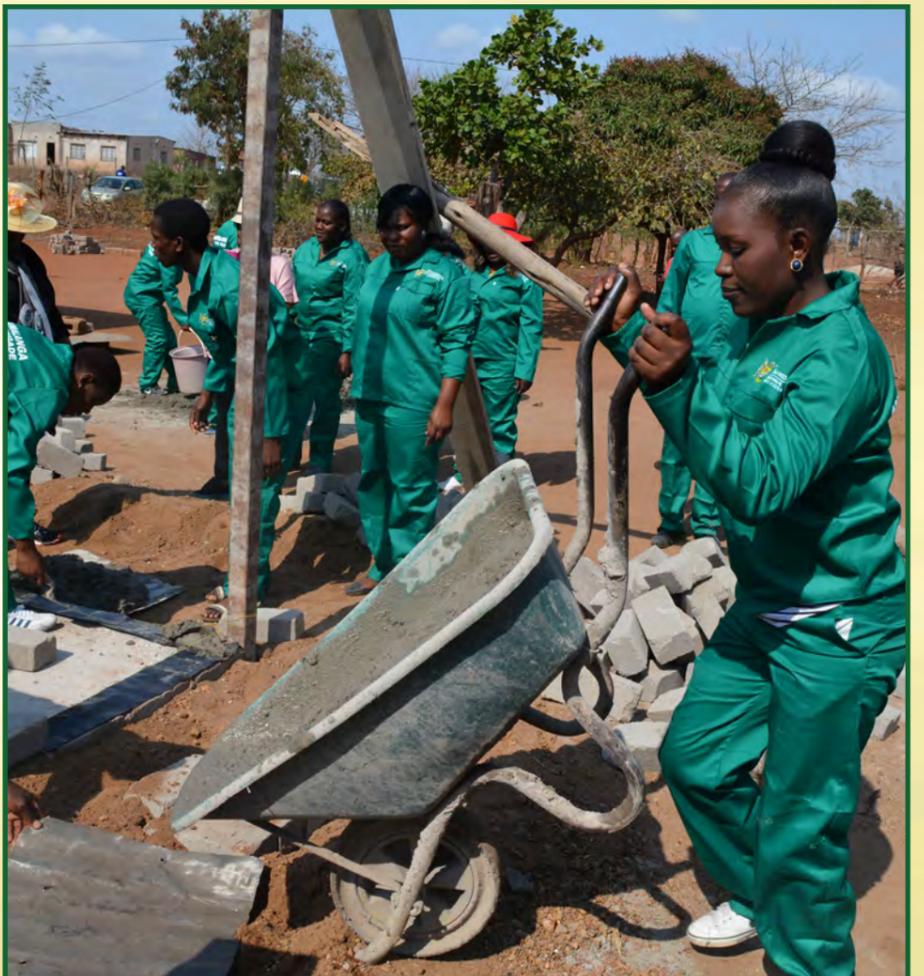
Title Deeds and Projects Hand Over (Dipaleseng & Lekwa Local Municipalities)



Mandela Day



Youth Brigade



YOUTH BRIGADE TO TACKLE UNEMPLOYMENT



DEVELOPMENT: HOD Kebone Masange (wearing a tie), MEC Violet Siwela (wearing a pink top) and legislators pose with trainees during the launch of the Youth Brigade Programme.

MGOBODZI - Unemployed youth in communities were identified and trained in basic building skills with the intention of placement on the construction site to apply their skills in a mentored environment. This is aimed at providing a stepping stone for youth who can then choose to further their careers in the construction industry or built environment as bricklayers, electricians, plumbers, project managers, construction controllers etc.

The focus is on economic empowerment and self-employment and the programme is linked to Housing projects for the purpose of employment and sustainability. Currently the programme focuses on three main areas which are;

apprenticeships, learnership and artisan development. The intention is to provide a form of exit opportunity for all the trained youth within the identified project as well as a number of other projects within Mpumalanga, so as to ensure some employment as well as to ensure that the youth that have been trained, can hone and enhance their skills.

The chance to be involved in the Youth Brigade could have not come at a better time for a 27 year old Ms Mercy Mhlongo from Mgbodzi "I was not employed when I heard about the programme; I therefore decided to take this opportunity given that it does not discriminate among genders. Construction is something I never thought I might take up as a

career however I am glad I considered this opportunity given that it will not only develop my skills but will assist me economically." Addressing the audience during the launch MEC, Violet Siwela said "this initiative by government is a commitment to youth employment in human settlements and to equip them with relevant skills to participate in the construction industry.

Our intervention should be dedicated focus on partnership between government and business towards the delivery of projects using alternative building and manufacturing technology amongst others". This programme will ultimately assist them with career progression and entrepreneurship.

VETERANS WILL GET HOUSES – MINISTER SISULU

CAPE TOWN - More than 5 000 veterans registered on the Department of Military Veterans' database should have houses by the end of this financial year, Human Settlements Minister Lindiwe Sisulu said recently. Addressing over 200 military veterans in Cape Town, Sisulu announced that provinces would prioritise housing for military veterans. "Military veterans played a

central role in pushing the apartheid government to start negotiating with the ANC," Sisulu told the gathering. "We owe our freedom to you. It is my mission to ensure that in this financial year all military veterans have houses, decent houses fit for the sacrifices you have made for us as a nation." Sisulu said she would give the military veterans an answer in two weeks on how her

department would clear their housing backlog. She added that veterans would be participating in the building process. "Some of you still have energy from the camps. We must convert that energy into construction skills for you to work with us in building your own houses," said Sisulu. "I want you to become construction developers of the future and get involved in all mega projects."

LEGISLATORS REFLECT ON SERVICE DELIVERY

STEENBOK - It is no wonder the Mpumalanga Department of Human Settlements was voted the best second province in the country at the National Govan Mbeki Awards.

The department bore evidence of its hard work of service delivery to communities at the recent Taking Legislature to the People (TLP) held at Nkomazi Local Municipality.

Whilst members of the community lamented about services which are not properly delivered in their areas during a public hearing session, the Department was applauded for the tremendous work it is doing within the municipality.

A backlog of houses which were abandoned and some surrendered by contractors a few years back were discovered by the legislature. The Department of Human Settlements has appointed two contractors to finish the 163 surrendered houses in the local municipality.

The MEC for Human Settlements Ms Violet Siwela raised issues during the public visits around the quality of houses to be constructed in order to reach Departmental goals of delivering quality services to communities. She added 100 units to the 200 which are already under construction.

The portfolio committee together with the MEC and officials from the Department visited the surrendered projects during the duration of the TLP in the Nkomazi Local Municipality.

A 45 year old Ms Phumzile Magagula is one of the beneficiaries whose house is under re-construction and was visited by the entourage. Ms Magagula is a widow and a mother of four who has been living in a one bedroom house over the past years.

"I am glad the department is finally continuing with the construction of my house, I wish this deed can be done to the others whose houses were abandoned by contractors. Finally my family will have a decent shelter," remarked Ms Magagula.

The portfolio committee expressed its gratitude on the sterling work done by the Department to restore the dignity of communities. "It is pleasing that the long outstanding backlogs have been identified and attended to, however, the public will always have issues to raise therefore there is a great need to be prompt", charged Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Human Settlements, Mr Thulare Madileng.



RELIEF: Ms Phumzile Magagula with MEC Violet Siwela next to the house under construction

TWO SENIOR CITIZENS RECEIVE SUBSIDISED HOUSES

- As part of Department's focus towards the elderly -

MADUBADUBA - In what could best be described as an exciting and most rewarding day of their lives, two elderly women in their nineties, Gogos Sophy Jiyane and Emma Ntuli received their newly built houses from the Department of Human Settlements as part of the focus on taking care of the elderly campaign.

Gogo Jiyane (97) couldn't help herself but danced her heart out with excitement when she was being led into her new house. The delighted gogo made an inspiring remark when she amusingly said that it is

worth dancing to the end of her puzzling days of distress. Equally excited was the wheelchair-bound gogo Ntuli (94) who lives together with her adopted son, Mzwakhe. Ntuli used to live in one constricted room with a curtain separating the kitchen and Mzwakhe's bedroom.

Their living conditions were uninhabitable and caught the attention of the Department and the media. "Times were tough in this family. I can only be thankful for the boy (Mzwakhe) who has never thought of forsaking me even a single day. I am

glad that he played such a huge role in exposing our plight to the government to come and help us. Thank you for your rapid intervention – we appreciate it," echoed gogo Ntuli.

During the official handover of their two houses MEC Violet Siwela vowed that despite the challenges of bulk infrastructure and lack of building sites in the area, much focus is channeled at helping elderly persons, the disabled and child-headed families receive decent and good quality houses.

Siwela said, "We are working hand in glove with our municipalities to make sure that our people receive the best service possible despite the few challenges we are faced with. We are highly encouraged by the National Department for nominating us second in the country during the Govan Mbeki Awards for our adequate delivery of quality houses to the people of Mpumalanga."

The success of the official handover was recorded for the Breaking New Ground marketing campaign driven by the National Department of Human Settlements. All provinces have focus areas and the episodes are aired every morning, Wednesdays at 05:30am on SABC 2. Mpumalanga's contribution towards this drive is on the elderly and title deeds. The marketing initiative highlights great success stories by government.



RECIPIENT: (From left to right): Mzwakhe Ntuli, Gogo Emma Ntuli, Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality, Executive Mayor Cnr Rhoda Mathabe and MEC Violet Siwela shortly after the formal hand over.

DIGNITY RESTORED TO MORE THAN 800 FAMILIES

DELMAS - It was a day of joy and relief for the community members of Victor Khanye Local Municipality when 802 families received title deeds from the Mpumalanga Department of Human Settlements. A majority of the housing projects around the municipality were developed in 2009, many of the people previously resided in Mandela Informal Settlements and other backyards dwellers.

“It is a great honour to be given the opportunity to hand over title deeds to beneficiaries of Victor Khanye Local Municipality. Owning an asset in South Africa empowers and brings economic opportunities to owners. The title deeds provide proof of ownership of their houses, which is important evidence for them to be able to leverage their assets” pronounced MEC Violet Siwela.

In addition title deeds are important as they provide individuals with an address, recognise the owner and their family as being part of the municipality and enable ownership of the property to pass on to family members in the event of death. According to municipal perspective, ownership obliges the owner to pay property

rates and service charges for services received, thereby contributing to its ongoing sustainability. It was a great privilege for MEC Violet Siwela and her entourage to



JUSTICE: Gogo Nomvula Sophie Hlabathi receiving a Title Deed document from MEC Violet Siwela

meet and personally deliver a title deed to a beautiful old lady named Nomvula Sophie Hlabathi. She was born in 1942 and lived at Mandela Informal Settlement before she

relocated to her magnificent low cost house at Botleng Extension 3 in Victor Khanye Local Municipality. When voicing out her joy she said she is a sick person however since it was announced to her that she will be receiving a title deed her pains suddenly vanished.

Ms Hlabathi is not the only person who received a personal visit from MEC Violet Siwela. 87 years old Mnguni John Aaron was so ecstatic when he finally received full ownership of his house. Mr Mnguni was backyard dweller for 39 years at Abok also located in the Municipality. The day was all about offering freedom to beneficiaries, given that it was the end of Mandela Day.

Beneficiaries were reminded about the role Mandela played for the nation's freedom. “As we celebrate our freedom we must learn to forgive those who ill-treated us in the past. Let us rectify what happened in the past and claim what belongs to us” articulated MEC Violet Siwela. Hopefully the residents are enjoying the peace of their fully owned houses knowing that the official documents ensured that their houses are part of their estate.

A BASKET OF SERVICES DELIVERED TO FOUR LOCALITIES

Title Deeds and Housing Projects Hand Over

DIPALESENG - An extra 2639 title deeds as part of the latest batch has been recently handed over to Lekwa, Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme, Govan Mbeki and Dipaleseng Local Municipality. The journey to deliver the title deeds started at Dipaleseng Local Municipality with a total number of 512 title deeds to households of the municipality.

The entourage led by Department of Human Settlements MEC Violet Siwela visited three households which received title deeds. The one household belongs to an 86 year old Ms Dlamini Belina. Years have passed by and her beauty still remains the same but with old age her eyes are no longer giving her the joy of seeing beauty of this country. However she has lived long enough to can finally own a piece of land she will be able to transfer to her great grandchildren.

“Having the opportunity to finally receive my title deed gives me joy because I never thought I will live to see this day. I remember the days where black people were not allowed to own a piece of land but with this democracy our dignity is finally restored” remarked Ms Dlamini who lives with her disabled daughter and they both survive on social grant.

“The issuing of title deeds forms part of government's bigger plan to improve the lives of ordinary citizen. Such a delivery is in line with the convictions of the Freedom Charter which committed that everyone has a right to housing, comfort and security.

The Department has so far restored dignity to over five thousand households and we are still continuing” remarked MEC Violet Siwela.

The municipality which has over the past few years experienced issues of service delivery received a basket of services on that day. Apart from title deeds, a further 140 low cost housing projects were delivered to beneficiaries. Mpho Mokoena was one those who received a house on that day. The 30 year old Mokoena is unable to walk properly and has a speech problem.

“My disability does not prevent me from getting a job; I have been studying at Mpumalanga Regional Training Trust (MRTT) to enhance my skills. Now that I have a house my dream is to secure employment and stop depending on a disability grant.”

“The projects cost R17 million with about 70 locals employed inclusive of youth and women. For this financial year, the Department has planned to deliver 329 housing units through various programmes at a total budget of R39 million” said MEC Violet Siwela during a press briefing.

The drive to deliver services continued to Standerton to deliver title deeds at Lekwa Municipality (564), Govan Mbeki (9)14 and Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme (375). “

“Apart from offering a sense of pride to households, a title deed enables home

owners to make decisions to improve their livelihoods. Beneficiaries can be able to use them to improve or develop their dwellings” clarified the MEC. Sixty housing units were officially handed over at Lekwa Local Municipality to the value of R 7.3 million, about 35 community members were employed to work on the project.

The Department has planned to deliver 550 units under Integrated Residential Development Programme and 111 units in Informal Settlements Upgrading in the 2015/16 financial year. Both projects will cost a projected R84 million.

A child-headed household benefitted a low cost house during the journey to dish out services to the community of Lekwa Local Municipality. Bongani Gumbi who lives with his sister Ntombifuthi felt honored when MEC Violet Siwela and her entourage officially handed a house over to them. “When our parents passed away, we were left all alone in a shack that was our home.

We wondered how long we could survive storms and the cold weather of this area. Nevertheless this day has brought tears of joy to me and my sister” pronounced Bongani with joy.

There is still a number of people in the province awaiting title deeds and descent shelter, the Department remains committed to its mandate of delivering integrated sustainable human settlements throughout the province.

DEPARTMENT PARTAKES IN THE VUKA SISEBENTE INITIATIVE

MKHUHLU - The Mpumalanga Department of Human Settlements together with several other public and private entities participated in the official launching of the Mpumalanga Development Coordination Model (MDCM) organized by the Office of the Premier in Mkhuhlu on August 2015.

The initiative which is a brainchild of the provincial government seeks to provide high level view of how processes, governance structures and people interact to support development and to intensify service delivery. The initiative is destined to operate under a statute establishment comprising of a sectional ward-room which

will serve as an administrative centre to deal with all communal queries. Graced by the Honourable Premier David Mabuza and many other local and provincial dignitaries, the event played a crucial role in bringing all governmental services and products nearer to the people steered under the theme 'Vuka Sisebente'.

When addressing the people, Premier Mabuza emphasized that the creation of these ward-rooms will play a huge role in heightening the stroke to bring unfaltering service to all persons of the province. "The Ward-rooms comprise of ordinary citizens who interact with

the communities on a day to day basis. These people are accessible all the time and would definitely be able to attend to all societal challenges the communities are faced with and therefore take them up with all the respective departments of government," said Mabuza.

Meanwhile officials in the Department had ample time to respond to all grievances posed by a few peeved housing beneficiaries who inquired about their housing applications. However, it was pleasing to see everyone leaving the place excited after they were furnished with the right information from the gathering.

A MASSIVE HOUSING PROJECT FOR TEKWANE SOUTH

TEKWANE - Tekwane South Extension 2 Integrated Human Settlements Phase One will make provision for 722 low cost housing projects at the end of 2016/2017 financial year.

The project is planned to run for a three year period and falls under Integrated Human Settlements Programme (IRDP) where there will be provision of land acquisition, servicing of stands for variety of land uses including commercial, recreational spaces, schools, clinics and residential stands for low, middle and high income groups.

The installation of engineering services such as water, sewer, gravel roads and storm water drainage is underway in 722 sites of the area. The total cost of these services is at a cost of over R31 million.

The Department has a mandate to accelerate the delivery of integrated housing as a key strategy for poverty alleviation. This can be done through the provision of descent housing as a major job creation plan and ensuring property can be accessed by all as an asset for wealth creation and empowerment.

On the delivery agenda, Tekwane South Extension will be improved with 722 low cost housing projects in the next financial year as soon as installation of engineering services is done.

The construction of houses will be at total cost of more than R 80 million, amounting to just over R111 million over the three years. Mr Happy Khoza Deputy Director (IRDP) said the project was initiated under the turnkey strategy.

"The turnkey contractor is appointed by the developer through a public tender to do all the related work for a successful completion of the project.

It includes the planning of approved land, township establishment process, design and installation of internal reticulation services and the construction of houses". "I am hopeful that with and integrated human settlements project like this we will be able to resolve a number of issues which the people of Tekwane South came across in the past few years.

I am also glad that this project will create job opportunities for the community and other surrounding areas" appreciated Ms Elizabeth Mokoena a resident of Tekwane South.



DEVELOPMENT: Contractors installing engineering services at the intergrated project.