



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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BEST BUILT STAKEHOLDERS RECEIVE RECOGNITION

The Department's trance of realizing proper integrated sustainable human settlements in the province was adequately illustrated over the weekend when it hosted its annual Govan Mbeki Awards (GMA) to celebrate and honour tremendous work done by all stakeholders in the built sector. The awards which took place at the eMalahleni City Hall, acclaimed excellence and concentrated quality as depicted in the progress made so far.

Making a grand opening of the ceremony, Human Settlements Head, Mr Kebone Masange agreeably bare it open that the Department was not in any way primed to fail or compromise its services; hence there is so much concerted effort to ensure that houses of good quality are built. "This sector is one of the most complex anyone could ever know. There is so much that comes with it and everything of it must be done in the right way," explained Masange. Despite appraising much of the good work that has been done, Masange also took a swipe at underperforming contractors saying that the Department would not give anyone any blanket approach in case they failed to deliver on time but send them straight out to the cold. He said, "It is proper for us to appreciate the good service however, that does not mean we should not point out any sloppy work done and such would not be left unpunished."

One amongst many anticipated categories was Best Established Women Contractor, Best Youth Emerging Contractor, Best Rural, and Informal Upgrading Settlements Projects. The overall winner, Ms Dionne Mhlongo from DR Bongani Investments, who won the Best Established Women Contractor expressed her delight and acknowledged the Department for recognizing her hard work. "It's exciting to be among the best winners but more importantly the recognition to honour the hard work we put in every day together with my team," she said.

Meanwhile Human Settlements MEC, Mr Speedy Mashilo said housing provision is biased towards needy beneficiaries. He said RDP houses were meant for the elderly, child headed families and people living with disabilities. "We must go back to basics. Young men shouldn't expect government to build houses for them; instead they should work hard and build houses for their families" said Mashilo. The awards encourage contractors who make government proud by producing good quality houses across the province. The GMA came shortly after the Department received a visit from Parliament's Portfolio Committee on human settlements which visited the province to assess progress on sustainable integrated human settlement projects in Mpumalanga. The overall winners in all the ten **Competing Categories** were:

Baphi Investment	Best Informal Upgrading Project
Shirido Trading	Best Integrated Residential Development Programme
KD Madonsela Trading and Projects	Best Rural Housing Project
LLG Projects	Best Non-Subsidy Market
DR Bongani Investment	Best Established Women Contractor
Asishiyelene Supply	Best Youth Emerging Contractor
Prince of Tides	Best Community Residential Units
Umziwethu Holdings	Best Finance Linked Individual Subsidy (CRU)
Govan Mbeki Local Municipality	Best Accredited Municipality Level 1
Steve Tshwete Local Municipality	Best Accredited Municipality Level 2



MEC's Merit Awards were as follows:

Asishiyelane Supply	Best Military Veterans Project
Best Bulk Infrastructure Development (Engineering)	CMP BEE Civil Engineering
Best Bulk Infrastructure Development (Sites Servicing)	Sefako Engineering (PTY) (LTD)
Best Conveyancer	Singwane and Partners
Best Enhanced People's Housing Process	Msuthu Properties Avax 181 cc
Best Supporting Media House	Ligwalagwala FM's Current Affairs (National Radio) Moutse Community Radio's Current Affairs (Local Radio) France Nyaka, The New Age (National Print Media) Phumla Nkalanga, Mpumalanga News (Local Print Media)

All the overall winners will compete with their counterparts from other provinces at the National GMA ceremony scheduled for November 2017.

**ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTORATE
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