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## Press Release 26 May 2015

### DEPRIVED FAMILIES RECEIVE THEIR RDP HOUSES ON AFRICA DAY

The Africa Day celebrations brought not only a hype to unite African citizens, but a huge sense of belonging to many residents of this sprouting community when the Department of Human Settlements handed over three exclusively built houses to disadvantaged households on Monday, 25 May 2015.

One of the recipients of a house, Mr Mpunzi Shongwe (67) who lived with his family of nine members in a two-roomed house, gratefully mentioned that despite celebrating the importance of coming together as Africans, ***“Our government has always been caring in ensuring that all people’s needs are put first.”***

Shongwe said that though he had to wait longer before he could get his house he never lost hope: ***“I believed in what was promised to me.”*** He added, ***“My family and I knew that this day shall definitely come and we shall be happy too. We have seen people getting their promises and we never wondered why them because we understood that all these happen at the right time – and this is our right time.”***

Two of the handed houses came exclusively with furnisher from donations made by the Department’s stakeholders as part of their approach to give back to the community.

Sharing the same excitement as Shongwe was Ms Nomcebo Zitha who couldn’t believe her eyes when she received her house and furnisher. ***“This is a blessing,” she said. “I am grateful to our government for generously touching our lives today. We would not have done this on our own since no one is working in the house,”*** explained the excited Zitha.

However, the Department has other ongoing projects in the area which are at their prime stage to completion - which were built as an intervention to the victims of the 2011/2012 hailstorms that disastrously left many families homeless in the area. Families that entirely had their homes destroyed were built temporal structures until they could get their proper houses.

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