



Press Release
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GOVERNMENT WARNS THAT RDPs ARE NOT A QUICK CASH SCHEME

Scores of excited government low cost houses' beneficiaries from four municipalities received their title deeds in Klarinet, eMalahleni Local Municipality in Mpumalanga, when the Department of Human Settlements handed over about **1400** of these legal documents to ensure security of tenure to its beneficiaries. The newly established township Klarinet and many other mega projects forms part of the Department's integrated sustainable human settlements projects to restrain informal settlements in the province as it encompasses services such as bulk water system, serviced land, electricity, accessible roads and proper social amenities for the community.

One of the excited beneficiaries, Ms Olivia Mokgope (55) told government of how gruesome the conditions were during her stay in Spring Valley – an informal settlements at the municipality. ***"It is not nice to live in a shack. We had no electricity and depended a lot on our paraffin stove which was something very dangerous to leave the kids with. I am excited today to own this beautiful house. It never crossed my mind that I will get it so soon, I'm grateful for what government has done for me,"*** said Mokgope as she recounted of her past.

eMalahleni Executive Mayor, Cllr Lindiwe Ntshalintshali handed over the title deeds on behalf of MEC Speedy Mashilo. She reminded the recipients not to sell their houses looking to make quick cash because it was illegal to do and that they would not be able to get another house. ***"I know that all the beneficiaries have an eight year primitive right which permits them to sell their houses after the lapsing period. But you should know that you received it because government realized that you were in need, not that you must sell it. Please take care of your property and raise your children in a decent place,"*** warned Ntshalintshali.

The issuing of title deeds is to facilitate the registration of property in the names of housing beneficiaries, and ensures the provision of security of tenure for housing beneficiaries. ***"These important documents ensure that the lives of beneficiaries are continuously and economically improved through guarantees"***, charged Nkangala District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr Linah Malatjie. Property ownership compels owners to pay municipal rates and services therefore improving municipal financial viability and economic sustainability. The Department has issued nearly 6000 title deeds last financial year and has planned to process 15 000 during the 2016/17 financial year. The title deeds recipients came from the four local municipalities of eMalahleni, Steve Tshwete, Emakhazeni and Victor Khanye.

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