



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MP LAUNCHES A R11 MILLION PROJECT DURING MANDELA CAMPAIGN

Rural communities of Thembisile Hani Local Municipality in Mpumalanga are set to benefit from a more than **R11 million** human settlements project launched in the locality. Human Settlements MEC, Ms Norah Mahlangu launched the People's Housing Process (PHP) project at Kwaggafontein as part of the department's plans to develop needy communities. The 100 units' project is expected to create much needed jobs, bring development and dignity to several households. Mahlangu joined other stakeholders to bring to conclude the department's Mandela Month Campaign.

The activities involved symbolic building of houses for deserving beneficiaries and handing over of blankets as well as food parcels to the needy. Mahlangu reminded the participants that the former President Nelson Mandela stood for dignity and respect of human rights. She remarked that the former late President, Nelson Mandela stood for dignity and respect of human rights. "Dr Nelson Mandela stood for dignity and respect for human rights; we are here to restore your dignity by building the people of Thembisile houses".

One of the beneficiaries that were visited by the MEC is Gogo Sophie Mahlangu (80) from Bundu, who stays with her grandson in a shack. The tearful Gogo Mahlangu was left numb as she expressed her gratitude for a positive impact by government to her life. "I am short of words as I see my house being built. I am happy that such an intervention is made", she said. She further added that she never thought that her house was going to be restored after losing it during the storm", she retorted.

Her delight was echoed by John Mkhwanazi (75) who has been living in a shack for most part of his life but now has his house built. "This shack is old and leaking now, I have been living under very difficult conditions, I am very happy with the progress", said delighted Mkhwanzi. Mkhulu Mkhwanazi who stays with his wife and grandchildren added that he cannot wait to take occupation of his new house,

MEC Mahlangu concluded the day by handing over blankets and food parcels to the needy and assured those who are without houses will soon benefit as per the department's policy and budget pronouncements. The United Nations declared July as the Mandela Month where society, government, non-governmental structures and individuals to take part in improving the lives of the less fortunate. The 10-year old campaign is celebrated under the theme – "Take Action, Inspire Change and Make Everyday a Mandela Day"

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