



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Building No 6 & 7, No 7 Government Boulevard, Riverside Park, Extension 2
Mbombela, Mpumalanga, Private Bag X11328, Mbombela, 1200
Tel: +27 (13) 766 6088, Fax: +27 (13) 766 8441

Litiko
Lekuhlaliswa Kwebantfu

Departement van
Menslike Nedersittings

UmNyango
Wokuhlaliswa Kwabantu

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OVER 300 BENEFICIARIES RECEIVE FULL PROPERTY OWNERSHIP

The lives of more than 300 families are set to change forever as they became legitimate home owners of government's low cost houses. This during the handing over of title deeds ceremony held at Adelaide Tambo Community Hall in Mhluzi, Steve Tshwete Local Municipality. These legal documents were handed over by Human Settlements Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC), Cllr Muka Mnguni to the beneficiaries whom many of them have been waiting for many years. They are from various places that include Rockdale, Middelburg Ext. 24, Mafube Village, KwaZamokuhle Ext. 7 and Mhluzi.

One of the beneficiaries, 85 years old Mr Jozi Mbuyasi thanked government for his title deed and stated that he will now sleep peacefully as the rightful owner to his house. Mbuyasi affirmed that having the legal document in his possession guarantees him that he is the rightful owner of the property he is occupying. "I am so grateful today that I have a place that I can call my own with confidence and my family will no longer live in fear of being evicted even if I would have passed away," said the excited Mbuyasi.

The issuing of title deeds is to facilitate the registration of title in to the names of the housing beneficiaries and to ensure provision of security of tenure for beneficiaries. Also ensure that their lives are continuously and economically improved through guarantees with the title deeds and satisfy the provision of legislation to provide beneficiaries with security of Tenure.

MMC Mnguni asserted that this programme has become one of their most significant one in the municipality because of the positive impact it has to communities. She said that with the support of the Department of Human Settlements they will continue to process and hand over title deeds to the beneficiaries. "I want to remind the beneficiaries that they are now responsible to care for their properties. In order for the property to grow in value they must take care for it and never use them as guarantees to lend monies from loan sharks," she emphasised.

Property ownership, however, compels the owners to pay municipal rates and services received. The Department have planned to issue over 21 000 title deeds during the current financial year in the province. The Department has so far issued 25% of the 80 000 targeted number of title deeds in this current MTEF period. Title deeds allows home owners to make decisions to improve their living circumstances; also offer the sense of pride and of belonging to the beneficiaries in their communities, and ensures security of tenure. The service delivery campaign will continue to be rolled out throughout the province during the current financial year.

**ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTORATE
MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
CONTACT PERSON: FREDDY NGOBE – 013 766 6014 / 082 859 4630/ flngobe@mpg.gov.za**
