



**Press Release  
17 September 2018**

**STAKEHOLDERS SHINE AT THE GOVAN MBEKI AWARDS**

The cooperation between government and its stakeholders has proven to be resolute and thus must be enhanced at all material times. This is the view of Mpumalanga Human Settlements MEC Norah Mahlangu when she addressed outstanding contractors at the Provincial Govan Mbeki Awards (GMA) ceremony held at Sydney Choma Hall, Steve Tshwete Local Municipality on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2018. She likened the relationship between government and stakeholders to a marathon which requires stamina and focus to secure ultimate accolade.

The annual awards are aimed at to promote excellence, recognize and honour stakeholders who are playing a pivotal role in human settlements value chain. "The Department hopes that the awards will continue to be a programme that will trigger enthusiasm and motivate all to make the province proud of its contractors and other stakeholders," said MEC Mahlangu. The enthusiasm ought to translate to speedy and quality service delivery to communities.

In dealing with the growing backlog, she invited everyone to take part in the resolution thereof. "When one considers the huge backlog and challenges facing the industry; it is befitting to urge all partners to join hands in service delivery. Human Settlements is a social responsibility, hence the call to join forces and have a common vision to shelter our communities," she urged. The enhanced mandate compels us to ensure we facilitate the development if integrated human settlements with proper and basic services such as water, sanitation, electricity and all other amenities to households.

Human Settlements Head, Mr Kebone Masange echoed same sentiments that settling people is impossible without active involvement of all stakeholders. "We need to work together and share common vision as we discharge this responsibility," he said. The stakeholders in particular contractors, were lauded for their sterling performance from the previous financial year, which saw the department exceeding its targets in delivery of 8 173 housing units with 561 units.

The category winners are: Best IRDP: Sizampilo Projects, Best Informal Settlements Upgrading: Motheo Construction Group, Best Rural Housing: Yourtrade 62, Best Emerging Woman Contractor: Sukuyimani Construction, Best Established Woman Contractor: Motheo Construction Group and Best Emerging Youth Contractor: Tinongo Trading Enterprise. All the provincial winners will compete with their provincial counterparts at the national level scheduled for November 2018 in the Eastern Cape.

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