



Issue no. 8 / February 2014

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OUTCOME 8: SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND AN IMPROVED QUALITY OF HOUSEHOLD LIFE

“There shall be houses, security and comfort...”

By MM Ramoshaba: GCIS, Limpopo



The Mayor of the Modimolle Municipality, Cllr K Lekalakala, the MEC Mr MI Kgetjepe, the Executive Mayor of the Waterberg District Municipality Cllr R Mogotlane and some of the beneficiaries who received title deeds.

Housing and home ownership are national challenges and imperatives. Under apartheid laws the 99-year lease system prohibited Black people from owning the houses in which they lived. The situation was deliberately made difficult for them to get title deeds. They could not access bank loans. Under the system of the 99-year lease, the back of poverty could not be broken. The Government today issues title deeds as part of the broader government programme of eradicating homelessness, insecure tenure and the lack of access to basic services such as electricity, running water and sanitation.

Our Government is about restoring pride and dignity through home ownership.

During February 2014, the MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Mr MI Kgetjepe, visited the community of Modimolle to present title deeds to beneficiaries. The MEC shared with the community that 20 years ago government began a journey to eradicate the oppressive legacy of colonialism and apartheid. During these two decades government has made significant progress towards achieving this vision.



Koko Queen Muganamahe received her title deed from MEC MI Kgetjepe. “I am happy that I have received a title deed before I die. My family will have a place to stay when I’m gone. Thank you,” she said.

The programme of issuing title deeds started in 2006 in Limpopo and 17 620 had been issued to date. Modimolle residents received 1 377 title deeds – 1 204 of these deeds were issued under the Registration and Endorsement of the Title Deeds for Low-Cost Housing Properties while 173 were issued under the Enhanced Extended Discount Benefit Scheme, the pre-1994 housing stock.

The MEC urged the beneficiaries not to sell their RDP houses as they are not meant to be sold, rent or used as collateral to loan sharks. The provision of the Housing Act 107 of 1997 as amended and Limpopo Housing Act, 2006 (Act 2 of 2006) prohibits the selling and renting of RDP houses for a period of eight years from the date on which the property was acquired.

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An immigration officer from the Department of Home Affairs attended to the public's queries.

OUTCOME 2: A LONG AND HEALTHY LIFE FOR ALL SOUTH AFRICANS

Good health, a priority of government

By: Galaletsang Bosman, Frances Baard District, Northern Cape



An official from the Department of Health, conducting a health screening during the service-delivery day.



Sisters from the clinic conducting tests.



The Sister from the Department of Health referred a client to the hospital to stabilise his abnormally high blood pressure.

On 13 February, during a service-delivery event, three people were referred to the Hartswater Hospital in the Northern Cape for stabilisation after it emerged that their hypertension and sugar levels were abnormally high.

The three had undergone health screening that was conducted by the Department of Health during the service-delivery outreach organised by the GCIS to mobilise the communities to watch the State of the Nation broadcast.

Community members benefitted through this integrated service-delivery drive as the event yielded positive results. A total of 160 people obtained services from various departments.

The Department of Home Affairs provided services such as identity document applications,

birth registrations, verification of information, the checking of marital status and services provided by immigration officers.

Apart from services the departments also provided educational information on various aspects.

The Department of Health in Hartswater emphasised their commitment to work closely with the GCIS in bringing services and information closer to the people.

The GCIS intends to use this commitment to bring more departments on board for service-delivery outreach events.



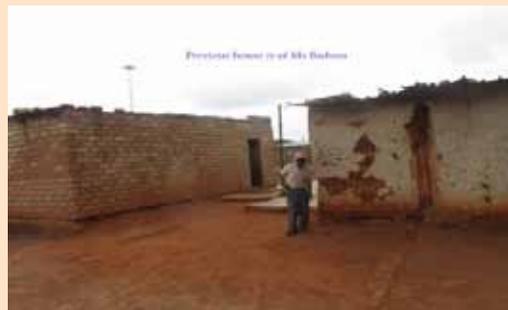
Members of the public taking advantage of services.



OUTCOME 8: SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND AN IMPROVED QUALITY OF HOUSEHOLD LIFE

Beneficiaries of RDP houses – Lomanyaneng village in Mahikeng

By: Veronica Moshwela: GCIS, North West



Ms Baduza's previous house.



Ms Baduzi in front of her beautiful new RDP house.

Ms Kelebogile Catherine Baduza is 53-years old. She is unemployed and survives on a disability grant. For all these years, she had been staying in a leaking two-bedroomed house with her three children. When the GCIS interviewed her she said that she was very happy with what this government has done to her. She emphasised that the process to apply for the house was not complicated. "I love this government," she said.

Ms Nomvula Tshabalala is 38-years old, unemployed and survives on a child grant. She stayed in a delapidated shack after her mud house collapsed in 2013. "If this government did not rescue me, I wonder where I would be now," she said.



Ms Nomvula Tshabalala in front of the shack she stayed in.



Ms Nomvula Tshabalala is very happy with her new house.

The 63-year-old Ms Kedisalelse Phamudi lived with her son, three orphaned grandchildren and one great-grandchild in a two-roomed house that was built with her pension money after staying in a mud house for as long as she could remember.

Her son and three grandchildren are unemployed so they all live on her old-age pension and the child-support grant she receives for her great-grandchild. "I thank those who assisted me to get the house. I will die peacefully in a decent house. The electricity is not connected yet but I hope it will be done soon."



Ms Kedisalelse Phamudi's previous house.



Ms Kedisalelse Phamudi and her son in front of her new home.



Cllr Batsiesing of Tsweleng in the Maquassi Hills Local Municipality, and Mr Nkosi from the North West Office of the Premier addressed the youth during the SoNA 2014 youth-development dialogues.

OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT-ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP

State of the Nation (SoNA): Youth-development dialogues

By: Xolani Mndaweni: GCIS, North West



Youth of the Maquassi Hills Local Municipality arrive at the Tsweleng community Hall, to attend the SoNA youth-development dialogues.

Tsweleng in the Maquassi Hills Local Municipality was a hive of activity on 10 February 2014. Youth from the area arrived to attend the 2014 SoNA youth-development dialogues.

The GCIS invited various stakeholders such as the Member of Parliament, Mr Chaane, the Maquassi Hill Local Municipality's Office of the Speaker and the ward councillor to share services and information with the youth. Presenters from the Department of Social Development, Small Enterprise Development Agency (Seda), North West Office of the Premier (Bursary Section), the GCIS, Department of Local Government, and the Maquassi Hills Local Municipality shared important bursary, career, economic and entrepreneurship opportunities with the youth during the career- and skills-development-focused SoNA dialogues.

The youth of today face challenges such as unemployment because of their lack of education and relevant skills. Further obstacles are the social ills – health and crime. The objective of the dialogues was to deal with these particular challenges the youth are facing and to explain to them how listening to the SoNA on 13 February and participating in government programmes can help community members and the youth improve their lives.

At the conclusion of the dialogues the youth suggested a programme of action that included among other things:

- taking full advantage of education, learnerships, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities in government and the private sector and applying to tertiary institutions on time to avoid disappointment

- unemployed youth would register on the Department of Labour's Job Seeker's Register
- Seda will conduct necessary accredited training for youth groups, small, medium and micro enterprises and aspiring entrepreneurs
- The GCIS would facilitate a follow-up workshop with the departments of labour, public works and other relevant service providers, which offer youth empowerment programmes.

When leaving the venue many of the youth expressed their appreciation for the dialogues. They were motivated, inspired and looking forward to brighter possibilities in anticipation of the SoNA 2014 by President Jacob Zuma.



OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT-ORIENTED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP

Site visit to Grogro and Uitenhage

By Portia Mlisa: GCIS, Eastern Cape

Cooperative governance is a key factor in improving service delivery, creating job opportunities and eradicating poverty. On 24 February 2014, the visit by the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Lechesa Tsenoli, and MEC Mlibo Qoboshiyane to assess the work done on the Community Works Programme (CWP) at different sites within each municipality at the Nelson Mandela Bay Metro, was a confirmation that the city was moving in the right direction.

The delegation, led by Minister Tsenoli, visited two CWP sites – in Grogro and Uitenhage. The Nelson Mandela Bay CWP site was established in September 2012. The wards were selected according to their implementation of the Expanded Public Works Programme.



Delegation during the walkabout in Grogro.



Delegation during the walkabout in Grogro.



The owner of the house, the MEC and the Minister preparing to cut the ribbon.



Executive Mayor helping Gogo to get into her house.



Executive Mayor helping Gogo to get into her house.