



**MINISTRY
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Private Bag X645, Pretoria, 0001. Tel: (012) 421 1309, Fax: (012) 341 8513
Private Bag X9029, Cape Town, 8000. Tel (021) 466 7603, Fax: (021) 466 3610

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NUMBER: 397

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 18 OCTOBER 2024

Mr F J Badenhorst (Western Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

What measures are in place to ensure that the Emergency Housing Fund is allocated timeously in times of disaster to urgently assist the most vulnerable communities with temporary housing (details furnished)?

CW445E

REPLY:

When the National Department Human Settlements assumed the responsibility of Emergency Housing Response it developed the Emergency Housing Response Guidelines. To improve the work the department is doing around this area an Emergency Housing Disaster Management Framework has been developed.

To ensure that there is urgent response to disasters and provision of emergency housing, both the guidelines dictates that :

a) That emergency housing response teams must be on site within 24 hours and as and when the site is declared safe by relevant authorities e.g. PDMC, MDMC etc,

b) The report will then be compiled and be processed within 48 hours.

Since assuming this responsibility the department has ensured that needs for emergency housing are met in areas that were affected by the disasters. This is further amplified by the collaboration with other stakeholders including the NGO's and other sector departments.

It is important to note that the Emergency Housing Response Fund does not only provide relief in the form of temporary housing, but the outputs thereof include the provision of building material as well as repairs which are facilitated by the NHBRC.

Furthermore, following decision made during MINMEC on 03 October 2024, the department intends to partner with traditional leaders, utilizing geo-mapping to identify disaster-resilient areas suitable for human settlements development. This collaborative initiative aims to enable traditional leaders to identify safe land parcels for settlement purposes and avoid disaster-prone areas in vulnerable provinces. By leveraging geo-mapping technology, the department aims to inform decision makers to make better land allocation decisions, ensuring the safety and well-being of communities.