

The official publication of the Department of Human Settlements • September 2014 • Edition 3

Kwa Gae

At home

Minister Lindiwe Sisulu

“It feels good to be back.”



**If you can dream it,
you can build it!**

Vision

A nation housed in sustainable human settlements

Mission

To facilitate the creation of sustainable Human Settlements and improved quality of household life

Values

The Department's core values, based on the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, are:

- Accountability
- Fairness and equity
- Choice, quality and affordability
- Sustainability
- Innovation, and
- The principles of Batho Pele.

RHLF's Mandate: To provide access to housing credit to low income rural households in order to enable them to improve their housing and living conditions

If you earn R15, 000 or less and you live in a rural area, a township in a small town, or an informal settlement, and you want to:

- Extend your existing house, or
- Borrow money to add to your savings to build a new house, or
- Connect electricity or water to your house, or
- Improve sanitation condition, or
- Fence your home.

Then talk to RHLF

Contact details:

Postal Address
P O Box 645
Bruma
2026

Physical Address:

10 South Boulevard
Liberty Gardens Building, 2nd Floor
Bruma
2198

Tel: 011 621 2510

Fax: 011 621 2520

mmothbi@rhlf.co.za

www.rhlf.co.za

page 6

Minister Lindiwe Sisulu calls for the fast-tracking of housing delivery without compromising on quality.



A new Government is now in place following the appointment of Cabinet after the fifth general elections on May 7 this year. The Department of Human Settlements has welcomed the return of Minister Lindiwe Sisulu as the political head, a post she previously held from 2004 until the end of her term in 2009.

Minister Sisulu has since met with all the Provincial MECs for Human Settlements, Senior Managers and staff and has given us a clear directive that the next five years should be about the effective delivery of the service that our people require the most. This talks to the need to speed up the provision of quality houses and creation of sustainable human settlements that would completely change the outlook and feel of our country and settlements that would make our people proud of living in.

These are the marching orders that already have the approval of both houses of Parliament, the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces before which the Minister respectively tabled this financial year's budget during the Budget Vote Speech on July 15 and 17.

In her speech, the Minister has also highlighted all the important areas of focus that should be prioritised by the Department and its related institutions and agencies. She has highlighted policy and structural matters that would also be paid attention to in order to ensure the Government meets the delivery expectations of the electorate.

These are the same issues that this publication will seek to keep the reader informed on. From the next publication going forward, *Kwa Gae* will seek to inform the reader on all important policy issues that are being considered. And our take on stories would put more emphasis on bringing the reader extensive updates on projects across the country and bring the voices of those citizens whose lives are changing drastically as a result of these projects.

Let us all heed the Minister's call to dedicate ourselves to our work and ensure that our people enjoy the quality delivery that is due to them.

Xolani Xundu
Editor-in-Chief



24



18



10

◀regulars

6

Parliament In Session: Budget Speech

1,5 million houses in 5 years

Minister Sisulu presented a staggering R29 billion budget before Parliament.

16

Service Delivery Focus: Young and Destitute

Joy to the homeless

A young woman who was orphaned at an early age becomes a new home owner.

22

Entity Imperatives: HDA

The role of the Housing Development Agency

Land acquisition and project management of housing development projects for the Department of Human Settlements.

◀contents

Minister Sisulu meets staff Minister lays the ground rules to staff	4
Deputy Minister Kota-Fredericks DM praises housing delivery record	8
Do it for Madiba Keeping Cosmo City clean	10
Women's Month Deputy Minister's programme	12
Houses for the people of Colesburg Vacant land bears fruit for 200 Ouboks families	18
Youth Build Training for young people to access job market	20
Bachelor's degree of Human Settlements Skills development in Human Settlements Sector	24
Cornubia Public Private Partnership A ground-breaking project for eThekweni	26
School of Government Quality education for public servants	28

In this third edition of *Kwa-Gae* the Department welcomes the return of Minister Lindiwe Sisulu to Human Settlements and of Deputy Minister Zoliswa Kota-Fredericks. As a sector we look forward to working together with our principals in their commitment to continue in improving the quality of lives of ordinary South Africans.

In the first part of this jam packed edition is the 2014/2015 Budget Speech that draws attention to the over R29 billion Human Settlements capital investment in this financial year. In spite of our country's progressive Constitution and 20 years into democracy, 2.3 million South Africans remain homeless and our towns and cities continue to be fragmented, imposing high costs on households and the economy.

In this edition we highlight the hundreds of houses that were handed over to new home-owners during the months of April, May, June and July 2014 across the country. The delivery of additional subsidised houses offered adequate shelter to poor people and also helped to contribute to growth in value of the property market.

Kwa-Gae continues to be an important source of information for the sector and ordinary South Africans. We hope you enjoy the selection of stories as we continue to celebrate the 20 years of our democracy and freedom.

Gwen Shole-Menyatso
Editor

Publisher: Department of Human Settlements
Call Centre (Tollfree): 0800 1(HOUSE) 46873
E-mail: info@dhs.gov.za
Fraud & Corruption (Tollfree): 0800 701 701
Address: Govan Mbeki House, 240 Justice Mahomed Street, Sunnyside, Pretoria, 0002
Postal Address: Private Bag X644, Pretoria, 0001
www.dhs.gov.za

Editor-in-Chief: Xolani Xundu
Editor: Gwen Shole-Menyatso
Copy Editor: Thokozani Mtshali
Designers: Shalen Gajadhar and Thabo Maleka
Production and Distribution: Mandla Gumede
Photographers: Thulani Hlophe; Pompi Thobakgale; Lebohang Nakana; Lebogang Mohlahlo; Kelopile Tlhodi; Siyabonga Sigwebela; Thobeka Shangase
Cover Photo: GCIS
Contributors: Busisiwe Khumalo; Kelopile Tlhodi; Thokozani Mtshali; Boitumelo Busang; Teboho Montse; Isaac Skhosana and Thobeka Shangase
Editorial Enquiries
Telephone: (012) 421-1556 / 421-1505
E-mail: kwagae@dhs.gov.za
Copyright 2014 ©

Kwa Gae is a quarterly magazine of the Department of Human Settlements which is published by the Chief Directorate: Communication Services. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written consent of the publisher.
ISSN: 2309-6721



DELIVERY DELIVERY DELIVERY!

Minister gives marching orders to staff

Within a week after being appointed, Minister Lindiwe Sisulu took time to meet and greet her staff at the Department of Human Settlements, a familiar portfolio that she's returning to for the second time. Kwa Gae was there to capture the moment.

Minister Sisulu was responsible for the Housing Ministry from 2004 to 2009 just before the Department assumed the new name of Human Settlements in which she began her new term shortly after the May 2014 general elections. She is a senior member of Cabinet with vast political and government experience. Between 2009 and May 2014, she headed the Ministries of Defence and Military Veterans as well as Public Service and Administration.

Employees gave the new minister a jovial reception. While she shared light hearted jokes with staff, she unambiguously laid down the rules telling all officials that she expected them to re-double their effort because Government's top priority was to deliver the services due to the people.

"President Jacob Zuma and the rest of the officials of the ruling party have indicated to us the priorities of this Government as we move forward. So I come fresh from an instruction from them about what we are expected to do as Government.

"The Government's top priority this new term is Delivery, Delivery and Delivery. I would like you to contextualise and internalise where you are in that. If it is delivery, delivery and delivery, you are right at the centre of all of that," she said.

"We no longer have any excuse for not doing the things that our people expect of us. Secondly, we now have a plan for the next 16 years which is called the National Development Plan (NDP). The NDP is a formal plan of Government and this is what we have to acquaint ourselves with. Director-General Thabane Zulu has committed that there will be working groups or study groups so that all of us understand what the NDP is about. That

is the blue-print together with the manifesto that will take us to the next coming five years. So I would like us to be very conversant with that our marching orders are very clear," said the Minister.

"All those who want to feel fulfilled; you are at the right place. Nothing is more fulfilling than giving a shelter and all those that goes with it to somebody who has been desperately looking for it and waiting for it. This is the place that we are at, and we will feel fulfilled when we do our work.

"I hope that at the end of these five years, when we celebrate the 25 years of freedom, each one of us would be extremely proud of the work that we have done. We are going to spend this next five years making sure we bond, we work well together and we give South Africans hope. The hope that we promised them everytime we as the ruling party goes to elections – that we are still coming and that if we have not gotten to you, we are still coming. So each one of you is an ambassador of this hope that this Department will deliver what we have promised."

Minister Sisulu who is also credited for implementing far reaching changes in the Public Service portfolio told staff she was happy to return to the Department because she believed housing was an important aspect with which Government could bring lasting transformation in South Africa.

"I can't tell you how happy I am to be back home. And my staff too, has been smiling all the time. It feels good to be home, it feels good to be back," she said.

The meeting with employees was shortened to allow the Minister to go to Cape Town where she had already dispatched Deputy Minister Zoliswa Kota-Fredericks to resolve the forced removal dispute involving state entity Sanral, the City of Cape Town and residents of Lwandle in Strand.



Above Left: Minister of Human Settlements Lindiwe Sisulu, with Deputy Minister Zou Kota-Fredericks and Director-General Thabane Zulu addressing members of the media, before delivering her Budget Vote.

Above Right: Department of Human Settlements staff: Phillip Mahlaela, Zenzile Velemani, Vanessa Magafane and Isaac Chauke in Parliament. The four won an internal competition to attend the departmental budget vote in Cape Town.

A Human Settlements Budget that would change South Africa's landscape

An additional 1.5 million houses over the next five years would see the largest construction of residential property in South Africa.

Human Settlements Minister Lindiwe Sisulu has set the Department a task to build at least 1.5 million housing units within the next five years.

This would make a significant dent towards reducing the country's housing backlog estimated at 2.3 million. An additional 1.5 million houses could take the tally to over five million when added to the current 3.7 million houses provided by the State in the last 20 years.

Minister Sisulu presented a staggering R29-billion Budget before Parliament on July 15. This year's budget is about R2-billion more when compared to the previous one. It is projected to increase to R35-billion in the 2015/2016 financial year.

Minister Sisulu told Members of Parliament that Government had decided to embark on mega pro-

jects to maximize its efforts. "In this way the economies of scale will be in our favour. In these mega projects there will be a collaboration of all three spheres of government," she said. Municipalities would ultimately inherit the projects once completed, and be responsible for the allocation of units, infrastructure provision and maintenance.

Among the top five priorities over the next three months, the Department would collaborate with SITA to set up a credible data base for applicants of houses. An Inter-Ministerial Committee created by President Jacob Zuma would look into the revitalisation of mining towns and Human Settlements would be the leading Department in the programme.

Government would also fast-track the issuing of title deeds focusing first on properties that were acquired

prior to 1994 to give full ownership to people. "This is important because these are otherwise dead assets. Without the title deeds the owners are unable to revitalise the old townships, which are in a very sad state of decay," she said. The Estate Agency Affairs Board has been tasked to prioritise this and submit a report by 30 September 2014.

The Department would also collaborate with the Land Reform and the Office of the Land Commission to set up a dedicated unit that would deal with the issuing of title deeds of properties acquired after 1994.

"Our people have a right to their title deeds and the fact that they do not have them is a sad indictment, because this is supposed to be an entry into the economy for the poor," she said.

The N2-Gateway Project in Cape



South Africa remains a country of numerous construction sites as various localities intensify efforts to reduce housing backlogs and eliminate informal settlements. In Jan Kempdorp in the Northern Cape, new home owners received 40 square metre houses with two bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen and a lounge.

Town would again become a national project funded by all 9 provinces to ensure its first phase is completed earlier. The Minister said, "the Department would renew the Social Contract with the Banking Association of South Africa which was first signed in 2005." The Banks have been our most valued supporters. The entire housing portfolio of the country is in our hands and we hope they talk of us as a very valuable partner. We need to recommit to this mutual appreciation of society through this Social Contract."

Some of the Department's agencies would be restructured. The Housing Development Agency (HDA) will become a fully-fledged developer tasked with acquiring and preparing land, manage projects to assist municipalities and provinces needing support. There are considerations to absorb the Estate Agency Affairs Board into the Department of Human Settlements. It currently exists as an independent entity while the Social Housing Regulatory Agency (SHRA) has been placed under administration pending a review on whether it should also be absorbed into the Department.

A Women and Youth in Construction Support Programme headed by a Deputy Director-General (DDG) in

the Department would be established to give support to women and youth in construction. A dedicated Branch, also headed by a Deputy Director-General would be set up to ensure that all 5 854 indigent military veterans receive houses in the next three years.

In line with the Comprehensive Plan for Integrated Sustainable Human Settlements approved by Cabinet in 2004, Government aims to enact laws governing the creation of integrated human settlements and clearly define qualification criteria for a government house. The focus would be on eradicating apartheid's spatial planning and halt the creation of settlements that segregate people. "For this to succeed we need both the support of the whole of society and the intervention of the State. We need to educate South Africans that while they live apart, apartheid lives on.

"Our developmental state has a responsibility to intervene decisively to ensure that we remove any footprint of segregation, as we house the poor and grow our cities, conscious of the fact that land is a limited resource," she said. By the end of the first term the Minister wants the Department to have completed the Master Spatial Plan for Human Settlements.



Housing delivery, making a difference in SA

Deputy Minister Zou Kota-Fredericks says the Department should progressively ensure that all South Africans live in decent houses that are closer to places of work.

The South African Government is proud of its track record on housing delivery and is gearing up to redouble efforts to ensure more people have proper shelter in the next five years, says the Deputy Minister of Human Settlements Zou Kota-Fredericks.

The Deputy Minister premised her Budget Vote debate speech on the ruling ANC policy document, the Freedom Charter, which states that in a democratic South Africa “there shall be houses, security and comfort.”

She said the Department was expected to progressively ensure that all South Africans lived in decent conditions in human settlements that were closer to the places of work and with access to basic service and social amenities.

Echoing Minister Lindiwe Sisulu who had in her speech earlier pledged that the Government would provide at least 1.5 million houses in the next five years, the Deputy Minister added that the provision of infrastructure in existing informal settlement would be accelerated. The success of the informal settlement upgrading programmes relied on Government’s ability to draw in affected communities, she said.

She said that Government would mobilise to supply

affordable housing to teachers, nurses, police officers and all qualifying public sector employees who did not qualify for home loans.

“The National Development Plan calls upon us to respond systematically to entrenched apartheid spatial patterns that still exacerbate social inequality and economic inefficiency. It calls upon us to review housing policies to better realise the constitutional mandate of providing adequate housing.

“It further calls upon us to ensure that delivery is used to restructure towns and cities to strengthen the livelihood prospects of households (and) it directs us to radically revise the housing finance regime,” she said.

She lauded the Department’s performance listing among others, the building of more than 3.7 million houses which benefited over 12 million people. “More than 400 000 households in well located informal settlements have been provided with access to basic services and secure tenure and (people) have more access to electricity and water than they had back in 1994.”

She urged municipalities and provinces to prioritise the allocation of houses to the most vulnerable such as the elderly, people with disabilities and child headed households and intensify housing delivery in rural areas.



Above: Minister Sisulu and Deputy Minister Kota-Fredericks interact with children at the Little Roses Nursery School.

Inset: Volunteers get busy during the clean-up at Cosmo City.

Doing it for Madiba

Keeping Cosmo City clean in memory of Nelson Mandela

Human Settlements Minister Lindiwe Sisulu and her Deputy, Zou Kota-Fredericks, visited Cosmo City, north-west of Johannesburg armed with garden spades, forks and rakes on Mandela Day, 18 July 2014. This was part of a clean-up operation in honour of the life and legacy of the country's first democratically elected president, Nelson Mandela. This was the first such event of its kind since the former President passed away last year.

The Director-General of the Department of Human Settlements Thabane Zulu and officials from our human settlements institutions and agencies also took part in the

clean-up campaign carried under the theme, *Working together for a cleaner South Africa*.

More than 67 staff members descended on Cosmo City Taxi rank wearing their overalls with rubbish bags at hand ready to undertake a day's work in honour of the late statesman. The taxi rank is an essential part of the community in Cosmo City as it is the hub of economic opportunity for young people manning shops, fruit stalls and *chisanyama* (braai meat) and offering different traditional African dishes.

The Minister, Deputy Minister and Director-General planted trees at Malibongwe Ridge, a new housing de-

velopment at Cosmo City. This project forms part of the Informal Settlement Upgrading which will see more than 3 000 families from the Itsoseng Informal Settlement being provided with new houses.

Later in the day the Minister and Deputy Minister visited a local nursery school, Little Roses, where they handed-out gifts to children.

The children put up quite a show singing and rendering poetry for their guests. Four-year old Anele Mahlangu, recited a beautiful poem "I am an African child" boastfully declaring her love for the motherland.

Nelson Mandela Day is celebrated every year on the 18 of July which is the actual birthday of the former President. The day, as declared by the United Nations, requires people around the world to reflect on the selfless dedication and commitment of this great icon. Every person is asked to dedicate 67 minutes of community work that improves the quality of lives for ordinary people, particularly the poor, the marginalised and all vulnerable groups.

This year's International Mandela Day saw various organisations and Government Departments embarking on cleaning-up campaigns across South Africa.



"Mandela Day is about dedicating 67 minutes to doing good unto others and inspiring change for the better."



Avethandwa and his great-grandmother Agnes Dyidi share a light moment on the day of the handover.

74-YEAR-OLD GRANNY'S tears of joy

Better and easily accessible facilities make mobility easy for Gogo Dyidi and her great-grandson.

Seventy-four year-old Agnes Dyidi shed a tear when she moved into a new home with all facilities that would make life easy for her as a person living with disability.

Dyidi proclaimed that her hope for a better life was first restored a year ago when she saw the Deputy Minister of Human Settlements, Zou Kota-Fredericks walking into her dilapidated house during an outreach programme in Nyanga East, Cape Town.

Dyidi lived in a dilapidated house with her five year-old great-grandson, Avethandwa Dyidi who has been her main source of support and assistance.

"The interesting part is how her five year old great-grandson helped her cook while sitting on her bed and keep the house tidy," noted the Deputy Minister during the handover ceremony at Dyidi's house in Nyanga. The event coincided with the commemoration of the 1956 women's march to the Union Building against Apartheid pass laws.

The 74-year-old granny has been bed-ridden for more than ten years now as she suffers from serious health challenges. But she had a moment to forget about that amid fanfare in her newly built house as neighbours went

in and out of the yard looking pleased at the new house.

The Deputy Minister praised the media that first reported on her problems saying the female journalist was "vigilant, caring and assisted us in exposing Dyidi's situation to be able to pull in various partners to help this family."

She said through the work being done by women like Rev Reqwana, (SABC Umhlobo Wenene FM presenter), in the media space, today's women are ensuring that fallen heroines of the struggle are proud of Government's efforts to change the lives of ordinary South Africans and move the country forward.

"I am thankful to everyone who helped us as the Department of Human Settlements to make Gogo Dyidi's prayers and dreams a reality," said the Deputy Minister.

The stakeholders who contributed in the building of the house include among others, the National Home Builders Registration Council, Kavango builders, a Namibian construction company specialising in the construction of houses using alternative technologies, and the department of Health, who admitted Dyidi intone of their facilities as renovations took place in her house.



Cani Leah Tshabalala and the Heidelberg community attending the launch of the Women's Build in Gauteng.



1956 women who stood against apartheid honoured

Wathint-abafazi wathinta imbokodo...Our women our rock!

"**H**ope is what has kept me going for all these years," said an elated 75-year-old Cani Leah Tshabalala who is now a proud owner of house number 1956 in Ratanda, a township of Heidelberg in Gauteng.

The house number gives honour to the great march by more than 20 000 women of all races in South Africa to the Union Buildings in 1956 to deliver a petition demanding an end to the extension of "passes" to women.

It is built as part of the project that would see at least 18 000 houses being constructed around the country to mark this year's Women's Month. Human Settlements Minister Lindiwe Sisulu and Deputy Minister Zou Kota-Fredericks would take part in the sod turning ceremonies for the Women Build projects in various provinces. Each province will build a minimum of 1 956 houses, but most have committed to round this number up to 2000.

This would be the first time that Tshabalala owns a house of her own. She previously lived as a labour tenant on various farms in areas like Vrede and Memel in the

Free State before moving to stay with one of her son's in Ratanda, East of Gauteng in 1997.

She cares for two grandchildren in Grades 9 and 4, who rely on her government monthly pension. Her son is the only one of her nine children who is still alive.

The Deputy Minister for Human Settlements, Zou Kota-Fredericks launched the Ratanda project at the Lesedi Local Municipality.

Fifty nine-year-old Aletta Scotland is one of those to benefit from the new housing project. She currently stays in a rented room with two grand-children. Her daughter earns a mere R500.00 by doing domestic chores at nearby houses.

The Minister for Human Settlements and Provincial MECs resolved to work closer with women in construction and organisations like the South African Women In Construction to fast-track the delivery of houses and empower women. The 1 956 housing project is expected to be completed in December 2014.



CAMERA AT WORK



7



3



4



2



5



6



1. Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa, Northern Cape Premier Sylvia Lucas and Minister in the Presidency Jeff Radebe congratulate Evelyn Maruping on receiving a house on June 16 as part of the Youth Day celebrations. The house was a contribution by the youth of Lindelani in the Francis Baard District Municipality as part of the National Department of Human Settlements' Youth Build programme. 2. Minister of Human Settlements Lindiwe Sisulu, KZN MEC of Public Works and Human Settlements Ravi Pillay and Director General Thabane Zulu inspecting the site of the Women Build Programme happening at Illovo, KwaZulu-Natal. 3. Deputy Minister of Human Settlements Zou Kota Fredericks also visited Evelyn Maruping in Lindelani. She was accompanied by the Mayor of Sol Plaatjie Municipality David Molusi, MEC of Arts and Culture in Northern Cape Lebogang Motlhaping and the Executive Chairperson of the National Youth Development Agency Yershen Pillay. 4. Dr Thandi Ndlovu of Motheo Group and Themba Mthethwa of Group Five having a discussion during the Budget Vote Gala Dinner. 5-6. Human Settlements Staff responded positively to the call by Minister Lindiwe Sisulu to take part in cleaning of Cosmo City during Mandela Day marking the start of the renewal campaign to improve living spaces in South Africa.

Young and destitute family finally have a home



A dream comes true for Siphokazi Mlambo, a young woman who became an instant mother to her younger siblings, now a proud owner of a house in Makana, a village tucked among the rolling hills of the Eastern Cape.



Siphokazi Mlambo has a reason to smile after becoming a home owner.

The cold and wet weather in Makana, a village in Grahamstown did not deter community members from attending the handover of their housing project.

Siphokazi Mlambo (30), one of the beneficiaries who lives with her siblings and who has single-handedly raised them during the past nine years was ecstatic when she also became a new home owner. Her parents died in 2005. They had nobody in their extended family to look after them. Mlambo was left with no other choice but to become a mother to her siblings at the age of 21. "This is a very special day for us as a family as we now have a home of our own. Patience is a virtue for success. No one can take this house away from us. We are grateful to the government for doing this for us. We promise to take care of this house," said Mlambo.

Gogo Violet Xanti (96) applied in 1995, and was overjoyed to receive a house which she could finally call home. She currently survives on government pension and the help she receives from children and her neighbour Letisi Beni. To make her life even easier the East-

ern Cape Provincial Government donated a wheelchair to assist with mobility and access to use to enable her to access her other needs easily. "I have been waiting for this day since 1995 when I applied for my house. I am so happy I could not even sleep when I heard that the Minister will be coming because of the excitement. Thank you to my government for blessing me with yet another gift. It has been difficult to function in this house as I am now very old. This wheelchair will also make a huge difference," Gogo Violet said.

All other beneficiaries were elated and their faces beamed with joy when they individually received their keys from the former Minister of Human Settlements, Connie September. Ordinary men, women, children and the elderly congregated at the local community hall to witness yet another important occasion of service delivery.

The former Minister of Human Settlements Connie September was accompanied by the Deputy Minister for Human Settlements, Zou Kota-Fredericks and the MEC for Human Settlements in Eastern Cape Helen Sauls-August.



200 HOUSES

for the people of Colesberg in the Northern Cape

Vacant land bears fruit for 200 Ouboks families at Colesberg in the Pixley ka Seme District Municipality as they finally receive their own homes.



Denise Olifant takes ownership of her new home in Ouboks.

“Today is a special day in my life. I am so happy to receive this house.”

Denise Olifant

Denise Olifant, a 45-year-old contract worker applied for house in 2001 and 14 years later she was all smiles to be the new owner. Olifant lived in a shack with her two children in the township of Lowryville. She has never had a proper toilet before. She had to go four houses down her street to use the neighbour’s toilet and she would use a bucket during the night.

That caused her to suffer from infectious diseases from using unsanitary toilets. This house means the world to her not only because it has a flushing toilet inside but it also comes with a full bathroom creating a healthier environment for her and her two young daughters. “Today is a special day in my life. I am so happy to receive this house. Today I am having a toilet of my own inside my house. Today I can say this government works for the people, thanks be to God,” concluded Olifant.

Another beneficiary was Nokuthula Twala (38) a mother of two. She works as a meat packer at a local butchery. She has been sharing her family house with her three brothers. She will now live with her two children in her new home. Twala expressed her gratitude saying that the house will make a difference in her life as the old house was cold and was leaking during the rainy season. “I am very happy, my kids are also happy to be moving into their new home,” said Twala.

The 200 houses were handed over by the former Minister of Human Settlements Connie September who was accompanied by the Northern Cape Premier, Silvia Lucas. The Ouboks Housing project is situated on what used to be a vacant state-owned land along the dusty road on the N1 between Bloemfontein and Kimberley. The project consist of 40m² face brick houses with 2 bedrooms, an open plan kitchen, a full bathroom and a lounge.

The visit by the former Minister of Human Settlements Connie September and the Northern Cape Premier, Silvia Lucas will always be remembered by the residents of Colesburg as the day that their lives changed forever and their precious dignity restored.



YOUTH BUILD

with a concrete purpose

The Youth Build takes place in June to develop skills acquisition and training of young people to improve access to employment and further learning in the built environment.

June 16, Youth Day, also known as the Soweto Uprising, was a series of high school student-led protests in South Africa that began on the morning of June 16, 1976. Students from numerous Sowetan schools began to protest in the streets of Soweto, in response to the introduction of Afrikaans as the medium of instruction in local schools. The 16th of June is now a public holiday, Youth Day, in South Africa, in remembrance of the events in 1976.

On 16 June 2014 Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa addressed national Youth Day commemorations at Galeshewe Stadium in Kimberley amid concerns that young people are no longer as involved as their counterparts of 1976.

The Department of Human Settlements commemorates June 16 annually commissioning young people to build 76 houses, known as the *Youth Build*. This year Lindelani a transit camp outside Galeshewe in Kimberley was earmarked as a project that would provide communities living in informal settlements with decent homes. The Department recruited 100 unemployed youth from Kimberley to participate in the building of these houses whose recipients will be the elderly, people with disabilities, women and child headed households.

Among the beneficiaries is 81 year old Beatrice Biyose who currently stays in a shack with six grand-children. Their living conditions are painful and pitiful and the family has never owned a house before. "This day marks an important day in my life, even if I can die today I will die peacefully knowing that my grand-children have shelter over their heads," said the elated Biyose.

Another grateful beneficiary is a young and single mother Dorothy Moseki whose parents died in 2008 and

2009 respectively. She also lives in a shack with her four year old daughter and her cousin and said that she was happy and thanked the department for changing her life for the better by giving her proper home. Moseki is the youngest beneficiary at the age of 27 years and volunteers at an old age home in Galeshewe.

During a building site inspection on the eve of 16 June 2014 Deputy Minister Zou Kota-Fredericks together with the Deputy Minister of Arts and Culture Rejoice Mabudafhasi, assured the youth of Northern Cape that the Government will afford them opportunities in the construction sector during the youth month programme. In her address to the group of volunteers, Kota-Fredericks said that there will always be a demand for skilled, qualified contractors. "Courses in bricklaying, plastering, building and roofing are being offered in colleges and will be your contribution towards reducing the country's housing backlog.

"This youth programme will bridge the skills gap amongst young people, at the same time offer South Africa's youth an opportunity to have access to training, work experience, jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities. I call on you to take the youth programme seriously and to qualify towards the degree in Human Settlements." the Deputy Minister said.

The Youth Build commemorates the youth month of June through engaging activities that empower them by gaining valuable skills that they use to improve access to employment and further learning. The programme also provides life changing skills for young people. It further creates public awareness about the department's youth development programmes and training and how to access these programmes.



Deputy Minister Zou Kota-Fredericks embraces a beneficiary of the Youth Build. Looking on are Arts and Culture Deputy Minister Rejoice Mabudafhasi and NYDA Executive Chairperson Yershen Pillay.

Land acquisition made easy through the HDA

Housing Development Agency collaborates with provinces and municipalities in the acquisition of land and project management of housing development projects for the Department of Human Settlements. In this edition Kwa Gae puts a spotlight on the crucial role the HDA plays on the human settlement value chain.

The HDA was established in 2009 to address the land acquisition and assembly process to accelerate housing delivery and human settlement development. The two main objectives of the Agency are to identify, acquire, hold, develop and release well-located land and buildings as well as to provide project management support and housing development services.

Since 2009 the Agency exceeded its Outcome 8 target, namely the release of 6,250 hectares of state-owned land for human settlement development and, has delivered over 88 million hectares of land in the five year period of its existence. Its work is guided by the National Land Assembly Strategy which in its implementation speeds up the acquisition of land and its development.

“Our success in this area is just one of the outcomes of the successful partnerships that have been developed across all three spheres of government. The HDA is now the partner of choice in relation to land assembly and housing services, and we are active in all nine provinces with implementation protocols signed with North West, Limpopo, Free State, Western Cape, City of Tshwane, Nelson Mandela Bay, Northern Cape, eThekweni, Rustenburg, KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga, City of Cape Town, City of Johannesburg and Buffalo City.” said Taffy Adler the CEO of HDA

In addition to land identification and release, The HDA is also involved in other aspects of human settlements delivery – for example, informal settlement upgrading where the Agency is responsible for the joint coordination of the National Upgrading Support Programme (NUSP), as well as for the roll-out of capacity building support on informal settlements.

The HDA provides project delivery services in the form of land acquisition and management, project structuring, project planning, capacity assembly, as well as the management of projects. The type of assistance provided is negotiated and expressed through an Implementation Protocol (IP). Intergovernmental agreements are structured between the HDA and the respective organ of state with a view to ensuring that there is collaboration and intergovernmental and integrated alignment for housing development services.

In general these agreements outline the framework of cooperation, the areas of activity in both land and building acquisitions, management and project management, and the institutional arrangements, for example, the establishment of a steering committee.

The HDA has offices in Gauteng (Head Office), Western Cape, Limpopo, Free State, Eastern Cape and Northern Cape.

For more information, visit the HDA at www.thehda.co.za



Human Settlements taught **at tertiary level**

The new Bachelor's Degree in Human Settlements is well underway at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. Siphokazi Kwakweni explains the rationale behind the academic programme.

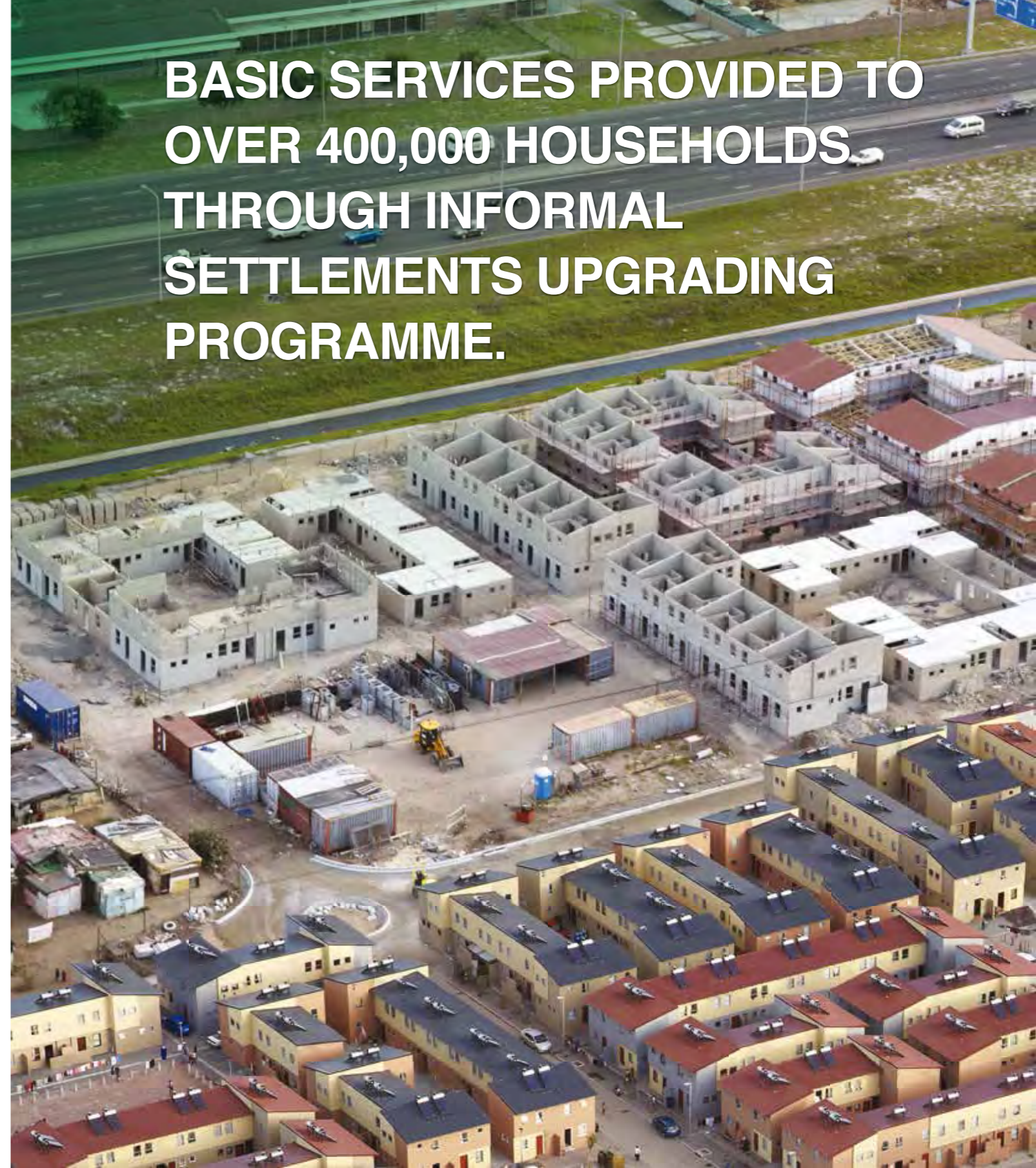
In the last two decades there has been an increasing global emphasis on the importance of bringing Human Settlement Management into mainstream academic research and debate, to improve human settlement as a major component of social, physical and economic development. Lack of capacity within the human settlements sector was identified as an area of concern and weakness that will need focused attention. In line with the Departmental shift from Housing to Human Settlements, the Department developed a strategy which places sector professionalisation and skills development in Human Settlements as one of the key interventions identified to develop capacity for the sector.

The Department undertook a skills audit whose results indicated that there was a dire need in South Africa for skills to successfully implement the Comprehensive Plan for the Development of Sustainable Human Settlements. These skills included high level skills to interpret and translate policy into practice, as well as research skills, physical planning skills, project management skills, and procurement skills.

In 2013, the Department of Human Settlements in partnership with the Department of Higher Education established the Chair for Education in Human Settlements Development Management. The Chair focuses on education and training in human settlements development management without being discipline-bound. This will provide capacity in human settlements development management education and practice. It will make a significant contribution to the education and training of undergraduate students in the new Bachelor of Human Settlements (BHS) degree. This will also ensure that the graduates who enter the profession understand the key issues and debates in the sector, and are competent to implement policies and solutions. It will also create a pipeline of students interested in research after graduation.

The first intake of the new Bachelor's Degree in Human Settlements (BHS) was at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth and plans are at an advanced stage for the 2015 and 2016 intakes at the Walter Sisulu University in Mthatha and University of South Africa.

BASIC SERVICES PROVIDED TO OVER 400,000 HOUSEHOLDS THROUGH INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS UPGRADING PROGRAMME.



TOGETHER WE MOVE SOUTH AFRICA FORWARD

Toll-free: 0800 146 873

www.dhs.gov.za



human settlements
Department:
Human Settlements
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





Lungani Jaca is one of the many beneficiaries of the Cornubia Project.

CORNUBIA

A ground-breaking human settlements project for eThekweni

Cornubia is a public and private sector partnership that is set to change the country's socio-economic landscape by improving the quality of lives for the people of KwaZulu-Natal.

Nothing could be more suitable to mark South Africa's 20 years of freedom and democracy than taking up residence at a newly formed community of people from different races, religion and economic backgrounds.

This is Cornubia, a notable new township garnering momentum above the hills of Mt Edgecombe, north of eThekweni. About 400 housing units have already been put up here as part of a first phase of the new settlement which is expected to expand to over 20 000 housing units over the next two decades. Cornubia is a public and private sector partnership between the National and Provincial Departments of Human Settlements, eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality and sugar-producer Tongaat Hullett.

This is where 37-year-old Lungani Jaca assumed ownership of a new home on April 6 this year. Jaca looks smart, well-mannered and is a bit of an introvert. He comes to Cornubia, which is about seven kilometres from the King Shaka International Airport, with his wife and two children.

He lives on odd jobs to support his family and buying a house for himself was just a dream but today he says: "When we talk about democracy, we are living proof that what our people fought for has finally come to light."

Despite that the first group of people began moving into Cornubia towards the end of last year, already the place is abuzz with life. Groups of children play games of choice with some dancing to the music coming from the houses. A cheerful Zenande Ngubane lives with her mother in the community. "Now we live in a nice home. I can now say that everything will be alright. My dream of becoming a doctor will come true one day," says the Grade six learner who is stimulated by Mathematics and English at school.

The Ngubanes' neighbour is Kaylise Pastia, a religious young mother who's one of the beneficiaries that received keys to a new home when President Jacob Zuma, former Minister of Human Settlements Connie September, KwaZulu-Natal Premier Senzo Mchunu and eThekweni Mayor James Nxumalo officially handed over houses to the people.

Pastia (25) says she has been through hardship and appreciates her new house. "The appreciation in my heart is unexplainable. Today I am highly blessed. I am the evidence that we must never lose all hope."

Sixteen-year-old Londeka Ndlovu, her mother Rachel Ndlovu and her two siblings, were ecstatic to see President Zuma. Rachel, works as a domestic worker to supplement her pension to take care of her children. "Mina ngiyambonga uhulumeni wethu ngoku sibusisa ngendlu enhle kangaka," – Zulu for "I am grateful to the Government for this beautiful house."

Most of the people here come from various squatter camps around Durban. The place is expected to cater for all income groups. There will be demarcated sites for business and already two light industrial factories have been completed nearby in a bid to ensure residents have access to job opportunities.

Currently, most children still travel to schools in nearby Phoenix township or Blackburn, but the integrated plan for the area entails new schools and other public facilities such as clinics.



The School of Government empowers public servants



The National School of Government has an expanded role to play in developing the capacity of the State, particularly in order to support the developmental state.

The School is responsible for the provision of quality education, training and development (ETD) that empowers all public servants and public sector officials to learn, grow and serve in support of Government's transformation agenda.

As such, the partnership between National School of Government (NSG) and Vaal University of Technology (VUT) produced positive results. This was witnessed when officials from different government departments graduated in the Post Graduate Certificate on Executive Development Programme (EDP) at VUT, Vanderbijl Park Campus.

Since 2011 to date, the VUT and NSG have hosted six graduation ceremonies with approximately 220 learners that successfully completed the programme.

The sixth annual graduation ceremony had participants from the Departments of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries, International Relations and Cooperation, Correctional Services, Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Tourism, Labour, South African Social Security Services, Transport and National Development Agency.

One of the graduates, Sandile Kenneth Gadudu from National Department of Tourism, indicated that the programme was such a good platform and exposure that made them aware of the dynamics of being a manager in the public service. "The programme is on point; it confronts our day to day challenges at work. The sessions were interactive because it was an opportunity to ex-

change ideas and share experiences with other departments. When you implement the learning experiences you find them to be helpful in our respective scope of work," Gadudu said.

He further encouraged departments to allow those that have attended the EDP to implement what they have been taught. "I believe if we can be given the space to take the theory we have been taught to the actual workplace, this would benefit the public service greatly as departmental performance can also improve in the long run," said Gadudu.

Victor Serakalala, Deputy Director: Policy Development at the Department of Correctional Services was also a graduate on the programme. Serakalala, who is visually impaired, did not allow his disability to impede him from completing the programme. When asked which programme module captivated him, he indicated that Strategic Management module enlightened his understanding, concepts and application of prescripts as required from him as a manager.

This programme rejuvenated me, it enhanced my finance knowledge, monitoring and evaluation and project management. I applied what I learnt on the programme and I found it to be working for me," Sarakala elaborates.

The EDP is one of National School of Government's flagship projects.

All managers employed in the public service and interested in the programme can call NSG contact centre for more information on 012 441 6777.

**“MY KITCHEN TODAY,
TOMORROW MY RESTAURANT.”**

**3.7 MILLION HOUSES DELIVERED
AND STILL BUILDING.**



TOGETHER WE MOVE SOUTH AFRICA FORWARD

Toll-free: 0800 146 873

www.dhs.gov.za



human settlements

Department:
Human Settlements
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

