



human settlements

Department:
Human Settlements
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPUTY MINISTER ZOU KOTA FREDERICKS

DUNOON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

23rd FEBRUARY 2015

SPEECH

Programme Director Meisie Mpukana

Councillor Lubabalo Makeleni

Leadership yesebe

Inkokeli Zokuhlala nezenkonzo

Department of Human Settlements National Team led by Mr Mclean

Bahlali base Dunoon

Ulutsha

Ndini Bulisa nonke namhlanje

I am here today with my team of Human Settlements officials led by one of our Chief Directors in the department Mr. Maclean.

Ndibulela amaVolontiya abasincedisileyo namhlanje ukhu coca izitrato zase Dunoon.

Ndibulele nabantu base Old Age Home abasinike ithuba lokhu tyala ivegetable garden yabo.

I am here today to encourage this community to do it for themselves.

Vukuku'zenzele! Bahlali!

We just came from cleaning around the high school where rubbish is being dumped close to where school kids play, stay& learn bahlali.

That is not healthy, that is not right!

We then went to the taxi rank to clean the streets of Dunoon and ended up at the old age home where we cleaned and planted a vegetable garden for our elderly citizens so they keep a sustainable healthy environment.

Our motto as Human Settlements is building sustainable living environments where we stay, where we play and where we pray bahlali.

We must take responsibility of our community with or without the help of municipalities.

Yes it is not easy working without assistance from city council but **Siyaqhuba Bahlali**.

This is your Dunoon and you must create the sustainable, healthy and safe environment. So that others can see the fruits of your hands in your community.

I am here today to engage you the community of Dunoon as mandated by President Jacob Zuma who delivered his SONA speech on the 12th February 2015 and responded to all questions in parliament last week on Thursday, 19th February.

During 2014 SONA, his Excellency President Zuma highlighted the following;

- Women Empowerment and Development
- Youth Empowerment

Bahlali base Dunoon, I Human settlements iYaqhuba and it continues to build houses for millions of families with a target of 1.5 million houses by 2019.

You must be asking yourselves what about us in Dunoon?

Right question!

At the right time!

But City of Cape Town must explain to all of us including me!

Why they are not implementing the informal settlements upgrade plans?

There is a saying that says “**UzoyiThola Kanjani uhleli or uhleli ekoneni?**”

Its time Dunoon you change your community yourselves with your hands by building a clean, safe and progressive community together.

Yes you cannot do it alone!

Hence we are here to tell you what opportunities are there for you in Human Settlements to start changing and taking your community forward.

As national government we have a compulsory programme that mandates provinces through their municipalities to have an informal settlement upgrade plan.

Ayikho apha!

City of Cape Town again is failing to provide basic services to you the people of Dunoon or a simple plan detailing how informal settlements in the Western Cape will be upgraded.

I was with you here in Dunoon when your shacks burnt down in December 2014 and as national government we intervened and assisted our people with re-issuing from ID's and SASSA cards that were burnt in the fire.

During my visit I interacted with the community members who highlighted various challenges in Dunoon, Phoenix and surrounding areas.

- Unemployment (Youth Builds, internships, degree in human settlements, cooperatives)
- Housing
- Title Deeds
- Water & Sanitation

I am back to engage with the community of Dunoon about Human Settlements and share the departments plan for the next 5 years relating to informal settlements and create awareness of the various opportunities available for women and especially the youth within the housing.

Bear in mind bahlali that as a government we work in 3 spheres to achieve housing targets to improve our peoples living conditions.

3 spheres of government:

1.National

2.Province

3.Municipalities

The President of the Republic of South Africa President Jacob Zuma made a clarion call to all government departments to go back to basics to ensure professional and improved service delivery to our people and to ensure radical economic transformation in our communities.

What is gettingback to basics?

- Providing services in a professional and caring manner that recognizes the human dignity of each resident.

- To serve the people; the people are not here to serve us.
- actively communicating and interacting with the community
- Fighting fraud and corruption and reviewing informal settlements upgrade and systems in local government.

Bahlali It can't be that other provinces are moving forward in terms of informal settlements upgrade and here in the Western Cape there is no change.

2015 has also been declared the year of the Freedom Charter where South African government led by President Jacob Zuma will provide improved basic services to our people working together in taking South Africa forward.

As the Department of Human Settlements We remember Joe Slovo who passed on 20 years ago as a hero of our struggle, a revolutionary that contributed immensely in ensuring that there shall be houses for all.

The Department of Human Settlements prides itself with the achievement of building over 3.6 million homes for South Africans across all races and continues to strive to reach the target of a further 1.5 million houses by 2019.

Women and youth are a pillar of any society in the world and by empowering them we radically change our economic environment by creating skilled, employable and self-sustainable individuals.

To ensure youth participation is implemented in Human Settlements Programmes the Department hosted the National Human Youth Summit together with the Department of Small Business Development and the Presidency.

The Summit united with the leadership of youth formations and stakeholders targeted at empowering young people and challenged youth to actively participate in the implementation of the Social Contract for the Development of Sustainable Human Settlements.

The Youth Summit concluded with the signing of a National Human Settlements Youth Accord (NHSYA) for active participation in sustainable human settlements development launching the National Human Settlements Youth Brigade.

The Youth Brigade programme will provide skills training opportunities to more than 10 000 young people in different construction fields and the running of small businesses while attaining experience at Mega projects across the country by 2019.

Currently for the financial year 2015/016 more than 2000 young people have been trained to start work in February 2015.

In 2015 Human Settlements calls on youth & women organizations to partner with the department to form cooperatives and companies to participate in the rolling out of the Youth Brigade and the total human settlements Programme.

Department also held a National Human Settlements Indaba on October 16 – 17. Creating a platform to review progress made in the implementation of the 2004 Breaking New Ground Policy and review the Social Contract for the Rapid Housing Delivery signed in 2005.

At the end of the Indaba a Social Contract for the Development of Sustainable Human Settlements was signed with Human Settlements Stakeholders.

The contract details the (stakeholders) level of partnerships and contribution towards the 1.5 Million housing opportunities by 2019.

The contract and contribution of all stakeholders including banks, mines, private affordable housing developers, big employers and contribution of Government is estimated to value over R250 Billion by 2019.

A solid foundation has been laid towards the delivery of our target by identifying 50 priority projects that will deliver more than 10 000 housing opportunities each using Breaking New Ground (BNG) houses, affordable bonded houses, rental and serviced sites playing a key role in women & youth empowerment.

The Estate Agency Affairs Board (EAAB), **has pledged 10 000** opportunities in a Youth Entrepreneur Empowerment Programme - 55% of all properties sold in 2014 have be bought by black people.

We urge you bahlali base Dunoon especially the youth to bring your CV's to the Councillors offices so that they can be brought to our office and be captured as part of the 10 000 youth entrepreneurs targeted for the EAAB programme.

NHBRC is also employing all the young people who have completed their training on bricklaying, plastering and plumbing.

SIYAQHUBA Bahlali !

We as the department of Human Settlements have set aside **30%** of the budget for women in construction for ensuring that women empowerment is happening and needs you as the women of this community to come together and form cooperatives and join SAWIC in building stunning homes by women.

As national government we give provinces money to implement certain tasks and projects and informal settlements upgrade is a must. The question we need to ask is why this province sees no reason to improve the lives of our people through sustainable human settlements and provide housing plans.

The National Development Plan gives direction to practical reshaping of South Africa's Cities, Towns and Rural Settlements encouraging a transformed Spatial Plan.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT IN UPGRADING INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS

The following are some of the responsibilities Provincial

Government should have to perform:

- Collaborate with and assist municipalities in the initiation, planning and formulation of applications for projects under this programme;
- MECs will have decision-making authority;
- Reserve, reprioritise and allocate funds from its annual budget allocation and manage, disburse and control funds allocated for an approved project, in accordance with an agreement with a municipality;
- Assist municipalities with the use and implementation of accelerated planning procedures; and
- Monitor the implementation of a project by a municipality.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NATIONAL DEPARTMENT

The National Department must:

- Actively participate in project conceptualisation, assist with project applications and evaluations and participate in project management with the PDs and municipalities;
- Maintain the policy and programme, and assist with interpretation;
- Monitor programme implementation;
- Negotiate the apportionment of funding for the programme and allocate such to provinces for project execution and release allocated funds on a cash flow basis; and
- Provide implementation assistance.

Without provincial government identifying informal settlements upgrade projects and handing over a business plan to us as national our hands our tide comrades.

The OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES OF INFORMAL SETTLEMENT UPGRADING PROJECTS

The identification of projects should be undertaken against the following broad objectives and principles:

- To maximise the impact of the programme by reaching as many households as possible and to achieve the national goal of upgrading of all informal settlements by 2014;
- The primary focus should be on settlements located in areas posing a threat to health and safety;
- Projects should promote the objective of spatial restructuring and integration;
- Settlements that are threatened with eviction or have been the subject of Court Judgement must be prioritised; and
- Responsible authorities should adhere to the principle that community participation is the key to success and that relocation of communities should be a last resort.

That is not happening here bahlali!

But I assure you that this will change and the people of the Western Cape living in informal settlements will live the words said in our freedom charter:

The Freedom Charter

As adopted at the Congress of the People, Kliptown, on 26 June 1955

There Shall be Houses, Security and Comfort!

All people shall have the right to live where they choose, be decently housed, and to bring up their families in comfort and security;

Unused housing space to be made available to the people;

Rent and prices shall be lowered; food plentiful and no-one shall go hungry;

A preventive health scheme shall be run by the state;

Free medical care and hospitalisation shall be provided for all, with special care for mothers and young children;

Slums shall be demolished, and new suburbs built where all have transport, roads, lighting, playing fields, crèches and social centres;

The aged, the orphans, the disabled and the sick shall be cared for by the state;

Rest, leisure and recreation shall be the right of all:

Fenced locations and ghettos shall be abolished, and laws which break up families shall be repealed.

Before you leave bahlali, please make sure you go to our information desks and get material to know more about your department of Human Settlements.

I thank you.