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COGHSTA TODAY

NO.... 26 OF 2022/23

NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS & TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

MICB unit within the Department hosted an Infrastructure Risk Mitigation Workshop in partnership with the Development Bank of Southern Africa.

INFRASTRUCTURE RISK MITIGATION – A WAY TO BAILOUT SERVICE DELIVERY IMPEDIMENTS IN MUNICIPALITIES

With parts of Limpopo having been affected by floods recently, the Municipal Institutional Capacity Building (MICB) section within the Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) in partnership with the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) found it necessary and fundamental to host a workshop on Infrastructure Risk Mitigation.

The workshop took place at Bolivia Lodge on 10 February 2023 under the theme “Peer Learning”. In attendance were Municipal Managers, Chief Financial Officers and Engineers in the built environment who outlined some of the challenges encountered in municipalities regarding disaster-threats and risks they pose to infrastructure.

The engagement also aimed to mitigate the risks posed and establish ways to design infrastructure that is resilient to any disaster.

Presenting on Disaster Intervention, Mr Freedom Mthetwa from Tzaneen Local Municipality indicated that warning systems should be put in place in cases where disasters such as floods are forecasted. “In the event of a potential disaster, the Disaster Management team will be dispatched to help evacuate residents in the affected areas that are at risk in advance.”

He further expressed the importance for Traditional Leaders to consult municipalities before allocating stands as most houses built in some areas are in flood lines.

Finally, a request was proposed for adequate budget to be allocated for municipalities to maintain infrastructure e.g., potholes, drainage systems that have either been damaged /blocked due to floods or heavy rain.

MICB's Cecil Rathogwa leading the Infrastructure Risk Mitigation Workshop Programme at Bolivia Lodge recently.

Under the theme “Peer Learning” the workshop also aimed to mitigate the risks posed and establish ways to design infrastructure that is resilient in any disaster.