

LIMPOPO

Brings you

GOVAN MBEKI AWARDS 2016



MEC: Mme Makoma Makhurupetje

Request for the submission of application forms in respect of the Provincial Govan Mbeki Awards scheduled to take place on the 17th August 2016. Potential contestants in the following categories are therefore urged to submit duly completed application forms available at office no 246 and 249 respectively as well as on the departmental website, www.coghsta.limpopo.gov.za.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

1. Developers for 2014/15 and 2015/16 financial years
2. Contractors for 2014/15 and 2015/16 financial years
3. Community Resource Organisations

CONTESTING CATEGORIES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Best Integrated Residential Development Programme
2. Best Informal Settlement upgraded Project
3. Best Rural Project
4. Best Rental Housing Tribunal
5. Best Woman Contractor

6. Best Youth Contractor
7. Best Contractor in non-subsidy market
8. Finance Linked Subsidy Project
9. Best Accredited Municipality
10. Best Greening/most beautified clean neighbourhood

MEC'S MERIT AWARDS

1. Best Students who were awarded Bursaries and have completed their studies and due for placement in the Department

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Mbulaheni Mashudu or Malada Tshifhiwa, Hensa Towers, 1st Floor, 20 Rabe Street, Polokwane, Tel: 015 284 5152 or 015 284 1830, Website: www.coghsta.limpopo.gov.za

INTEGRATED SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS



CoGHSTA

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



LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NEWS

1ST QUARTER EDITION 2016/17



A VISIONARY LEADER DRIVING CoGHSTA's SUCCESS TRAIN



Housing Consumer Call Centre toll free number : 0800 687 432 / Disaster Management toll free number: 0800 222 111

Integrated Sustainable Human Settlements

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Once more one is delighted to present to you the 1st edition of CoGHSTA News in this 2016/17 Financial Year. The edition comes at a time when as the department we have a good story to tell about the outstanding achievement we have registered since 1994. Since 1994, we have built and handed over 4.3 million houses to over 16 million beneficiaries country wide. As a province, we pride ourselves of having contributed over 300 000 houses to this figure. This great achievement has laid a solid base for us to continue to work towards an integrated and sustainable human settlements. It is in this regard that we are happy with our achievement of having met all our CoGHSTA targets of the financial year 2015/16. The success is attributed to the hard work put together by team CoGHSTA and its Stakeholders. We commit ourselves to continue sharing this great news with the public. We do this with firm believe that an empowered society is the one with information. I therefore would like to thank the team for having put together this edition and further encourage them to continue with



Mr MOTUPA SELOMO
Chief Information Officer

the good work.

To the readers of the edition, we as well thank you for the support you continue to give us. Feel free to give us the feedback in respect of the areas you would want us to improve or any comments if any. Once more, thank you and enjoy reading.

Selomo Motupa
Chief Information Officer

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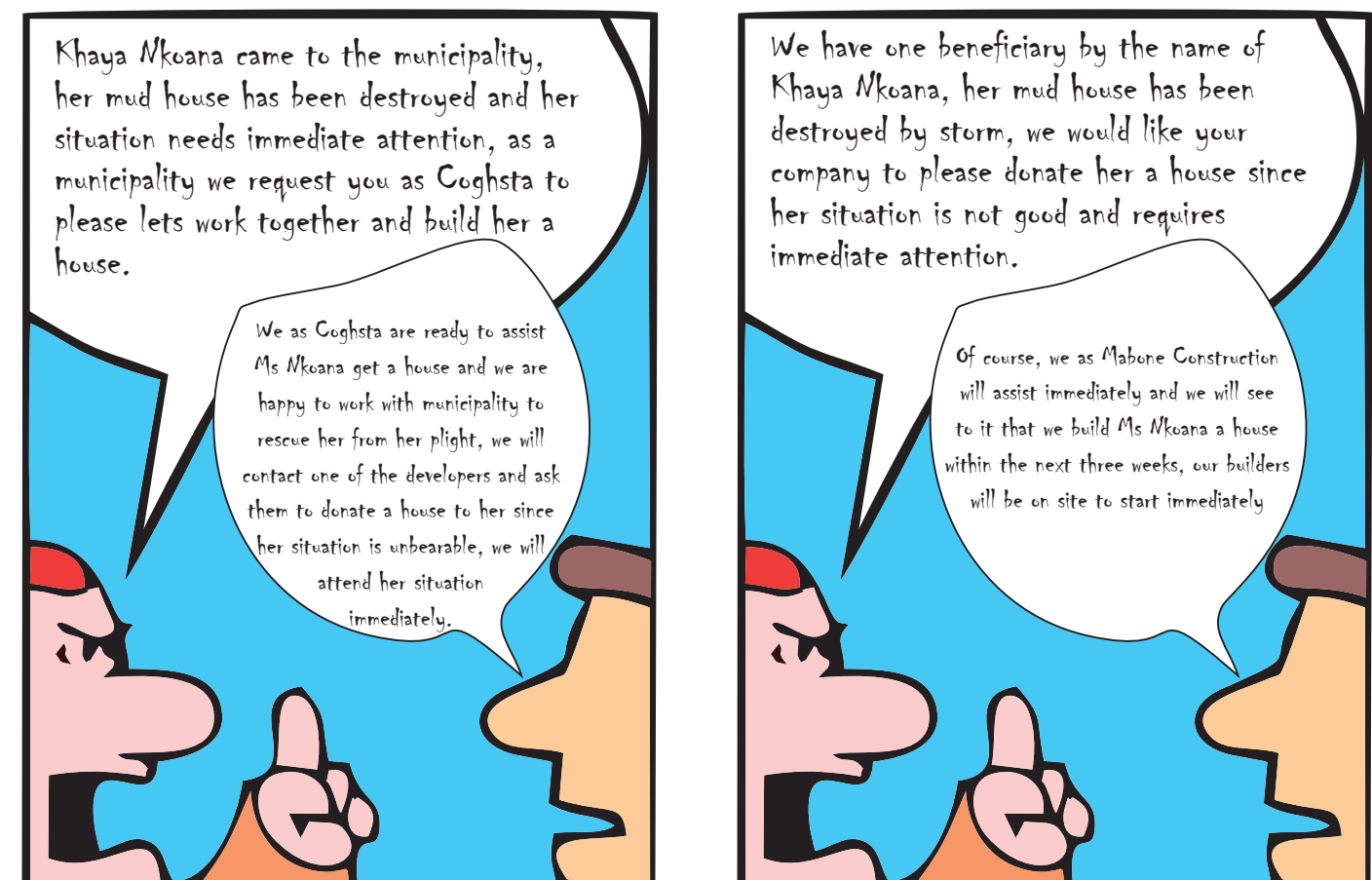
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At the Call Centre, CoGHSTA



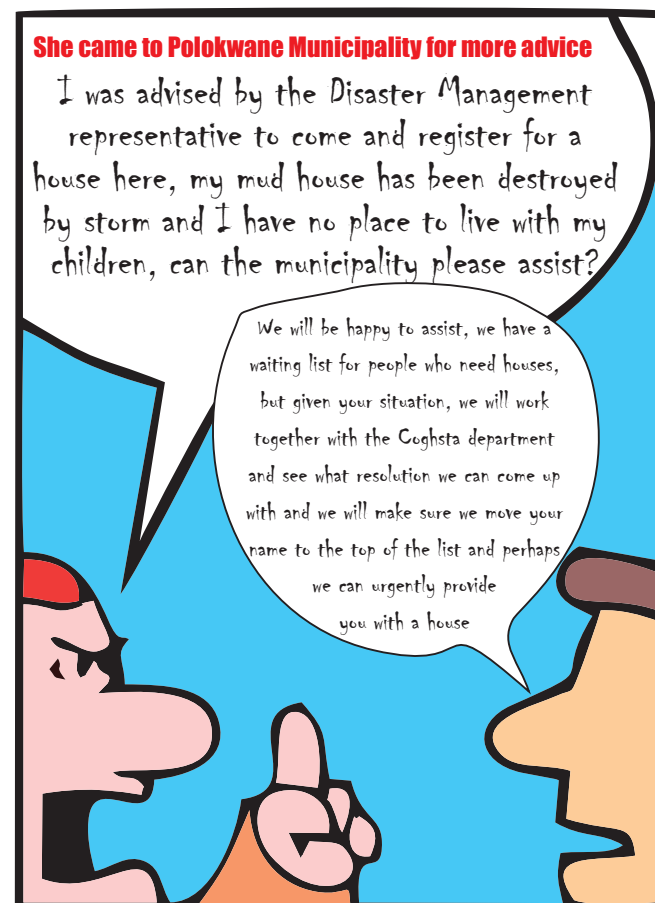
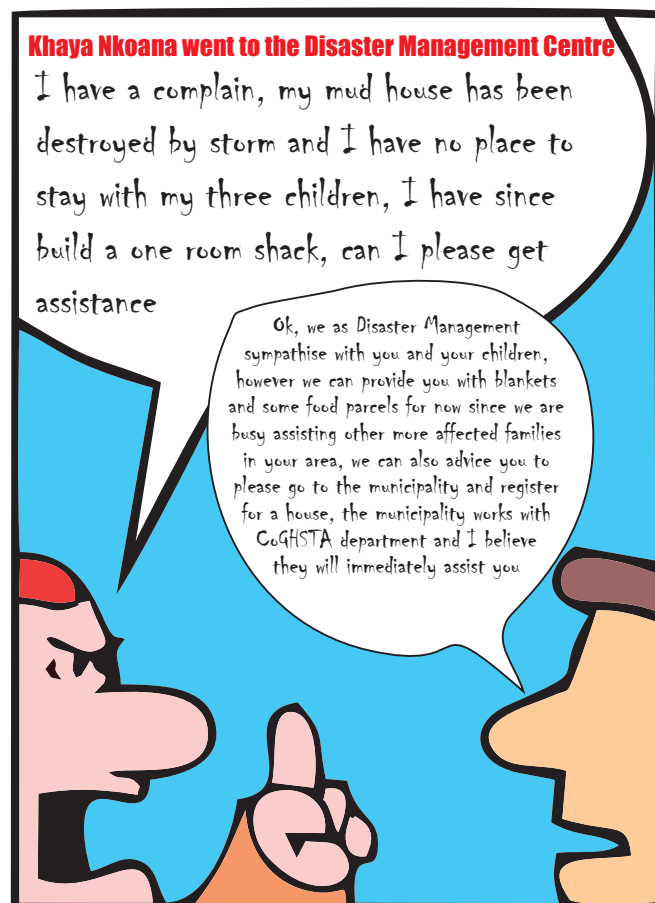
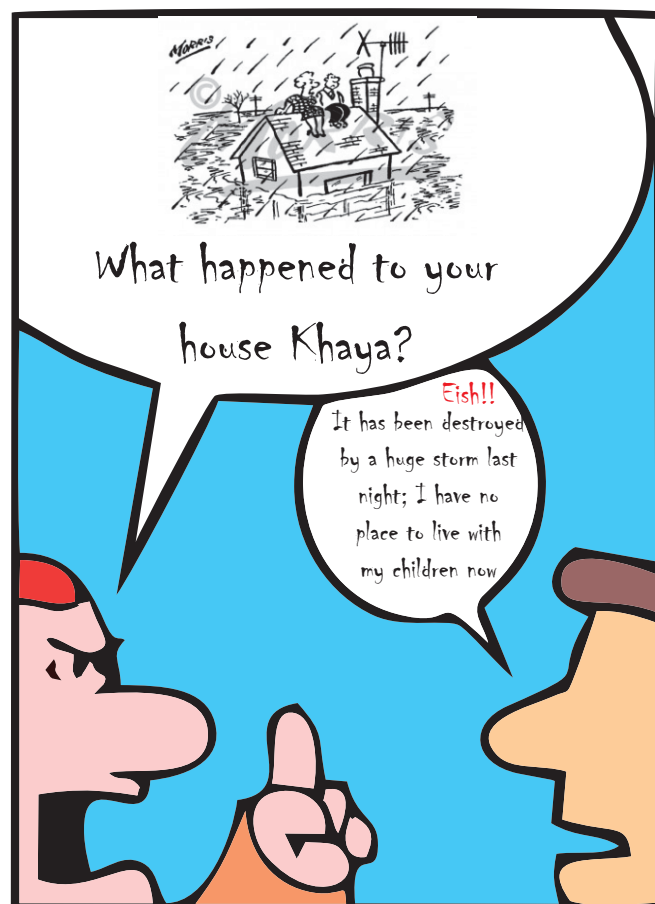
Khaya returns home and talks to her friend

You see, I told you Khaya that our Government will not leave you to suffer alone. Congratulations!

Thanks to the municipality and Coghsta department for their urgent response to my request, I now have a home where I can live with my children, may you please continue helping others like me who are in a similar situation



KHAYA GETS SORTED AFTER THE STORMS-DISASTER MANAGEMENT



THE JOY MATSHOGE - I KNOW!

TRIBUTE BY MAKOMA MAKHURUPHETJE, MEC FOR COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

It is still like a dream to us, that one of the giants of our struggle for a better life for all is no more. It was on the 25th of June when comrade Joy Amanda Bertha Matshoge departed us so unexpectedly from the land of the living.

I'm tempted to believe that this perhaps was her unique way of bidding farewell to us.

We will miss her robust contribution to our discussions. Our Executive Council meetings will never be the same without her.



MEC: MAKOMA MAKHURUPHETJE

Close to Cde Joy Matshoge's heart was the promotion of women and youth-driven enterprises especially in agriculture. I learned this lately on the evening of Wednesday 22nd June when Cde Joy Matshoge, Thoko Didiza and I had the opportunity to share a common platform at the New Peter Mokaba stadium where we had been invited to talk about young women professionals. On that evening she spoke passionately about the need for young people to take their rightful place in the economy, particularly in agriculture. Such passion defined the character of her leadership. This is the inspiration and legacy she leaves behind as an ANCWL's leader and MEC for Agriculture and Rural development.

A day before comrade Matshoge passed on, we spent a full day with her as members of the Executive council during our EXCO Outreach at Marobjane in Blouberg, where she was Programme Director on the day - Happy and lively as she was, little did we know that this was the last time we would see her alive in person.



MEC of Agriculture and Rural Development Joy Matshoge - 1960-2016

FROM HEAD OF DEPARTMENT DESK



Acting HOD: Mr MG Makoko

During the first quarter of the 2016/17 Financial Year, the Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs made huge strides in the implementation of its mandate, and also recorded considerable achievements by implementing its Programme of Action in the midst of mounting challenges it is faced with.

This newsletter is the reflection of what the

Department has done, just to mention but a few, the Department has handed a fully furnished house to most of the needy families in the Province of Limpopo as well as absorbing 130 Interns into the Department to participate in its flagship Internship Programme. You will find these and more stories in this edition.

As the Department we feel doubly honoured to have reached so far and it is all thanks to the relationship we have established with our stakeholders, especially in the build

environment for always availing their resources, both human and material as we build our province one brick at a time. We also could not have reached this far had

it not been for the role played by our Traditional Leaders who provide land to build the houses for the people of this beautiful Province we all call home. It is our wish that these relationships can be sustained in this journey whose destination can only be reached when all the people have roof over their heads.

I also acknowledge everyone who

participated in the production of this newsletter and ensured that it sees the light of the day. Special accolades go to the CIO, Mr. Motupa Selomo and the entire staff of the Communications Directorate who worked around the clock, putting shoulder to the wheel putting articles and photos together.

My acknowledgements will not be complete without relaying them to the Member of the Executive Council for her continuous support, and for continuously providing a shoulder to lean on when things seemed tough.

Lastly to the people of Limpopo we say this is your newsletter. Grab a copy, read and give it to the next person so that the information can be spread throughout the length and breadth of the Province. We hope that you find it enjoyable and worth reading. We await your constructive criticism because it is through it that this newsletter can grow from strength to strength and become a force to reckon with.

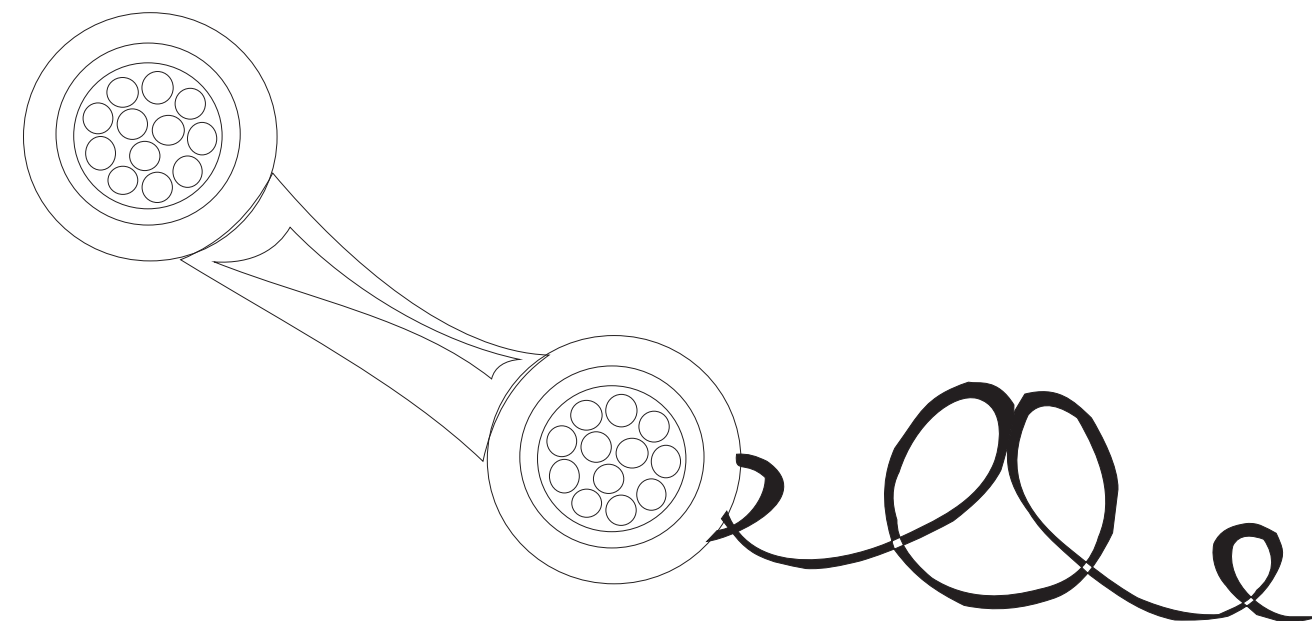
Enjoy the read.

I am Mokgase Gregory Makoko

Acting Head of Department, Limpopo Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs.



COGHSTA HELP DESK AT YOUR SERVICE



0800 NTSHEBELE
HOUSING CONSUMER CALL CENTRE

The Limpopo Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) strives to ensure that all housing related queries are attended to speedily and its relationship with stakeholders grow from strength to strength through its Help Desk Services.

Ms Motlatle Reshoketswe, a Deputy Director and Manager of the Help Desk indicated that the purpose of her unit is to manage reception services and address service delivery complaints by members of the public. Operated by nine (9) officials, the departmental all Centers receives and

transmits large volumes of service delivery complaints relating to housing by telephone or walk-in clients and written complaints from the office of the HOD. "The most common queries that the Call Center come across on a daily basis are related to illegal occupation of houses and structural defects and houses," she said.

Motlatle outlines that the Center sometimes deals with housing complaints that were lodged years ago and were unable to be resolved. According to her, it is due to such unresolved complaints that the department developed a programme called Rectification,

aimed at tracing housing complains that could not be resolved years ago.

She further highlighted that the departmental Help Desk Services has scooped numerous awards. "Our unit has won Best Support Team at the Provincial Service Excellence, Best Innovative Team at the Departmental Service Excellence and the first runner up for Centre for Public Service Innovation (CPSI) awards," she boasted.

The Department of CoGHSTA Help Desk Services operates weekdays from 07h: 30 to 04h: 30 and its toll free number is 0800 687 432



HUMAN SETTLEMENTS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

CHANGES LIVES OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN LIMPOPO

In an effort to close the skills gap in the Human Settlements industry, DoHS introduced the Human Settlements Scholarship Programme. The Programme started in 2008 and it is aimed at addressing skills development, to boost capacity also create opportunities related to the Housing Finance sector. In the process, exceptionally performing students who excel in Maths and Physical Science from previously disadvantaged groups in designated prioritised fields such as Quantity Surveying, Construction Management, Town and Regional Planning, Civil Engineering, Urban and Rural Studies are targeted.

Ms Rosina Rabekane, Deputy Director in Human Resources and Capacity Development and the Programme Manager indicated that the programme started in 2014. "The provincial government monitors and deals with the placement of Bursary Holders. So far we have placed twenty four (24) incumbents in CoGHSTA and many

people from Limpopo benefited from this programme. Every year we distribute advertisements to different Municipalities, Traditional Councils and also advertise through career exhibitions organised by the Department of Education. Applications are invited from well performing matriculants nationwide who wish to further their studies and pursue careers within the broader housing related fields. Applicants are required to attach a certified copy of ID, certified copy of June/May Grade 11 results and proof of financial disadvantage status (pay slip from parents)." she concluded.

Nyadzani Fulufhelo (25) from Ha-Makhuvha village in Thohoyandou is a Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning graduate from the University of Venda. He is one of the beneficiaries of the Scholarship. He enquired about it when he was doing his Matric at Muhuyuwathomba Secondary School in 2008, applied and was successful. He started

working for the department of CoGHSTA in 2014 after completing his Tertiary studies. "I would have not been able to further my studies due to financial constraints. This was a great opportunity as it introduced me to an environment where I can help empower others through various planning projects", he said.

Caiphus Molamodi (29) from Sekororo Village in Tzaneen also benefitted from the Programme. He obtained a degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Venda in 2009. "In 2007 the Department of Human Settlements hosted a career exhibition at the University of Venda and they were also looking for best students studying Construction and Town Planning related courses. I applied and the rest is history", he said. He is permanently employed within the Department.

"COGHSTA IS ON AN UPWARD DIRECTION AND THERE IS NO LOOKING BACK" - SAYS MAKHURUPETJE

The MEC for CoGHSTA, Mme Makoma Makhurupetje delivered the Department's budget speech on Tuesday, 12 April 2016 at Lebowakgomo, Limpopo Legislature. Tabling her detailed 20 page speech, Makhurupetje said the Department is moving forward, is on the right track and not looking back. "Evidence proves that work is being done to restore dignity to the poor and hope to the homeless". She indicated that the Department, for the financial year 2016/17 has been given a budget of R2, 286 billion and the final allocation is as follows: The MEC went further to say that: "We are proud to join the rest of South Africa in celebrating the delivery of 4.3 million houses built countrywide which are continuing to benefit over 16 million people. As Limpopo, we have built and handed over 310 016 units which benefited millions since 1994. It is a good story to tell indeed".

Makhurupetje also highlighted that the historical challenges faced by the Department regarding Human Settlements have become a thing of the past. "Our original target for 2015/16 was 8565 with only 3008 units approved on roll over amounting 11573. We therefore report that our performance has moved from 2065 housing units which is 20% in 2014/15 financial year to 8634 completed units in 2015/16 financial year which translate to more than 100% on the units- we find it more encouraging that work in progress during the same period yielded 3084 housing units which are at foundations and wall plates levels thereby constituting 26% drawing

from the roll over".

The MEC highlighted that the Department will continue to work with municipalities, traditional leaders, community members and all relevant stakeholders to ensure that the goal of eradicating informal settlements is realized.





DEPARTMENT OF
CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE,
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

COGHSTA PRIORITIES FOR 2016/17 FINANCIAL YEAR!

INTEGRATED SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

- We shall build 9242 quality houses.
- We shall build 200 houses for military veterans.
- We shall transfer 3 000 houses through our registration and endorsement programme at a cost of R3,5m.
- 100 housing units from former R293 towns shall be transferred through the Enhanced Extended Discount Benefit Scheme.

CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE

- We shall deliver 4850 serviced sites for residential purpose in both rural and urban areas.
- We shall provide water services through Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG) and Municipal Water Services Infrastructure Grant (MWSIG).

TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

- We shall have two sittings for the provincial House of Traditional Leaders
- We shall, together with the Traditional Leadership, improve our systems to ensure the eradication of illegal initiation schools in the province

MULTI-AWARD WINNING DEPARTMENT

COGHSTA LED TEAM

PARTICIPATE IN THE 4TH LIMPOPO EPWP SUMMIT



Some of the attendees taking part in EPWP summit



Limpopo Premier, Mr Stanley Mathabatha addressing the summit

The Limpopo Department of Public Works closed off the month of June on a high note by hosting the 4th Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP) Summit from the 28th to 29th of June 2016.

The Departmental Local Economic Development (LED) team took part in the two day EPWP summit, held at St Marco Hall together with representatives from local and district municipalities and South African Local Government Association.

During his address, the Premier of the Province, Mr Stanley Mathabatha explained that the EPWP is a programme aimed at alleviating poverty amongst the people of Limpopo province.

"This particular programme has, since 2004 assisted and will continue to assist in providing work opportunities and income to people while contributing to the development of our province," he expressed.

Giving an overview of the programme, the provincial EPWP Chief Director within the Department of Public Works, Mr Walter Mothapo highlighted that Infrastructure and the Social Sectors were at a low percentage of 16% and 38% respectively.

"Although the programme has had achievements there are still challenges that we have encountered such as planning, non-compliance to legislative directives and payment below EPWP minimum wage," he

stressed.

The EPWP Chief Director further advised that commissions should give more attention to the two mentioned sectors and challenges and come up with solutions during the break away sessions.

A representative from SALGA, Mr Vincent Mabunda said that although majority of municipalities have incorporated EPWP tasks within their departments, there is a need to improve the coordination process of the programmes projects.

"Practical visibility of officials in some of the EPWP projects is key in giving credibility to the EPWP process," he advised during his presentation.





An artist impression of the Marapong Community Residential Unit

COGHSTA TO DELIVER YET ANOTHER GROUND-BREAKING DEVELOPMENT FOR THE MARAPONG COMMUNITY IN LEPHALALE

In a quest to deliver much affordable housing for the community the Limpopo Department of Cooperative Governance Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) is planning to build the Marapong Community Residential Units (CRU) in Lephalale.

According to Mr Solomon Mpyatona, a Project Manager within the Human Settlements Development division in the department, the CRU program is aimed at facilitating the provision of secure and stable rental tenure for lower income individuals earning between R800 and R3500 a month who are unable to enter the formal private rental and social housing market.

"The development of the Marapong CRU is scheduled to be implemented in 2 phases to

produce a total of 514 units. The entire project is planned to be accomplished in 18 months with phase 1 being earmarked for completion within the 2016/17 financial year," he said.

The Project manager shared that the township establishment and site development plan have been approved by the Lephalale Municipality. Furthermore, the socio survey has been updated and beneficiaries checked on the Housing Subsidy System (HSS). Mpyatona added that the units planned to be built vary from 1 and 2 bedrooomed houses, single and elevated, and designated units for disabled persons.

"There are currently old hostels on the site which the units are to be built. However, the Housing Development Agency (HDA) has

appointed a Social Facilitator who together with the Lephalale Municipality will relocate the existing hostel dwellers to Altoostyd before construction can commence," he added. He further indicated that although the dwellers will be placed in Altoostyd temporarily, they will make sure that they have access to all basic services and are treated fairly.

Housing Development Agency (HDA) has completed the appointment of engineers and CoGHSTA has appointed Rheiland Investments CC/QINISA Construction Gauteng PTY LTD to ensure that all operations of the project are in full swing, and will be completed within the scheduled time frame, according to Mpyatona.

AWARD-WINNING CoGHSTA, BREAKING NEW GROUNDS THROUGH INCLUSIONARY HOUSING!

Polokwane – People who earn more than R3 500 earn too much to qualify for an RDP but too little to qualify for a bond can now breathe a sigh of relief, thanks to the developments taking place at Bendor Extension 100. The project, a first of its kind in Limpopo is located at Bendor Extension 100, an upmarket suburb in Polokwane. The development is based on two sectional titles yielding 661 units. With such projects, The Department of Co - operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) is breaking new ground and on its quest to fulfill its mission of providing integrated sustainable human settlements.

The development is structured in 5 phases, with each phase comprising a number of units and collectively adds up to 661 units. These units consist of single and elevated buildings of which 198 are for rental and the rest are for sale. The project is public private partnership between CoGHSTA, Mabone Building Contractors, Living Large properties, Housing Development Agency and other relevant stakeholders.

The aim of the project is to facilitate the development of an integrated human settlement on well located land providing access to urban amenities, including places of employment whilst aiming at creating social cohesion amongst its residents.

It also aims to accommodate middle income earners who are alienated by the economical etiquette to afford town houses or bonds. These are individuals who earn too high to qualify for RDP houses and less to qualify for a bond, with salaries that hover between R1500 and R15000.

There are already 200 units sold and the bonds which have been approved. CoGHSTA and Polokwane Municipality have also identified a further 5000 qualifying applicants who are on



Show-stopper house: (From L-R) Mr. Aqeel Rhentula from Mabone Legal Team, MEC Mme Makoma Makhurupetje, Polokwane Local Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr Thembi Nkadameng and Provincial Manager of NHBRC Ms. Nurse Chavalala,

the list. Currently 19 units have been fully completed and ready for occupation and 15 units in process of completion.

The Department has already spent around R58 million on lands, roads, sewages and other services. This effort by CoGHSTA is in line with the national Department of Human Settlements strategy for the 2014 to 2019 medium term strategic frame work that focuses on policy and funding reforms that seek to achieve 1.4 million new housing opportunities; better spatial planning; better resource allocation; ensuring that poor households have adequate housing in better living environments and supporting the development of a functional and equitable residential market. It also points to the relevant direction of the department gearing up to deliver 80 000 housing units by 2019. This is indeed the process of producing a good history and story to tell in future.

According to MEC for CoGHSTA, Mme Makoma Makhurupetje, "we want a province

where all of our people have access to basic services and all other amenities in the proximity. I also want to make it clear that we will place the most vulnerable members of our society high on our priority list when we allocate houses," she said.



THE UP-MARKET SUBURBS TO BETTER THE LIVES OF ORDINARY CITIZENS



GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO BRING SERVICES CLOSER TO THE PEOPLE

Moletjie -The people of Moletjie and surrounding areas will no longer have to go to Polokwane to access basic government services. This is all thanks to the newly built Tribal Offices situated at Moletji (Moshate). These offices were built by the Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure in partnership with the Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements & Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA). The brand new offices were handed over by Premier Stan Mathabatha on Friday, 29 April 2016 at Moletji village, Polokwane Municipality. Kgoshi Kgabo Moloto III thanked the government for the offices and said they will really assist the community. Speaking during the event, Premier Stan Mathabatha said: "We are doing this because as I have said during the Opening of the House of Traditional Leaders Chapter 12 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa enjoins this democratic government to recognize and support the institution of traditional leadership. On the other hand, the Traditional Leadership and Governance Framework Act of 2003, provides a mechanism for this support and, more importantly, the role of traditional leaders in society".

Ntona Mmakwena Manamela (67), a pensioner from Moletjie, Ga-Ggorosi village was very happy with the offices provided. "Now that

the offices have come closer, we no longer have to travel long distances to get access to services and costs of traveling to town will be cut", said Manamela

- Mathabatha also highlighted some of the support the government has provided to Traditional Leaders since 1994 which includes, the;
- Establishment of the Department responsible for Traditional Leaders – National and Provincial.
- Establishment of the Houses of Traditional Leaders – National, Provincial and Local the
- Construction of Traditional Authority Offices (work in progress).
- Appointment of staff to assist Traditional Council administratively – 5 officials per Mošate – all 183 of them and
- Establishment of a Commission to resolve Traditional
- Leadership disputes and claims

The Premier also launched Thusang Service Centre where various departments and agencies will render services. The Centre will promote access to services in line with Batho Pele Principles.

LIMPOPO TRADITIONAL LEADERS ENLIGHTENED ON ECONOMIC ISSUES DURING THE SEMINAR



Participants who attended the Seminar listening attentively to Kgoshi Dikgale

Issues pertaining to developing the economy of the province were the order of the day when the Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET) held a seminar with traditional leaders on 14 June 2016.

The Seminar that took place at Tiveka Game Lodge did not only have Traditional Leaders within the province present but representatives from different departments such as Agriculture and Rural Development and Land Reforms as well.

Welcoming attendees, MEC for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) Mme Makoma Makhurupetje said that she was grateful that the Department of Economic Development,

Environment and Tourism hosted such an event specifically with traditional leaders.

"LEDET is best placed to address the economic challenges of the province and with constant consultation with traditional leaders can assist with growing the economy of the province with regards to agriculture, arts and culture, mining, safety and etc," she said.

Adding that, CoGHSTA and LEDET value the role of traditional leaders in the administration of land and these kinds of workshops will strengthen the relations between traditional leaders and involved departments.

Chairperson of the Provincial House of Traditional Leaders, Kgoshi Malesela Dikgale expressed what a humbling experience it was to be part of the seminar with traditional



leaders.

"We hope that the seminar will address issues such the issuing of liquor licences and the absence of game rangers which has led to trespassers destroying the natural vegetation in some areas in the province," he stressed.

MEC for LEDET, Mr Seaparo Sekoati said that Limpopo is 87% rural and as a department, we found it befitting that we host this seminar to consult traditional leaders as they are the heads of rural communities on how we can develop the province.

He then made a presentation on the state of the provinces economy, highlighting policy concerns, government's strategic goals, agriculture, tourism, the state of roads in the province, mining, tourism in the province.



The MEC for Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, Mr Seaparo Sekoati spoke on behalf of the Premier.

Chairperson of the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders, Kgoshi Malesela Dikgale speaking during the inauguration.

The newly installed Kgoshi Makgati Bishop Malatji with Mr Seabert Malatji (member of the Malatjie Royal Family).

LIMPOPO AIMS FOR A ZERO DEATH INITIATION SEASON

As the Limpopo province prepares to enrol Initiates at respective and approved initiation Schools, the Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs recently hosted a Media Briefing Session to engage media houses on its readiness for the 2016 initiation season.

Scheduled to commence from the 18 June 2016 to 17 July 2016, House of Traditional Leaders Chairperson, Kgoshi Malesela Dikgale highlighted that this season, the department together with the House of Traditional Leaders aims for a zero death initiation season.

"The emphasis of initiates conducting pre-medical examinations by the House of Traditional Leaders this season will greatly

assist schools in achieving a zero death rate at initiation schools," said the chairperson.

Kgoshi Malesela Dikgale also said that a total of 325 initiation schools were approved, 89 in Capricorn, 53 in Mopani, 118 in Sekhukhune, 44 in Waterberg and 21 in Vhembe districts.

"Illegally operated initiation schools will be investigated, shut down with immediate effect and ultimately fined," he cautioned.

Addressing the issue of illegally operated initiation schools in villages, Kgoshi Eric Chauke, who is the Deputy Chairperson of the Provincial House of Traditional Leaders stressed on how parents should each year ensure that they enrol initiates at listed approved initiation schools by the department and Provincial House of

Traditional Leaders.

Kgoshi Solly Sekororo, attended to queries relating to the start of the initiation season affecting the initiates' performance at school. He assured that the opening of initiation schools will not affect the initiates' school work as the Department of Education has permitted pupils scheduled to go to initiation schools to be released.

"The initiation schools programme is scheduled in such a way that will not disrupt or clash with the initiates' academic calendar. Through consultation with the Limpopo Department of Education, we were granted permission to go ahead with the initiation programme as most pupils are usually done with their exams a week before the school calendar closes," he concluded.

KGOŠI MALATJI INAUGURATED AS SENIOR TRADITIONAL LEADER FOR GA-SELWANA

Ga-Selwana- Scores of people from Ga Selwana and surrounding villages attended the inauguration ceremony of Kgoshi Bishop Malatji held on Saturday, 14 May 2016.

Speaking on behalf of the Premier, MEC for Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, Mr Seaparo Sekoati congratulated Malatji and said Kgoshi Malatji takes the throne at the time when government has identified rural development and growing rural economies as the key to completing the task of a better life for all. "This needs the active participation of Traditional Leaders because theirs is a sphere that is closer to the people that can play an important role in ensuring that the triple challenges of poverty, inequality and

unemployment are addressed", said MEC Sekwati.

Sekoati continued to say that for communities to develop, government needs to work hand-in-glove with Traditional Leaders. "When one pays a closer look around Ga Selwana - one sees a community that still needs more development at their door step. Like most of our communities in the province, Ga-Selwana also deserves better roads infrastructure and other developmental projects to catapult it to new heights. This community like most rural communities deserve better and healthy living conditions. It cannot be business as usual when we see Sanitary Pads and children's diapers sprawling all over the place, posing health risk to the community. We are aware of the growing number of households in this area which need the provision of

sanitation. Most worrying are the social problems in this area which include the high number of underage drinking by the youth which threatens the future of our nation", he said.

Sekoati said it is up to Kgoshi, working together with the Traditional Council, the Ward Councillor and the Ward Committee to implement and complete developmental projects that have been identified for the community of Ga - Selwana.

The Chairperson of the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders, Kgoshi Malesela Dikgale said Traditional Leaders play a vital role in communities and as long as traditional leaders continue working with government, there will be improvement as far as the delivery of services is concerned.

TRADITIONAL LEADERS ARE THE BACKBONE- SAYS PREMIER STANLEY MATHABATHA



From Right: Limpopo Premier Stanley Mathabatha, Cogtha Deputy Minister Abed Bapela, Cogtha MEC Mme Makoma Makhurupetje, Kgoshi Mahlangu S.E, Kgoshi Moloto K.S and Kgoshi Mogashwa at the official opening of the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders

Marapong - Premier Stan Mathabatha, accompanied by MEC for CoGHSTA, Mme Makoma Makhurupetje officially opened the Limpopo House of Traditional Leadership on Friday, 22 April 2016 at Marapong Village, Lephalale Municipality. The event saw traditional leaders from all corners of Limpopo attend.

The Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders has been established in terms of the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders Act, Act 5 of 2005. The main function of the House is to advise Government and the Legislature on matters related to custom, tradition and culture including developmental initiatives that have an impact on rural communities.

The Chairperson of the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders, Kgoshi Malesela Dikgale

said that people need to know more about the importance of traditional leaders. He said traditional leaders need to be celebrated as they play an important role in communities. Delivering the keynote address, Premier Mathabatha said the role played by traditional leaders cannot be ignored as they are the backbone of democracy and they must be respected. He also said government will keep on working together with traditional leaders as this partnership will yield positive results in developing communities. "Similarly, the participation of traditional leaders in local governance is very critical. It adds the necessary and required value to the socio-economic developmental agenda of our government. Anglo Platinum has appointed the Development Bank of Southern Africa to train

all 183 Senior Traditional Leaders in the Province on a programme called Visionary Leaders. To date 43 Senior Traditional Leaders have been trained and we are looking forward to others being trained in the near future", said Premier Mathabatha.

Mathabatha went further to say he has noted with dismay a trend where affected traditional leaders write threatening letters to his office to resolve their cases, or appoint so and so or else. Premier Mathabatha further wished "to call on our leaders to desist from such acts because a commission has been appointed for this purpose. The trend of entitlement where we even club up certain members of the community to rally around us and destabilize the governance of municipalities and our communities will not help us at the end".



A MOST NEEDED HOME COMES IN HANDY FOR THE MALAPELA FAMILY DURING THE RECENT EXCO HELD AT SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT

The Malapela family was all smiles when MEC for the Limpopo Department of Co-operative Governance Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs' (CoGHSTA) hand over the most needed home during each Executive Council's (EXCO) outreach programme held on 03 June 2016, in Mmakgatle, Ephraim Mogale Municipality in Sekhukhune District. The child headed family of 3 aged, 23, 21 and 13 respectively, lost their mother in 2010 and have been residing in a shack. During the handing over of the house, Makhurupetje assured villagers that the

department will continuously work towards providing housing that they will be proud of. "If our services of providing housing have not reached you yet, rest assured that they will in due time," she said. She further pleaded with villagers to support and provide the Malapela family with guidance as they are still young to stand on their own. The eldest of the 3 siblings, Mr Thabang Malapela expressed his gratitude to the department for granting him and his younger brother and sister a fully furnished house. "I am grateful for the house we have been

allocated. This goes to show that our government does prioritise our needs after all and we can now say we have a home we are proud of," he alluded. The second eldest sibling, Mr Godfrey Malapela shared the same sentiments as his brother, adding that living in a shack was not ideal as they did not have separate rooms. "Now that we not only have a house but a fully furnished house, we can have separate rooms from our little sister and aunt. We only have the Department of CoGHTSA, under the African National Congress to thank," he said.



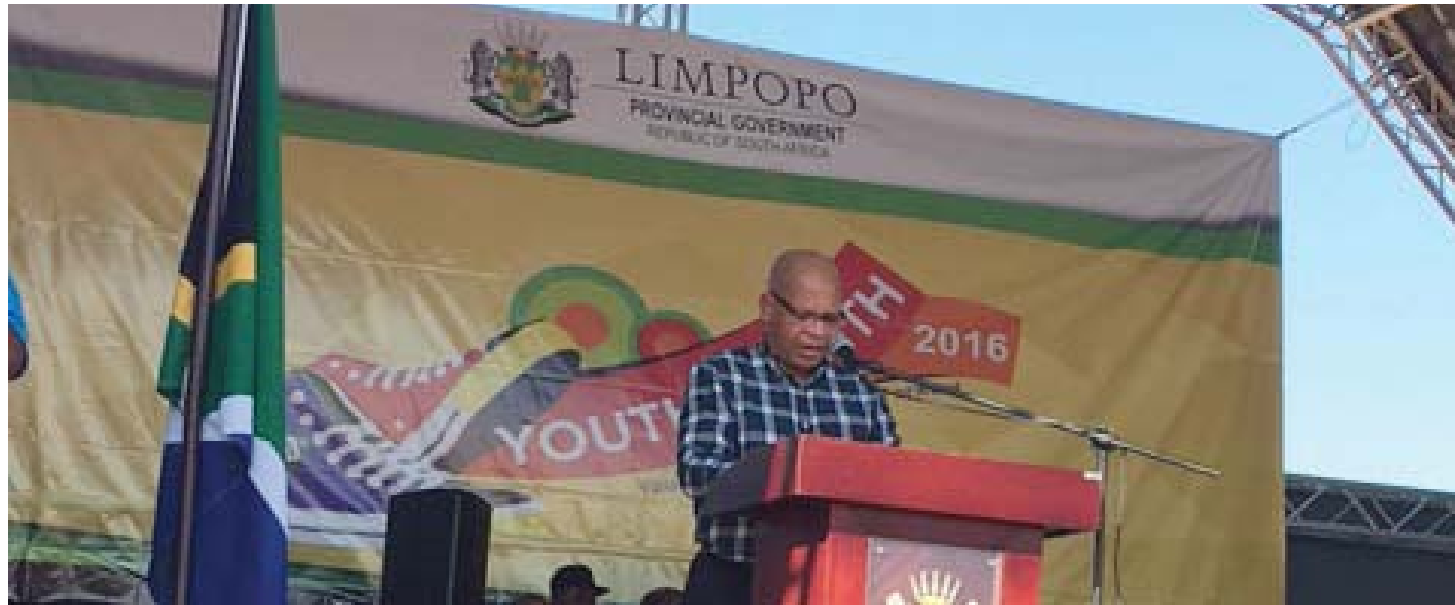
Before



After

LIMPOPO GOVERNMENT

TAKES YOUTH DAY COMMEMORATION TO TUBATSE



Premier Talks to young People



There were different Artists taking part to entertaining the youth

The extremely hot weather conditions in Riba Cross village (Sekhukhune District) on 16 June 2016 did not stop community members from celebrating Youth Day at Lehlaba Sports Ground.

Hosted by the Limpopo Office of the Premier, the Youth Day commemoration afforded attendees the opportunity to mingle with some

of their favourite local artists and television characters while commemorating the lives that were lost during the 1976 uprising such as Hector Peterson, Hastings Ndlovu to name but a few.

Addressing the attendees, Premier of the province Mr Stanley Mathabatha gave a brief history on the events of June 16 in 1976 and

said that the purpose of the event was not only to celebrate the youth of 1976, but also reflect on their struggle.

"As a youth of today, we should use this day to reflect on the struggles of the youth of 1976 and look at the possibilities that their struggles have provided for our generation," he expressed.

COGHSTA WELCOMES 130

INTERNS FOR 2016/17



By: Shoba Matloga and Shitshembiso Mabunda

The Department of Co-operative Governance Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) welcomed a total number of 130 interns for the financial year 2016/17. The interns are placed at different sections within the Department and have entered into a 12 months contract. Andries Letsoalo, one of this year's intakes, is excited to be part of the team and wants to learn as much as he can. He holds a Diploma in Public Management from Tshwane University of Technology and has been placed at Strategic Management SBU. "I recall the day I received the call that I have been selected to take part in this year's internship programme, I was at a loss for words. This is such a great opportunity. I am looking forward to learning more on his field of study and gaining experience by the end of this internship". He confessed.

Kefilwe Nkgapele (28) from ga Mamabolo Village has a Bachelor's Degree in Administration from the University of Limpopo and has been placed at Human Settlements. "I was very excited when I received a call to inform me I have been appointed, I believe I will

finally have a peace of mind. This internship programme, especially the experience I will gain will assist me find a permanent post in the near future". She said.

According to Deputy Director for Internships and Learnerships in the Department, Ms Mabore Tjale, the Internship Programme is aimed at giving practical work experience for young people who have graduated from Universities, TVET's and Colleges to complement their theoretical knowledge that is attained from the Tertiary institutions.

The programme aims to:

- Provide an opportunity for Interns to use the workplace as an active learning environment.
- Provide opportunities for new intake with a view to acquire skills that would make them marketable and employable.
- Assist students to obtain required practical experience in order to complete their qualifications.
- Provide the Department with an opportunity to compile a database of prospective employees for future recruitment purpose.



SERVICE DELIVERY IN PICTURES



"We are the best": - Acting HOD: Mr Gregory Makoko, Mr Rogers Monama (Chief Director) and Mr Gerson Molapisane (Director) during the PMR Awards Ceremony at Bolivia Lodge.



Delegates who attended the MEC and Mayor meeting



MEC Mme Makoma Makhurupetje with the newly installed Hosi Mashila Castro Mathevula VI



From left to right: The Mayor of Waterberg District Municipality, Cllr Rosina Mogotlane, Deputy Minister of Human Settlements, Ms Zou Kota-Fredericks, MEC for CoGHSTA, Mme Makoma Makhurupetje during the sod turning and launch of the Women's Build Project



CoGHSTA scooped two awards, for Best Department in Accelerating Service Delivery and Best Department in Giving Best Service to the public.



Left to right Mr. Popela Coffat Maake (Deputy Chairperson), Prof. Muxe Nkondo (Chairperson of the Board), Ms. Mokgadi Mothapo (Member of Housing Advisory and Rental Tribunal) and Mr. Hans Mamabolo (Attorney and member of Housing Advisory).



Human Settlement Project in Polokwane