



## CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS AND ICT

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### MEDIA STATEMENT

**To : All Editors and Journalists**

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#### **Department's housing programme benefits three (3) families in Rustenburg.**

The North West Department of Human Settlements through its informal settlement upgrading programme and the revitalisation of distressed mining towns is moving with speed to improve the living conditions of communities staying around the mining areas within the Rustenburg Local Municipality, by providing them with decent housing.

During the recent Provincial Government's Accelerated Service Delivery Programme, Thuntsha Lerole, North West Acting Premier and MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Patrick Dumile Nono Maloyi visited the area to assess progress on the Bokamoso Housing Development Project and also to officially hand over the houses which are ready for occupation to three (3) families who were previously staying in informal settlements around Rustenburg.

Bokamoso project started in 2019 on the land that was donated by Rustenburg Local Municipality. The department then, installed 1600 internal services before the project kicked-off. The department appointed four Developers for the construction of 320 houses. The challenges that led to the project to delay was mainly the local forums that demanded 30% of the budget allocated for the project. The Department had to intervene and explained that the 30% budget allocation was for the benefit of the whole community as well as to employ skilled and local labour and also buying of building material locally.

The 48 year old Nopinkie Ralgane was excited to officially receive her house. She comes from Eastern Cape and is currently unemployed. She lives with her two children who both receive child support grant from government. "I came here looking for a job and I was renting a shack. Since building is expensive, I am proud of the house the department has built for me and my children," said Ralgane.

Another beneficiary is Malekhanye Nyushmani, a 36 year old man who lives with his wife and two daughters. He said he feels safe now that he has a home. "I stayed in a shack for a long time and there was no privacy as I have children. I would like to thank the department for my house, I am grateful," said Nyushmani.

Handing over the houses, Acting Premier Maloyi urged the beneficiaries and others who have already benefited from the human settlements programs to treasure those properties. Acting premier Maloyi called on those who rent the house to foreign nationals to refrain from doing so as it is illegal and retards government's initiative of building sustainable human settlements.

Moreover, Acting Premier Maloyi also handed over ten (10) Title Deeds to beneficiaries at the community feedback session. The Department has a total of 427 Title Deeds for communities of Ramotshana, Rustenburg Ext 26, Phatshima and Monnakato and will be issued through the Rustenburg Local Municipality. The first Title Deed recipient was the 78 year old Mannyana Morake who comes from Tlokwen and lives with her two grandchildren who are also Orphans. Only one child receives Child Support grant. "I am happy for receiving my title deeds, I have long been waiting for this moment," said Morake.

Rapula Josaeya could not contain his emotions when he was awarded his Title Deed, he lives with his wife, six children and three grandchildren." It's over twenty years now since I have been living in Ramotshana and I originally come from Koffiekraal. My appreciation goes to the department because I had already lost hope that I will receive my title deed when I am still alive," said Rapula.

Maloyi pointed out that his department will ensure that the people of North West get proper and decent houses as the department is mandated to do so.

**Ends#**

**Issued by the Department of Human Settlements (North West)**

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