



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



VOTE 8

2020-21 BUDGET SPEECH



Hon. Neliswa Peggy Nkonyeni MPL
MEC: Human Settlements & Public Works

**GROWING KWAZULU-NATAL TOGETHER
THROUGH SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS**



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Vote 8:

KwaZulu-Natal Department of Human Settlements

Address to the Provincial Legislature by Honourable Neliswa Peggy Nkonyeni MPL

Member of the Executive Council, KwaZulu-Natal, on 3 June 2020

Honourable Speaker of the Provincial Legislature, N. Boyce
Honourable Premier Zikalala
Hon. Members of the Executive Council
Hon. Chairperson and members of the Human Settlements Portfolio Committee
Honourable Members of the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature
Respected Amakhosi
The Head of Department and Officials
Academia, Religious Leaders and Captains of Industry
Members of the Media
Ladies and Gentlemen
Comrades and Compatriots
May I please recognise all of you even though we are forced to be limited in number with the majority joining us online and through radio and television.

1. INTRODUCTION – GROWING KWAZULU-NATAL TOGETHER THROUGH SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Honourable Chairperson, as we mark 70 years since the passing of the Group Areas Act, we remember the words of the architect of apartheid who tried to explain its rationale: “If mixed development is to be the policy of the future of South Africa, it will lead to the most terrific clash of interests imaginable. Such a clash can only bring unhappiness and misery to both [African and White]. The only possible way out is that both adopt a development divorced from each other”.

Verwoerd's blinkers of ignorance made him devoid of vision. Fortunately, we were blessed with the informed and visionary roars of 'iBhubesi Lase Midlands' – Comrade Thembalake Harry Gwala. The wise and profound words of this great teacher and revolutionary, in harmony with the vision of other legendary leaders of this great people's movement called the African National Congress, reduced the words of Verwoerd to mere nonsensical markings in the sand in the path of a tide of change.

We are making all doomsayers turn in their graves and we are making the living ones bury their negative thoughts and unwarranted fear. The tide of change and a new wave of thinking, directed by the Manifesto of the ANC, Provincial Growth and Development Strategy and pronouncements made by His Excellency, The President of the Republic of South Africa, Cyril Ramaphosa and our Honourable Premier Sihle Zikalala in the State of the Nation and Province Addresses respectively, light our path as we align all our human settlements interventions and programmes towards “unity, socio-economic renewal and nation-building”.

Indeed, we are not building mere houses. We are establishing new towns and cities where all people live, work, pray and play together. We are providing tangible evidence of social cohesion in our developments, such as in our catalytic and social housing projects.

Honourable Chairperson, this being said, we must also note that this presentation comes in the wake of a silent force, CoViD-19, which has left society reeling on a community and global level. Our commitment to “unity, socio-economic renewal and nation-building” has not been infected by this coronavirus. Our commitment has been amplified.

This selfless commitment and sheer determination was shown by our human settlements personnel to protect our citizens by rolling out disinfection programmes and providing personal hygiene products in densely populated settlements in the Province. The Department has never focussed on short-term solutions and we can assure the House that this commitment will resonate throughout our implementation of a coordinated Programme of Action to transform human settlements into liveable and sustainable spaces.

It must be noted this Budget Speech has been crafted in conditions of COVID-19 lockdown that has seen some of the operational quarters of the financial year being lost with respect to implementation of some programmes. Furthermore, the tabling of the National Budget will affect the pronouncement of Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) figures. Therefore, Honourable Members should not be surprised when the Department comes back with revised MTSF targets.

A NEW WAVE OF DELIVERY

To address apartheid spatial planning that has continued to exist since 1994, the Province's Programme of Action is directed at the very epicenter of poverty and spatial imbalance. Spatial integration, sustainable human settlements and the alleviation of asset poverty are seen as a key to creating unity, socio-economic renewal and nation building.

In forging forward with a new wave of thinking, we are not losing sight of the basic services required by our people.

2. BUDGET TOWARDS BREAKING THE SHACKLES OF SPATIAL IMBALANCE AND CREATING LIVEABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

2.1 Honourable Chairperson, the Department consistently meets its targets and has yet again spent its full budget for the 2019/20 financial year. We are indeed proud to announce that the Department is working towards a clean audit for the third successive year on the Housing Fund and an unqualified audit for the Vote.

I am honoured to share with my fellow citizens of KwaZulu-Natal the **R3 929 897 000** allocation to the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Human Settlements for the 2020/21 financial year.

However, before I present the breakdown of this Budget towards the various Grants, Districts and Programmes, this is an opportune time for me to unpack the characteristics of “**liveable neighbourhoods**” – the type of human settlements we want to achieve.

We aim to derive maximum benefit for our citizens through a limited budget by aligning all our programmes to achieve settlements where there are:

- Compact designs (research suggests 150 people per hectare);
- Integrated networks of walkable streets (streets must be designed for walking, cycling and driving);
- Mixed land uses;
- A range of housing types (varying housing typologies);
- A range of housing opportunities and choice (e.g. rental or ownership);
- Social and economic amenities;
- Public spaces and special sites;
- Green infrastructure and smart technologies;
- Urban greening and agriculture;
- Consideration in design and management for safety and security; and
- A variety of transportation choices and the accompanied infrastructure.

RADICAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

Radical socio-economic transformation is a priority of our government. The Department uses various tools to give effect to this.

We will continue to utilise local labour and material supplied by SMMEs and cooperatives without compromising the quality of the building material. The material supply strategy is currently being finalised. This will be followed by a process of identifying suppliers in each district throughout the Province to be included on a database.

We are working with the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA), Community Education Training Centres and other stakeholders to facilitate supplier capacitation and access to market.

These SMMEs and co-operatives including those owned by youth, women, the disabled and military veterans would have acquired accredited construction skills through the EPWP Skills Development Programme.

Through the Siyakha Incubation Programme, we have actioned the incubation of 100 CIDB Level 1 construction companies drawn from all districts. This is achieved through the provision of training and business skills development programmes as well as allocation of construction work on human settlements projects.

In addition, the Department will:

- Partner with TVET Colleges and other Training Institutions for Training and Capacitation of Cooperatives and SMMEs;
- Empower and encourage participation of licensed quarry and sand miners to provide stone, sand and crusher dust for concrete and blocks;
- Facilitate transport co-operatives to transport raw materials to production centres and the finished products to destination;
- Work with various SETAs, RET institutions, cooperatives and SMMEs to establish blockyards, concrete batching plants, steel window and door frame, timber door, roof truss and roof tile manufacturing.

We are actioning the resolutions which stemmed from our interactions with stakeholders during the Youth in Construction Summit, Empowerment of Women in the Built Environment Summit and Dialogue with the Disability Sector. The Department has identified two key areas for opening up opportunities for women, youth and people with disabilities, namely contractor development (incubation) and material supply programmes.

2.2 BUDGET ALLOCATION PER GRANT:

The total allocation for the Human Settlements Development Grant (HSDG) is R3,379,057. In 2020/21, R446m was ring-fenced for the upgrading of informal settlements.

Allocation		2020/21 R'000
Conditional Grant		
HSDG		3,379,057
Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP)		11,638
Title Deeds Restoration Grant		106,146
Equitable Share		433,056
TOTAL		3, 929, 897

This budget is informed by development programmes both at planning and implementation stages as agreed between the Department and certain Municipalities.

The Department is reviewing the accreditation of Municipalities according to their capacity to perform as expected. This withdrawal of developer status of Municipalities will be on a phased approach. The Department has received adverse audit findings in the past financial years largely due to the failure of Municipalities to account for procurement processes.

Honourable Members should note that eThekweni Metro receives its annual budget of R1.8bn for the Urban Settlements Development Grant (USDG) directly from the National Department of Human Settlements for the installation of services such as water and sanitation in informal settlements and other urban projects.

In addition to that the Metro receives R1bn from the Province for construction of top structures from the Human Settlements Development Grant (HSDG). They are accountable to both the National Department of Human Settlements and National Treasury for the reporting of performance and spending on the USDG. In other words, the Metro receives in excess of R3bn allocation while the Department has to share the remaining R2bn among the other ten district municipalities in the Province.

Due to budget cuts the HSDG allocation was reduced by R264m, R231m and R147m over the MTEF. The Informal Settlements Upgrading Partnership Grant (ISUPG) allocation in 2021/22 and 2022/23 was reduced by R79 m and R36 m respectively. The HSDG will be used on projects as detailed in the Annual Performance Plan (APP).

2.3 CONDITIONAL GRANT ALLOCATION PER HOUSING INTERVENTIONS:

The Conditional Grant is allocated per housing intervention as follows:

Intervention	2020/21 R'000	2021/22 R'000	2022/23 R'000
Financial	508,674	394,162	379,618
Incremental	1,735,502	1,649,711	1,733,881
Social and Rental	209,740	184,425	200,000
Rural	1,042,925	949,582	990,801
Total	3,496,841	3,177,880	3,304,300

The Financial Interventions sub-programme provides for financial support to procure services relating to housing delivery. The subsidy instruments implemented include procurement of land for housing development, the operational costs for accredited municipalities, National Home Builders Registration Council (NHBC) enrolment fees, Operational Capital Budget Programme (OPSCAP) and implementation of the Anti-Land Invasion Strategy. The Department utilises 3,7% of the HSDG to fund OPSCAP amounting to R125m to procure professional services to assist in the implementation of housing projects.

2.4 CONDITIONAL GRANT ALLOCATION PER DISTRICT:

The allocation per district is influenced by population demographics, project planning readiness and increasing availability of bulk services. It also includes the ISUP, Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and Title Deeds Restoration Programme (TRP) grants.

The table below demonstrates the allocations per district:

District Municipality	2020/21 R'000	2021/22 R'000	2022/23 R'000
Amajuba	169,305	124,462	100,843
eThekwini	1,468,451	1,435,653	1,494,440
Harry Gwala	203,015	160,233	167,643
iLembe	178,735	210,630	224,325
uGu	224,294	155,012	166,213
uMgungundlovu	394,333	312,014	294,661
uMkhanyakude	129,225	78,166	138,970
uMzinyathi	178,123	62,984	59,648
uThukela	128,232	280,255	254,581
King Cetshwayo	187,092	145,471	145,873
Zululand	236,036	213,000	257,101
Total	3,496,841	3,177,880	3,304,300

2.5 EQUITABLE SHARE ALLOCATION PER PROGRAMME:

The equitable share allocation was reduced by R3 m, R8 m and R12m over the MTEF. This was part of fiscal consolidation and adjustment to compensation of employees due to revised CPI inflation projections.

Treasury's cost cutting measures were stringently implemented during the budget process resulting in the reduction in expenditure in various items relating to goods and services, machinery and equipment.

The Department stands to have a further reduction in equitable share of a possible R11,4 m to assist the R500 bn funding that was allocated for COVID-19 related costs as declared by the President. This reduction will create pressure on spending for compensation of employees as well as good and services.

Programme	2020/21 R'000
1. Administration	254,569
2. Housing Needs, Research and Planning	20,226
3. Housing Development	108,016
4. Housing Assets Management, Property Management	50,245
TOTAL BUDGET	433,056

3. “VISION WITHOUT ACTION IS A DAYDREAM”

Honourable Chairperson, when I stood in front of this House on 19 July 2019, I made several key undertakings. My purpose today is not merely to present the Budget for 2020/21 but also to report on the deliverables. This Sixth Administration is an implementing Administration and visions are not daydreams.

“Asithembisi singenzi!”

A summary of our delivery in 2019/20 is as follows:

- 5,806 serviced sites;
- 15,516 units;
- 4,386 work opportunities; and
- 4, 469 title deeds

The table below reflects delivery per subsidy instrument:

Human Settlements Programme	Other	Sites	Units
Integrated Residential Development Programme		4,096	926
Informal Settlement Upgrading		1,710	1,097
Housing Finance Linked Individual Subsidies [R3,501 - R15,000]			401
People's Housing Process			2,111
Emergency Housing Assistance (OSS)			1,095
Rural Housing: Communal Land Rights			9,874
Military Veterans			12
Rectification And Refurbishment	1,515		
Number Of Title Deeds Issued	4,469		
Maintenance	1,133		
Total	7,117	5,806	15,516
Total Housing Opportunities			28,439

Last year, I emphasized our commitment to providing access to well-located and desirable land and the upgrading of informal settlements. I am pleased to announce that we have acquired a total of 174 hectares of land in the 2019-20 financial year for housing development. Under the upgrading of informal settlements programmes, the Department has delivered a total of 4134 houses in the last financial year.

The Honorable Premier announced the gazetting of six Priority Housing Development Areas in eThekweni, Ilembe, uMgungundlovu and King Cetshwayo. The Priority Human Settlements Development Areas are underpinned by the principles of the National Development Plan (NDP). They are intended to advance Human Settlements Spatial Transformation and Consolidation by ensuring that the delivery of housing is used to restructure and revitalise towns and cities, strengthen the livelihood prospects of households and overcome apartheid spatial patterns by fostering integrated urban forms.

Further to the Premier's announcement, the Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation declared an additional 16 Priority Human Settlements and Housing Development Areas in KwaZulu-Natal.

VISION GOING FORWARD

We are confronted by several challenges which compels us to think creatively. Inadequate bulk infrastructure and an increasing backlog to upgrade informal settlements has not deterred us.

Compounding the challenges of eradicating informal settlements are beneficiaries who after being permanently relocated to formal houses often call their relatives to occupy their informal dwellings.

We have identified 745 informal settlements for upgrading across the Province with the majority in eThekweni Metro (524). Eighty-one informal settlements in six districts namely, Harry Gwala, ILembe, Zululand, UGu, uMgungundlovu and uThukela are currently receiving attention. The remainder of the informal settlements will be attended to in the next MTSF period.

The eradication of transit camps in eThekweni remains a priority as announced by the Premier. This requires a collaborative effort from government and civil society. As a short term intervention, a number of infill sites have been identified to relocate some of the families in transit camps. These are in areas such as Quarry Heights, Kingsburgh and Craigieburn. The necessary studies are being undertaken in these areas to allow for the design and construction of houses.

The enforcement of by-laws will play a critical role in ensuring that where we have relocated people to permanent houses, the transit camps will be demolished to avoid them being invaded by new occupants.

This outcome can only be achieved through collaborative efforts via the District Development Model. In the main and by its very nature, human settlements delivery is district-oriented. Our senior managers participate in district structures to effect efficient service delivery.

Honourable Chairperson, you will be aware that the Department is currently busy sanitizing all informal settlements under the COVID-19 precautions.

SOCIAL HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL UNITS

We are upscaling the delivery of **Social Housing** in order to meet the increasing demand for rental housing in urban areas. Social Housing is a programme for beneficiaries earning R3 500 – R15 000 which does not provide an ownership option. It can only be implemented in designated and gazetted Provincial Restructuring Zones. In KwaZulu-Natal, there are 34 designated Restructuring Zones located across seven municipalities.

Social Housing is provided by accredited Social Housing Institutions (SHIs) as well as Other Delivery Agents (ODAs) under the Social Housing Act, 2008 (No. 16 of 2008) in partnership with government.

For social housing to be sustainable, it is crucial that tenants make their monthly rental payments.

In efforts to increase the number of social housing delivery entities in the province during 2019/2020, the Department held social housing information sessions in all districts across the Province.

I placed on record our intention to introduce and develop at least three African Social Housing Institutions (SHI's) that will be accredited by the Social Housing Regulatory Authority (SHRA). I am pleased to report that five African SHI's from KwaZulu-Natal were accredited in the 2019/20 financial year.

We will endeavor to make a significant contribution to the President's national target of 37,000 rental units. To this end, I approved a Social Housing 5-Year Plan in 2019/20 which will see the province deliver over 15 000 social housing units over the next 5 years. Six (6) sites in eThekweni Municipality comprising 1, 246 units have already been allocated to SHIs for development under the Inner City Regeneration Catalytic Project. The Bridge City Social Housing Project in eThekweni and Hospital Street Social Housing Project in Newcastle are ready to go to construction with 200 units set to be completed in 2020/21. The total yield from these 2 projects is 2,186 units. As part of the Social Housing Programme, we saw the completion of the Hampton's Social Housing Project in eThekweni Municipality, which will see 432 tenants benefitting from the rental option.

Under the Community Residential Units (CRUs) programme (which caters for the refurbishment of existing hostels as well as provision of new rental accommodation to beneficiaries earning between R800 to R3500 per month), 400 new CRUs will be delivered in 2020/21. These will be from the N11 CRU Project in Newcastle Municipality, Kokstad CRU Project in Kokstad Municipality, Jika Joe CRU Project in Msunduzi Municipality and Ubuhlebethu CRU Project in Ubuhlebezwe Municipality.

The Department has engaged in a consultative process with various stakeholders including municipalities in order to turn around the circumstances surrounding KZN Community Residential Units (Hostels). As a result, a provincial 20-Year Hostels Strategy was approved in 2019/20. This strategy aims to guide the process of upgrading, maintaining Community Residential Units located across the KwaZulu Natal Province through a more comprehensive approach that incorporates the plan to address social-related challenges, infrastructural, construction and maintenance needs per hostel.

In rolling out this strategy, the Department together with municipalities, will be embarking on the following projects in 2020/21 current financial year:

- The conversion of the Nhlalakahle Hostel in Umvoti to 336 CRUs
- Completion of 48 new CRUs in Umlazi T Hostel in eThekweni Municipality
- Commencement of the construction of 68 new CRUs in Thokoza Hostel in eThekweni Municipality.

CATALYTIC PROJECTS

Vulindlela Enhanced People's Housing Project (EPHP) in Msunduzi Local Municipality is nearing completion. Only 345 units are remaining in this 25,000 unit project. As indicated by the Honourable Premier, 1,713 workers were employed during construction. I can indicate further that, of these, 51 were in slab construction and 106 in wall plate construction. This project opened up much-needed local business opportunities in terms of material supplies, sub-contracts, transportation etc.

Through the Vulindlela Project, community members have acquired skills to manufacture their own building blocks, doors and windows. There are local co-operatives (one in each ward) that have undertaken the construction of slabs, wall plates, roof complete and transportation materials to construction sites.

A Skills Audit of all the cooperatives on the project is being undertaken to assist the Department to ascertain the training required for the cooperatives in order for them to graduate and enter into the mainstream construction line.

Yet another testimonial of the Province setting the pace is the implementation of catalytic projects. The progress on the 8 catalytic projects is as follows:

Project	Total yield (units)	Progress
Cornubia [eThekweni]	28,000	<p>Cornubia Phase 1A (482 units)- All services and units have been complete. 452 Transfers have been done to date.</p> <p>Cornubia Phase 1B (2180 units)- All services and units have been completed. 500 Transfers have been done.</p> <p>Cornubia Phase 2 A (3291 units)-Project in Planning Stage. Funding approved for Stage 2, installation of services for 875 sites. Awaiting civil contractor appointment.</p> <p>Cornubia Phases 2B-2D-feasibility stage.</p>
eThekweni Inner City	8,387	<p>Feasibility/Planning is complete on all identified sites, with some statutory approvals still pending.. A few Social Housing Institutions(Implementing Agents) have been appointed-awaiting finalising of appointed of all SHI's.</p>
KwaMashu Bridge City Urban Hub [eThekweni]	27,875	<p>The municipality has allocated sites to accredited social housing companies for the planning, design and development of 1,000 rental and GAP housing units.</p> <p>The private sector has bought land in the bridge city precinct for the development of approximately 2,000 private/gap market housing.</p>
uMlazi Urban Regeneration [eThekweni]	12,000	<p>9,152 units have been built to date.</p> <p>11,000 units have basic interim services.</p>

		6,000 sites in planning stage of which 2000 sites and units will be delivered over the MTSF period.
Amaoti Greater Housing Project [eThekweni]	20,000	Detailed planning activities are underway for development of the area. All Professionals have been appointed.
Johnston Blaaubosch Cavan(JBC) [Newcastle-Amajuba]	10,018	<u>Phase 1 (2,518 sites)</u> Planning activities have been completed. <u>Phase 2 (7,500 sites)</u> The contractor to install bulk water has been appointed and is currently on site. Site establishment has been completed. SPLUMA Application has been submitted but awaits approval.
Hyde Park [KwaDukuza-Ilembe]	4,600	Statutory Planning approvals pending
Empangeni [City of uMhlatuze]	10,000	Empangeni Phase 1(1745 units)- 1648 sites have been connected to infrastructure services to date. Empangeni Phase 2(8485 units)- Project is currently in Planning Stage. Contract to install bulk services was signed by all parties. To commence in 2020/21

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC AMENITIES

In partnership with municipalities through the District Development Model, the Department creates places where people can live, work and play through the establishment of social and economic amenities. Projects include the construction of community halls and sports fields.

SERVICED SITES

The Serviced Sites Programme, which caters for people who want to build their own homes, is currently being rolled out in Inkosi Langalibalele and Umhlathuze municipalities in the 2020-21 financial year. The overall programme is over five years. We are finalizing allocations policy for the release of sites to qualifying individuals.

Beneficiaries of the Programme must be able to sustain ownership and must commit to building a habitable dwelling as approved by the Municipality and the NHBRC on the allocated site within a period of five years. The spread of the 14,920 serviced sites are across ten local municipalities in the Province.

RURAL INTERVENTIONS

The Department is committed to improving the quality of life of our rural citizens especially bearing in mind that KZN is predominantly a rural province.

The Department has targeted to deliver 22367 rural houses over the MTEF period. In the last financial year, 9874 houses were delivered and 7817 is targeted for the current year.

Rural interventions also include housing assistance to farm residents. The Farm Residents Housing Assistance Programme attempts to address the wide variety of housing needs of people working and residing on farms by providing a flexible package of housing models to suit the local context. Planning activities for the farmworkers/residents living in Ekujabuleni, Ebuhleni and Rosetta within Mpofana Municipality has commenced.

BREAKING NEW GROUND

Honourable Chairperson, I remember the words of Mother Theresa as I perform my duties as part of a caring government: “We think sometimes that poverty is only being hungry, naked and homeless. The poverty of being unwanted, unloved and uncared for is the greatest poverty”.

The Department has delivered 5642 Breaking New Ground (BNG) housing units across the Province in 2019/20. The main beneficiaries being the poorest of the poor, women-headed and child-headed households.

In line with the resolutions of the summit with disabled people, currently, 2,900 people with disabilities were identified for priority housing.

EMERGENCY HOUSING

Emergency Housing Assistance remains a key area of urgent intervention for destitute families identified through Operation Sukuma Sakhe Programme. The Department is working hard to address the backlog on OSS interventions and further progress will be realised in this financial year as there are now seventeen contractors/service providers in the departmental database responsible for OSS interventions in the province.

Another critical area of urgent intervention on emergency housing assistance is related to disaster. Over the past decade, the Province has been affected by disasters that have left families homeless when their houses were totally destroyed or partially destroyed. The construction of temporary units for those families have assisted a great deal. The tornado disaster in Mpolweni in uMshwathi Municipality within uMgungundlovu District in November 2019 where close to 200 families had their houses totally destroyed and temporary houses were built within two months, and more than 500 families were supplied by building material to repair their houses is a good example.

EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME (EPWP)

To make a greater impact on job creation, the Department introduced the Skills Development Programme funded through the Incentive Grant of EPWP. During 2019/20 financial year a total number of 122 young people in various districts successfully completed accredited skills development training.

During 2020/21 financial year the department will continue with this programme and is planning to offer accredited training to 120 young people in various districts. Also during 2020/21 financial year the Department is targeting to create about 5000 work opportunities, through EPWP, on human settlements projects under construction.

Over the past five years, the Department has created 33,014 work opportunities. Last year alone created 4,386 work opportunities created through the Department's housing delivery projects.

INNOVATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Honourable Chairperson, I previously announced an intention to implement innovative building technologies and explore innovative technologies that address climate change, carbon emissions and greening of our human settlements.

I am pleased to announce that there is a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Higher Education, Science and Innovation being finalised where one of the areas of collaboration is innovative building technologies. A pilot project involves a 3D printed house using the expertise of the University of Johannesburg.

The Department's Product Development unit is engaged with a concept document on the greening of settlements and reducing carbon emissions. The document will be submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs and institutions that provide funding for greening initiatives. NHBRC is designing a house that adapts to climate change for the National Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation. The Product Development Unit is investigating how the design can be adapted to address the risk and vulnerability profile of the different climatic zones in the Province.

In partnership with government Departments such as the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and other entities, the Department has resuscitated the "One Home-One Garden and One Home-Two Fruit Trees" Programme to ensure food security for the beneficiaries of our projects.

CONSUMER EDUCATION

The Housing Consumer Education Programme is aimed at educating our consumers and the public at large on Human Settlement Programmes, obligations and rights. In the last financial year this programme has reached out to 13892 beneficiaries against a target of 8,000 beneficiaries.

The Department has a Housing Consumer Education Strategy that is shared with all municipalities in order to empower officials on the Departmental programmes. The strategy includes additional modules which include educating our beneficiaries on new developments on disasters and climate change and its consequences. We are linking up with our sister departments in engaging our communities. Consumer Education Topics include Covid-19, Title Deeds, Responsible Homeownership, Types of Subsidies and Qualifying Criteria and various programmes within the Department.

HUMAN CAPITAL

I am proud to announce that 59% of management members are women. We have 13 persons with disabilities employed resulting in us being 0,11 % short of the 2% target that we are committed at reaching and exceeding. We are making efforts to ensure that the target for persons with disabilities is achieved.

The Graduate Internship Programme equips unemployed graduates with the necessary skills, knowledge, values and work experiences in order to improve their chances of employment within and outside the Public Service. A total of R1,855 758.70 was spent in 2019/20 on the Graduate Internship Programme. The Department appointed another 30 interns with effect from 1 April 2020.

In addition, the Work Integrated Learning (WIL) Programme is a work experience programme for students studying at the Universities of Technology and Technical Vocational Educational Training Colleges (TVET). The duration of the work experience varies from 3 to 18 months. This is dependent on the institutions requirements. During 2019, 40 learners were part of the WIL and 33 learners have since graduated. There are

20 learners on the WIL Programme and learners are paid a stipend. A total of R550 000 was spent on this Programme.

Towards a skilled and capable workforce, 1197 were trained at a cost of R2, 511, 089 during 2019/2020 and this includes all training programmes. The Department will be reviewing the training policy to conform to the social distancing policy of the Department by including online training programmes.

TITLE DEEDS

Even though the beneficiary verification process does take time the commitment by national, provincial and local government towards fast-tracking the issuing of title deeds in the province, the Department has seen a total of 38,174 title deeds being issued in the Province from the 2011/12 financial year to date. In 2019/20 the Department delivered the total of 4,469 title deeds.

Challenges in the issuing of title deeds include projects implemented without following proper planning process and land-legal matters. There was also a delay in eThekweni Metro and Msunduzi Municipality with the issuing of Section 28.1 certificates confirming compliance of services to design principles. Another major challenge is the illegal occupation of houses and inability to trace the approved beneficiaries (missing beneficiaries) as well as disputes regarding the ownership of houses.

Housing Development Agency has been tasked by the Department to assist in resolving the issues around town planning and the issuing of the Section 28.1 Certificates. To date the issues around of Section 28.1 has been resolved for the total of 30 projects in Ethekwini Metro. The Dispute Resolution Committees have been established in various municipalities to resolve ownership disputes.

4. COMMITMENTS TOWARDS SPATIAL INTEGRATION AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS – “ACTION WITHOUT VISION IS A NIGHTMARE”

Honourable Chairperson, the current economic climate compels us to “do more with less”.

To quantify the impact of budget constraints, the total budget cut of R1,480,844,000 from 2014/15 to 2019/20 could have built an additional 11,000 units. A further reduction of 4,816 units in the 2020/21 financial year warrants the Department to adopt and action a new wave of thinking.

This approach is also informed by our citizens' needs to build their own homes and be empowered in the process. In the main, we aim to derive maximum benefit for our citizens from the limited budget allocation.

Heeding the calls from His Excellency our President and our Honourable Premier, through the SONA and the SOPA, respectively, we will focus on Priority Human Settlements Development Areas, catalytic projects, upgrading of informal settlements, eradicating the title deed backlog; social housing and student accommodation to gain maximum yield.

4.1 SUMMARY OF DELIVERABLES FOR 2020/21

Further to the deliverables pronounced by the Honourable Premier and to be achieved by March 2021, I add the following:

- 2 projects in planning stage for farm residents;
- 15,166 pre-1994 title deeds will be issued; and
- 42,585 post-1994 title deeds will be issued;

The deliverables are reiterated as follows:

- 13,130 fully subsidized housing units (Integrated Residential Development Projects (IRDP); Rural; etc.) will be provided to qualifying households throughout the Province;
- 5,138 sites will be serviced in greenfield projects;
- 6 of the 45 Transit camps remaining in eThekweni will be eradicated;
- 16 informal settlements in KZN will be upgraded for Stage 3 implementation;
- 200 social/rental housing units will be completed;

- 400 community residential housing units will be delivered;
- 330 FLISP opportunities will be created; and
- 62 Military Veterans houses will be delivered utilizing both Military Veterans and private contractors.

5. CONCLUSION

Madam Speaker, the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Human Settlements is on track. We are setting high standards because our people have high expectations. The call for liveable and sustainable human settlements has been amplified by the CoViD-19 outbreak. Our staff have been hard at work even during the lockdown ensuring that our strategic intent is not clouded by the pandemic. As most of our staff return to their workstations in a phased manner, and in compliance with all health and safety regulations that ensures the safety of themselves and our clients, we will continue to work tirelessly and with conviction because our people deserve better.

My humble gratitude goes to the African National Congress for the unwavering support we always enjoy from the Leadership and Branch members as deployees in various sites of the struggle. Comrades we are not perfect, we will falter somehow but we always draw our strength from knowing that we have your support and encouragement.

My sincere gratitude goes to the Chairperson and Members of the Portfolio Committee for their guidance and counsel we always receive.

My utmost thanks must go to the dedicated and hands-on Head of Department, Mr M.O.S. Zungu who was appointed in October 2019. I also appreciate the support of a loyal and committed staff in the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Human Settlements, an engine-room on course towards spatial integration and sustainable human settlements, with 59% women at its helm.

I also wish to thank my family especially my grandchildren and grand-grandchildren who always amuse me even during depressing moments.

SITHUTHUKISA IKWAZULU-NATALI NDAWONYE!

UMUNTU NGUMUNTU NGEKHAYA. Thank you. Ngiyabonga!



CURBING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND SPREADING THE DELIVERY BUDGET TO GROW KWAZULU-NATAL TOGETHER!