



GOVAN MBEKI AWARDS 2014

Showcasing Excellence, Best Practices and Healthy Competition Amongst Provinces

Tenacious spirit of "Oom Gov" celebrated at housing awards

The Govan Mbeki Awards is a gathering of people whose interest it is to tirelessly serve South Africa to ensure that each and every one of her citizens lives in security and comfort.

It is a meeting of people whose interest is to ensure that all her citizens will one day have a secure home to call their own, surrounded by all amenities that are necessary for life in a middle economy such as South Africa.

Where there are amenities for the youth to keep them occupied, where every citizen understands it is their responsibility to report crime, to protect their children and be responsible to keep a clean environment.

"Where, as we give as government, citizens must understand the corollary is responsibility," said Human Settlements Minister Lindiwe Sisulu.

She urged stakeholders to join her at the Human Settlements Indaba on 25 and 26 September to review housing policy and develop a plan to deliver 1.5 million housing opportunities over the next five years.

By the end of the Indaba, stakeholders would re-commit to the Social Contract signed in 2005 as it was through working together that the sector would move South Africa forward.

The Human Settlements Minister also announced that she intends scrapping the Department's programme of rectifying defective houses that costs the state over R2 billion.

The onus was on each and every contractor to build properly or return to repair. This would allow the Department to return these resources to people who have been waiting for houses.

Next month the Department of Human Settlements would be concentrating on the housing needs of military veterans.

Minister Sisulu made a special mention of the role played by the late Epainette Mbeki in developing and uplifting her community and in supporting the work of the Department.

She also presented a Lifetime Achievement Award to the late Patrick Magebhula of the Federation of Urban Poor and democratic South Africa's founding Minister of Housing Joe Slovo.

Sisulu said the Ministry was committed to creating 1.5 million housing opportunities in the next five years.



KwaZulu-Natal which has numerous housing projects such as Lakehaven, Avoca Hills, Cornubia and Vuliindlela scooped the highest honour of being judged the Best Performing Province of South Africa.

The Annual Human Settlements Indaba

Date: 25-26 September 2014

Objectives of the Indaba

- Review progress in the implementation of the Breaking New Ground policy approved in 2004 and implemented from 2004-2014
- Identify successes and gear stakeholders towards fast-tracking of 1.5million housing opportunities within the five years
- Consult stakeholder for input on the Draft Master Spatial Plan For Human Settlements
- Signing of the Social Contract for Rapid Housing Delivery



The event paid tribute to Human Settlements Development Activist, Patrick Magebhula, who died on the 4th of August 2014. Receiving the award on his behalf was his proud son, Charles Magebhula.

South Africa's first post-apartheid Minister for Housing Joe Slovo, was also given a posthumous Lifetime Achievement Award for drawing up the blueprint that transformed South Africa's apartheid housing policies. He passed away in January 1995. Former Director-General William Cobbett who served under Minister Slovo accepted the trophy and certificate on behalf of the Slovo family.



Department of Human Settlements
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

