



co-operative governance
& traditional affairs

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Koöperatiewe Regering
en Tradisionele Sake

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MEC FOR COGTA HANDS OVER TITLE DEEDS OF OWNERSHIP TO MATSULU RESIDENTS

Several stand owners in Matsulu, outside Mbombela have obtained official ownership for their stands. MEC for Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) in Mpumalanga, Ms Refilwe Mtshweni handed over title deeds to the residents at the local stadium. More than a thousand beneficiaries benefitted from the department's support.

MEC Mtshweni told the residents that the title deeds give them proof that the sites they are occupying belong to them. She added that the title deeds seek to address draconian legislation of the past in which people were forcefully removed from their areas of occupation on the basis of their skin colour. "Our people were removed from their land through the Land Act of 1913 and the Group Areas Act. When the democratically elected ANC-led government took over, it sought to give effect to the Land Tenure Act of 1991 by providing the evictees ownership of their occupied stands as proof of ownership," Ms Mtshweni explained.

With the title deeds, the beneficiaries, according to Ms Mtshweni can change their course of lives economically. "You now have proof of ownership where it may be required. You can apply for financial support and other social amenities," she explained. She was accompanied by MEC for Roads, Public Works and Transport, Ms Dumisile Nhlengethwa and Mbombela Municipal councillors.

Residents in Matsulu were the latest to benefit from the department's initiative. MEC Mtshweni handed over title deeds in Dundonald in Chief Albert Luthuli Municipality and Boekenhoutbek in Thembisile Hani Municipality. On Friday, beneficiaries in Sivukile near Standerton will receive their title deeds.

End.

Issued by the Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs

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