



# TaseKhaya

April - June 2007 - Issue N° 1

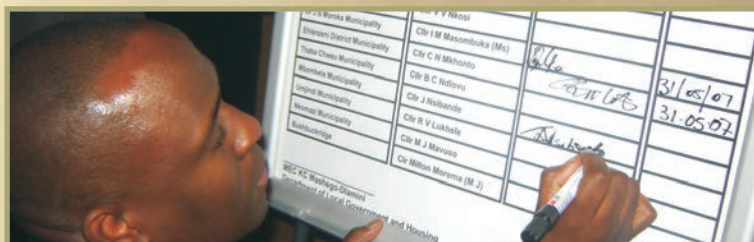
## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- ∞ **The 2007/08 Policy and Budget Speech**
- ∞ **Launch of the Local Government Anti-Corruption Strategy**
- ∞ **Department meets stakeholders**
- ∞ **New Traditional Leadership installed**
- ∞ **Profiling municipalities**



# Table of Content

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| Page 3 | Foreword by MEC Candith Mashego-Dlamini            |
| Page 4 | Message by HOD, G.N Sibeko                         |
| Page 4 | Editorial  |
| Page 5 | Department's Policy and Budget Speech 2007/08      |
| Page 6 | Launch of the Anti-Corruption Strategy             |
| Page 7 | Department meets stakeholders                      |
| Page 8 | Commitment to Proper Planning after the PMS Summit |
| Page 9 | Communities celebrate culture through Ummemo       |
| Page 9 | New House of Traditional Leadership inaugurated    |



Page 10-11 The Department in Action

Page 12-14 Profiling Municipalities

Page 15 MEC Mashego-Dlamini meets Community Development Workers

Page 16 "Water for All" -Flagship Project

## Editorial Team

Chief Editor: S.S. Kunene (013) 766 6591

Editor : F.L. Ngobe (013) 766 6014

Graphic Designer & layout : R. Martin (013) 766 6294

Contributors: Arthur Ndlovu  
Mary Sibande  
Mxolisi Mabuza  
Carol Mazibuko  
Solly Shabangu

Mpumalanga  
Provincial Government



Department of Local  
Government and Housing



# FOREWORD BY MEC K.C MASHEGO-DLAMINI



MEC K.C. Mashego-Dlamini

**A**s we came to the end of the 2006/07 financial year, we reflected on our performance and whether we had met the objectives that we had set. This reflection has given us lessons that will help us improve in the current financial year. During the 2007/08 financial year we have set ourselves a number of milestones, which we need to achieve to ensure that we bring about a better life to all our people.

These milestones set us on the path of ensuring that we remain on course to achieve the Millennium Development Goals that include the following:

- Reducing unemployment by half through new jobs, assistance to small businesses, opportunities for self employment and sustainable community livelihood;
- Reducing poverty by half through economic development, comprehensive social security, land reform and improving household and community assets
- Creating a compassionate government service to the

people; national; provincial; and local representatives who are accessible; and citizens who know their rights and insist on fair treatment and effective service,

- Accelerating the delivery of basic services and increasing access to services

Our service delivery programmes have made an impact on our people. Today more than 730 000 households have access to water whilst more than 474 000 are served with 6000 liters of free basic water per household per month. We have also built more than 111 000 houses over the past thirteen years and by so doing housing close to half a million people. We will continue to put more effort to ensure that we improve our service delivery programmes so that more people can enjoy these services. We will pay particular emphasis on critical municipalities without these basic services.

We will be working closely with the South African Local Government Association (SALGA Mpumalanga) to ensure that we assist our municipalities on issues of institutional capacity and management. Although we have encountered a few challenges in implementing the 5 year Local Government Strategic Agenda (LGSA), we have made significant progress.

One of the biggest challenges has been the involvement of the sector departments. The lessons learnt in implementing the LGSA, will assist us as we continue with its implementation. We have allocated significant resources this financial year for the LGSA.

We will begin shortly with phase 1 of the construction of the Provincial Disaster Management Center. It is projected that this center will be completed in September 2009, in time for the world cup "dry run" in 2009.

Traditional Leaders continue to play a very important part on matters of governance. We are continuing to implement the Mpumalanga Traditional Leadership and Governance Framework Act (Act no.5 of 2006). We have completed the process of establishing Local Councils at District level. We will be moving towards establishing Traditional Local Councils.

We are changing our approach on housing delivery. We will be introducing the multi year planning approach on all our new housing projects. This means planning for the next financial year will all be done in the preceding year. This will assist us to ensure that when we begin the new financial year we can immediately start building because all the necessary preparations will have been done in the preceding year.

We have also set aside some resources to ensure that even people working and living on farms do benefit from our housing projects. Farms in the following municipalities have been identified for building of houses; Thaba Chweu, Nkomazi, Umjindi, Steve Tshwete, Emakhazeni, Delmas, Govan Mbeki, Lekwa and Msukaligwa.

Our research has shown us that we need to increase our rental stock as more people in centers of economic activities require these. We have identified some rental stock in the following municipalities; Dipaliseng, Mkhondo, Emalahleni, Mbombela and Steve Tshwete. We will also be constructing rental stock in Govan Mbeki and Thaba Chweu.

The milestones we have set ourselves for this financial year are indeed huge, but they are driven by our commitment to providing a better life for all our people. We commit ourselves to working hard to meet the milestones we have set.



# MESSAGE BY HOD, MS G.N SIBEKO

It is with great humility and respect that I interact with colleagues for the "last" time as the Head of the Department. It has been a long 10 fulfilling years in my life as the Accounting Officer. Over the last years the department has managed to deliver in its mandate and change peoples lives through service delivery. Let me start by thanking all the Political Heads, Senior Managers and Staff Members in general whom I worked with for their contribution in my life and to communities at large.

Looking back from where I started serving our government one sits and cherishes the tangibles that we managed to deliver in the form of housing, water, structured traditional leadership and other housing and local government related services. Our efforts at times were however, hampered, by obstacles and challenges along the way.

It is therefore worth commending that against all odds we managed to continue in our endeavors of a Sustainable Local Government and Better Housing for all. Over the years

the department has undergone a number of changes in terms of splitting, reconfiguration and name changes. We weathered these storms together. Through all these changes we have been guided by our efforts of providing a better life for our people. We have not failed, as we have managed to deliver adequate services to communities. I must emphasize though that without the undivided support I have been receiving my task to lead the department would have been difficult.

As you continue with your work, I would like to call upon all officials to commit themselves and to remember that we will not achieve our dream of a better life until all our people receive the services that they have been waiting for. We must make sure that even Gogo Dlamini out there in the rural areas receives her house and is able to get water and electricity.

I thank you all for the experiences you taught me and I hope I contributed to your growth experiences. The people need to be served our job is still to be done.

I would also like to urge all members of staff in the department to continue giving the support that they gave to me, to the new leadership in its aspirations of improving the lives of our people.



HOD: Ms. G.N. Sibeko

## EDITORIAL

On 31 May 2007, MEC Candith Mashego- Dlamini tabled the Departments 2007/08 Policy and Budget Speech. The speech has set the line of march for this current financial year. Although setting the tone for the current financial year, the MEC did reflect on the challenges that we faced during the last financial year. These challenges have been very critical in setting the milestones in the current policy and budget speech. They will assist us to ensure that we learn from the past and improve going forward.

The department has also launched the Local Government Anti Corruption Strategy. The objectives of this strategy are to encourage a culture where all employees, members of the public and other stakeholders behave with and promote integrity in their dealings with or on behalf of government; improving accountability, efficiency and effective administration; development of anti-corruption systems within municipalities

and improving policies, procedures, rules and regulations. We need to ensure that this strategy does not just end at the launch, but it's adopted by municipalities. We will also make sure that all Executive Mayors sign the Anti-Corruption pledge.

The Imbizo focus week held in April 2007, gave us an opportunity as department to meet with some of our stakeholders being consultants and contractors who have done work, are currently doing work and those who would like to do work for the department. The aim of these meetings was to give the department an opportunity to outline its expectations from the service providers as well as give them an opportunity to raise their expectations and challenges that they encounter whilst doing work for the department.

MEC Mashego- Dlamini has urged both the consultants and the contractors to work together with the department in improving service delivery. She has also

requested the service providers to report any corrupt officials to the department, in the same vain she urged the service providers to refrain from tempting officials. We are confident that these interactive sessions will bring about any improvement in service delivery.

As part of our community liaison programme we will make sure that the management of the department interfaces with all our different communities.

At the end of June 2007, the department bade farewell to the Head of Department Ms G.N Sibeko. We would like to thank her for being the mother of the department and leading it well. We would like to wish her well in her new endeavors. Good Luck Mem.

As we bring you the first publication of the 2007/08 financial year, we hope that you will enjoy reading it.



# MEC MASHEGO-DLAMINI PRESENTS THE DEPARTMENT'S POLICY AND BUDGET SPEECH 2007 / 08

In presenting her Policy and Budget Speech, the MEC for the Department of Local Government and Housing, Candith Mashego-Dlamini indicated that we are still destined to achieve Government's commitment of Vision 2014 that has a number of objectives and targets. She committed the Department to reducing unemployment by half through creating new jobs, reducing poverty through economic development and accelerate the delivery of services and increasing access to services.

The MEC said that all the programmes must take off the ground at an accelerated pace so that the people out there must benefit from an improved government service delivery. Delivery of services at municipal level, putting infrastructure in place, assisting and improving the relationship between the traditional leaders is indeed the core business of the Department.

"We are mindful of the fact that there have been and still are huge backlogs of under development that face our communities. We have however made great progress in the process of servicing the communities. More of our people have access to water and more than half a million households benefit from the 6 000 litre basic free water. An amount of R6.3 million has been put aside for the delivery of free basic services. The number of households benefitting from free basic electricity of 50Kw has increased to 42 319 and the number of households connected to electricity is 551 649." said MEC Mashego-Dlamini.

The MEC said the department intends accelerating the delivery of basic services and increasing access to services as a priority.



**DELIVERY:** MEC KC Mashego-Dlamini at the Policy & Budget Speech 2007/08

R 2.4 million has been set aside to strengthen Project Consolidate to support and monitor Municipal transformation and institutional development, whilst R 2.3 million has been set aside for capacity building programmes and hands on training for both councillors and officials.

An amount of R 11.3 million has been set aside to ensure at least eight of Thusong Service Centres are fully functional this year. R5 million has been allocated for the first phase of the construction of the Provincial Disaster Management Centre.

The Department continues to commit itself to improving the lives of the people by engaging and addressing development issues like the Local Economic Development, economic growth along the Maputo Development Corridor of the province, job creation and advancing socially

integrated communities. "One of the notable success stories is that of the eradication of the bucket toilet system in formal areas of Mpumalanga well before the target date of 2009" indicated MEC Mashego-Dlamini.

The 5 year Local Government Strategic Agenda (LGSA) made it possible to help municipalities deliver to their communities. Public participation and good governance saw the establishment of 365 Ward Committees in all municipalities in the Province. Further the CDW programme has made a positive impact in the general lives of the community in that more information is shared about government activities and the communities are more aware of government initiatives.

MEC Mashego-Dlamini also unveiled a new programme which will be used to tackle housing delivery challenges. This programme will be centred around multi-year planning which means planning for the new years will be done on the proceeding years. Some of the biggest programmes in housing this year will include the upgrading of informal settlement, rolling out of farm workers housing (Agri villages) and rental stock.

R126 million has been budget for the purpose of eradicating informal settlements. For the 2007/08 financial year the department has set aside more than R 526 million to build 8583 housing units and to install services in 3138 stands. The housing subsidy has been increased to R 38 984 for a 40 square meter house.

You can get copies of the Budget Speech from the Communications Directorate and departmental website.



# PROVINCE COMMITTS TO FIGHT CORRUPTION

**Nelspruit** - The 31<sup>st</sup> of May saw the Department of Local Government and Housing launch its Provincial Anti Corruption Strategy at the Riverside Government Complex. The MEC for the Department for Local Government and Housing Ms Candith Mashego-Dlamini in her keynote address said that corruption is the biggest enemy for development in the country. "The limited resources we have are plundered through corruption and the intended beneficiaries for those resources do not get them. This defeats government plans and pledge to improve the lives of the people as there would not be enough resources to go round for making the communities live a better life" said MEC Mashego-Dlamini.

She warned people who are involved in corruption not to think that they will get away with it as government is closing in on them. "People who engage in corrupt activities are actually bringing the government down to its knees and enriching themselves. The Department will support all the municipalities to set up and maintain their Anti-Corruption Strategy to weed out all forms of corruption" said MEC Mashego-Dlamini. To assist communities in fighting corruption, the MEC said that people must make use of the national Hot line to call and report suspected corruption. The number is **0800 701 701**. MEC Mashego-Dlamini further called upon Executive Mayors,

Municipal Managers and officials to be champions of the Anti-Corruption Strategy.

Present during the launch and signed the pledge to support the launch were the Executive Mayors from Mbombela, Councillor Justice Nsibande, Councillor Speedy Mashilo from Nkangala District, Councillor Constance Khosi Mkhonto from Ehlanzeni and Councillor I.M Masombuka from Dr J.S. Maroka.

The objectives of the Local Government Anti-Corruption Strategy are to:

- Strengthen community participation
- Create organizational culture of transparency
- Councilors encouraged to engage communities in anti-corruption initiatives
- Preventing, detecting and investigating fraud and corruption
- Taking appropriate action in the event of such irregularities
- Restore public confidence
- Educating and training including formal awareness presentations

An Executive Manager from the National Department of Provincial and Local Government, Mr Moses Rangata gave a background for the launch of this Anti-Corruption Strategy. In 1997 the Government appointed a team to serve in the National proposed anti-corruption strategy. This team was to work with all municipalities in the country to develop a strategy to identify and root out all forms of corruption in the municipalities said Mr Rangata. He said that the Department of Provincial and Local Government consulted very broadly with all stake holders to assist with setting up the Anti-Corruption Strategy

The Department of Provincial and

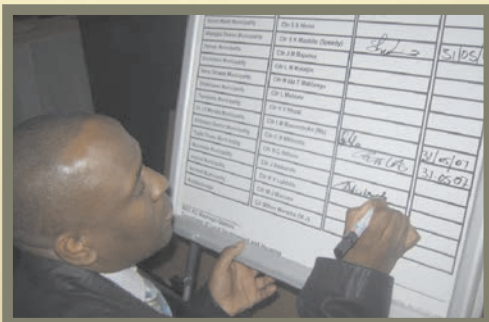


**GOOD CONDUCT:** MEC Candith Mashego-Dlamini signing the Anti-Corruption Pledge

Local Government proposed a strategy to assist municipalities to develop their anti-corruption strategy to be able to prevent corruption in their areas of jurisdiction. Some of the areas the Anti-Corruption Strategy focuses on include assisting the municipalities to reduce opportunities for corruption to take place, and to put pressure on municipalities to deal firmly with the perpetrators of all forms of corruption in their municipalities and expose all forms of attempted corruption at municipal level.



**MEC Mashego-Dlamini giving the keynote address**



**COMMITMENT:** Executive Mayor Cllr. J. Nsibande pledging his efforts to fight corruption



# DEPARTMENT MEETS STAKEHOLDERS

**V**alencia - The Department of Local Government and Housing held a two day eye opening "bear it all" meeting with its stakeholders on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> April 2007 at Valencia Community Hall and the Lowveld Showground respectively. The purpose of the meetings was to identify bottlenecks that hinder service delivery to the communities and also identify the challenges that face the Department in its endeavour to deliver houses to the community.

In her opening remarks the MEC for the Department of Local Government and Housing Ms K.C Mashego-Dlamini said that the meeting was intended to interact with the stake holders and come up with composite answers and reasons for non performance of the stake holders on one hand and on the other, officials in the Department.

The MEC stated that the Department was expected to deliver 15 000 houses per annum and in the last financial year 2006/2007, but the Department only managed to deliver about 4 000 houses. There was definitely a problem she said. She said together with the stake holders they can make a change for the better in the delivery of houses.

She said she understood that the Department is unable to deliver basic services such as water and she is concerned that at this rate of delivery we may not make it to the cut off date which is 2010 for every one to have clean. "The rate of delivery is very slow. In some areas there is no water at all, if infrastructure like pipes and taps are in place, you find that there is no water coming out of the pipes, in some areas there is water that is only available at given times during the day" said MEC Mashego-Dlamini.



**STRAIGHT TALK:** MEC Candith Mashego-Dlamini, HOD Gladys Sibeko and Mr. Cyril Dlamini addressing issues raised by Stakeholders at the Imbizo

Our responsibility is to render services to the poor community. She said that there is information that some stakeholders collude with some officials in the Department to defraud government and to facilitate speedy payment and in some cases to facilitate the success of a tender. There has also been reports of some officials fronting and use their position in the Department to secure tenders for themselves and their friends.

The MEC said this kind of corruption must stop, but people must remember that it takes more than one person for corruption to happen. The illegal transactions take place between officials and stake holders. She pleaded with the stake holders to report any form of corruption to her as the Department will not accept nay form of corruption. The stake holders were asked to share information with the MEC and the rest of the officials so that all the bottle necks are identified and possible solution are made.

During the meeting issues on clarity on appointments, monitoring of housing projects, training of contractors surging building material costs, meeting deadlines

and shortage of inspectors were some of the concerns raised by contractors. Whilst consultants raised issues ranging from poor planning, corruption and lack of information on projects.

Women contractors invited the MEC to visit some of the houses they have built. The houses they said are of good quality and have no defects and the beneficiaries are happy. That should be reason enough for the Department to consider them for the next batch of houses to be built. All concerns and suggestions were noted and the Department will follow up on the suggestions brought forward at these meetings. More information will be distributed to all stake holders and in future, more consultations will take place in good time to facilitate proper planning.

The MEC also committed the department to rooting out corruption, wherever it reared its ugly head in the department. In the same vain she called upon service providers to refrain from paying bribes to officials.



# DEPARTMENT COMMITS TO VIGOROUS PLANNING APPROACH: An undertaking at the Performance Management System Summit.

**M**iddelburg - The Mpumalanga Provincial Government through the Department of Local Government and Housing held a Performance Management System Summit on the 24th until 25th of May 2007 in Middleburg. Representatives from local and district municipalities were fairly represented, including some guests from Sector Departments namely DPLG, DWAF, Treasury and SALGA.

The Summit focused on amongst others challenges faced by the municipalities in the implementation of the Performance Management System, role of different stakeholders in the process of implementation of the PMS and Institutional Arrangement for PMS implementation and the shortage of necessary expertise.

“We need to tackle the challenges faced by the municipalities in the implementation of the Performance Management System, look at the role of different stakeholders in the process of implementation of the Performance Management System and institutional arrangement for Performance Management System implementation and the shortage of necessary expertise” said Mr. Sam Ngubane, Chief Director Local Government.

Mr. Vincent Rabothata, DPLG Director for Municipal Performance Excellence and Benchmarking gave an overview of the current Performance Management System Framework and Performance Management System Implementation status and challenges.

Municipal Manager of Umjindi Local Municipality Ms Sibongile

Mnisi said there should be a link between Community Based Planning to the Performance Management System. All three district municipalities made presentations on their best Practice and their status quo on Performance Management System. If the discussions at the summit are anything to go by, then performance of municipalities will be effective and better.

## *The gathering resolved that:*

- Municipal Performance Management Systems should be simplified for easy execution at local and district levels through suitable guides/toolkits;
- Municipalities should be assisted with setting performance standards in the implementation of their PMS
- Municipalities should establish an IDP and PMS Unit with specialist personnel reporting to the Municipal Manager;
- To drive the implementation of PMS through change management and organization development strategies in our municipalities;
- Municipal Performance Management Systems should be cascaded to lower levels of the organisation with due consideration of the need for participation of labour representation;
- Investigate innovate ways to give incentives to municipal employees for incrementally better performance
- To invest in continuous training and development of councilors and officials at all levels



**PROPER PLANNING: Chief Director for Local Government Mr. Sam Ngubane at the Summit**

- Encourage a culture of knowledge sharing and best practices across the three spheres of government
- The DLGH to devise and implement a strategy for accelerating implementation of PMS across the 21 municipalities in the province.



**Mr. Vincent Rabothata, Director: Municipal Performance Excellence & Benchmarking**



# COMMUNITIES CELEBRATE THEIR AFRICANESS THROUGH UMMEMO

In the last three months the Department held a number of Ummemo celebrations throughout the province. The events in which a number of dignified guests attended were co-ordinated by the Traditional Leadership Institution Directorate. This article seeks to paint a picture and presents an insight as to what and why are communities celebrating such events.

Ummemo marks the continued engagement of a process aimed at engaging a nation (tribe) in a form of a dance and a dialogue regarding its cultural values, enhancement of a tradition, unity and peace. Ummemo embodies the system of discourse, which

describes Africa's earlier forms of societal organisation. In this sense ummemo is not a monument to our past but is a true icon of our identity as Africans.

Ummemo has survived the manipulation and persecution by the colonial apartheid regime. It is difficult to conceptualise African culture without any reference to the institution of traditional leadership and to customs. To this day a majority of South Africans especially but not exclusively in the rural areas, continue to owe allegiance to the institution of leadership, in addition to

their support and commitment to Ummemo. Recognition afforded to traditional leadership is an acknowledgement of ummemo and the continued support that traditional leadership enjoys



**PRESERVING:** Inkosi TM Nkosi, Inkosi MB Mnisi and Mr. M. Khumalo attending the Ebutsini Cultural Function

## NEW TRADITIONAL LEADERSHIP INSTALLED

The Mpumalanga Province has elected new Leadership for the House of Traditional Leaders. The Provincial Legislature Chambers recently hosted a full capacity of Traditional Leaders to elect the new leaders taking their rightful place in the governance of the province. The new members took the oath to be faithful to the Republic, abide by the Constitution and all the laws of the Republic of South Africa and to serve the interests of the people of the Province to the best of their ability. Once again, this effort showed confidence and the strengthening of the democratic system of government in South Africa.

According to the electoral system, each of the three Districts (Nkangala, Gert Sibande and Ehlanzeni) of Mpumalanga Province has to elect seven members to the House. As a result twenty-one members were elected

to the House.

Inkosi Mzingeli David Mthethwa was re-elected unopposed as chair of the House. Kgošigadi Anastacia Senape Mohlala was re-elected as Deputy Chairperson after a tie between herself and Inkosi Sipho Etwell Mahlangu forced the Chairperson to exercise his deciding vote. Each of the three districts then elected a representative to serve as members of executive committee to complement the two office bearers.

Finally, the House chose t h r e e

members, that is, Inkosi Joseph Nhlapo, Inkosi Evah Smangele Mkhathswa and Ikosi Sipho Etwell Mahlangu to represent Mpumalanga House of Traditional Leaders in the National House of Traditional Leaders. Again, each District was allowed to choose a representative in this case.



**LEAD:** Swearing in of the new elected members of the Mpumalanga House of Traditional Leaders



# Department in Action



1



2



3



4



5



6



# Department in Action



7



8



9



10

1. **NEW ROLE:** CDW's attending the open talk session with MEC Mashego-Dlamini
2. **ENGAGEMENT:** MEC Mashego-Dlamini interacting with the CDW's
3. **ELECTED:** MEC Candith Mashego-Dlamini embracing the newly elected leadership of the Mpumalanga House of Traditional Leaders
4. **UNITY:** Traditional and Local Authorities embracing cultural diversity
5. **FOCUS:** MEC Mashego-Dlamini and Executive Mayor Cllr Speedy Mashilo of Nkangala District Municipality enjoying the Anti-Corruption Strategy Gala evening
6. **EMBRACE:** Executive Mayor Cllr I M Masombuka of Dr J S Moroka Municipality pledges her efforts to fight corruption
7. **VOICE OUT:** Mr. Sam Mthethwa, a consultant raising a concern
8. **OPEN TALK:** Contractors attentively listening as MEC Mashego-Dlamini addresses them
9. **DELIVERY:** MEC Mashego-Dlamini at the Policy and Budget Speech
10. **ON CAMERA:** MEC Mashego-Dlamini responds to the SABC



# KNOW YOUR MUNICIPALITY

## MSUKALIGWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY.



The Msukaligwa Municipality came into being on 5 December 2000 after the National municipal elections. It is situated in the central part of Mpumalanga on the Highveld and consists of the following towns and villages: Breyten, Ermelo, Chrissiesmeer, Davel, Sheepmoore, Camden, Lothair, and Warburton. The municipality is responsible for an area of 6020 square km with an estimated population of 124 812 people (Census 2001). It forms part of the Gert Sibande District Municipality Council.

The estimated total population in Msukaligwa is 167 812 people. A total of 25 012 households are located in the area, with an average household size of 4, 6 people per household. The predominant population group is Africans followed by Whites.

Most of the people in the area are between 5-19 years of age, which indicates that the dependent rate is relatively high in Msukaligwa. There are low percentages (3, 9%) of persons of the age 65 and older. Residents between 30 and 49 years constitute 25% of the population. These people can be referred to as the potentially economically active population. The gender profile gives an indication of the total number of males and females in the area.

According to the above, males constitute 49, 5% of the population and females 50, 5%. The economic active population is

regarded as the total number of persons in the community between the ages of 16 and 65 years. Census 1996 data revealed that 10 503 people are unemployed in the area, 29 902 people are employed.

The highest level of unemployment is in Ward 15 (Lothair, Silindile), followed by Ward 14 (Breyten) and then by Ward 8 (Old Wesselton). Unemployment levels are also very high, i.e. more than 35% in Wards 1, 5, 6 and 14. A high percentage of the people in the area do not have any income. It can be concluded that most of these people survive on informal trading and are residing in informal areas. Approximately 10 718 people have an annual individual income between R2401-R6000. The occupational profile gives an indication of the daily activities of the household members as well as the level of education of the households in the Msukaligwa area.

### EXECUTIVE MAYOR VILAKAZI BHEKI MICHAEL

Date of Birth 03/11/1963

Place of Birth Piet Retief, South Africa

Country of Residence South Africa

Nationality South African

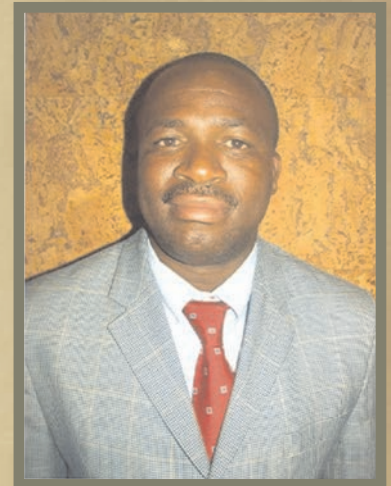
#### Education

#### **Diplomas / Degrees**

Type Institution Specialisation Year  
Bachelor of Arts University of South Africa Psychology & Economics 1994  
Higher Diploma in Education University of South Africa Economics 1996  
Primary Teachers Diploma Mgwanya College of Education Maths 1983

#### Career Chairmanships

**Chairperson** South African Democratic Teachers Union: Ermelo Region 1998  
2002 **Chairperson** Ward Committee: Ward 14 Msukaligwa Local Municipality 2002-2006  
**Chairperson** South African Communist Party: Breyten Branch Breyten 1997-2007  
**Chairperson** South African Communist Party: Gert Sibande District. 2007  
**Chairperson** Msukaligwa Local HIV/AIDS Council 2006  
**Chairperson** Local Economic Development Forum : Msukaligwa Local Municipality 2006  
**Chairperson** Portfolio



Executive Mayor, Cllr Bheki Vilakazi

Committee on Finance, Corporate Services: Msukaligwa Local Municipality 2006

#### **Current Positions**

- **Executive Mayor** (ANC) : Msukaligwa Local Municipality 2006
- **Member Human Resources Working Group** : South African Local Government Association: (SALGA) Mpumalanga Province 2006
- **Councillor** (ANC) : Msukaligwa Local Municipality 2002
- Previous Positions:
  - **Ward Councillor** (ANC): 2002-06
  - **Teacher**: Masizakhe High School 1992-2006
  - **Teacher**: Mkhomazi Primary School Breyton 1984-1991

#### **Vision Statement**

Msukaligwa to committed to effective service delivery and transformation to make the challenges of sustainable development

#### **Mission**

Doing everything with our resources, system and capabilities to reach the goals as set out in the IDP Plan.



# STEVE TSHWETE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



## Background

The original Middelburg was established in 1866 halfway between Pretoria and Lydenburg on the farm Mpumalanga to amalgamate in terms of the Local Government Act, and the proclamation to establish a new Transitional Local Council was gazetted on 16 September 1994. The Local Municipality of Steve Tshwete was established in 2004 in terms of the Local Government Municipality Structures Act, 1990 replacing the erstwhile Middelburg Municipality which was established in December 2000.

The Municipality of Steve Tshwete is situated towards the North East of the Republic of South Africa on the main route to Mozambique and the Kruger National Park, in the Mpumalanga Province. The municipality is approximately 180 km from Johannesburg, 130 km from Pretoria and  $\pm 1\ 600$  km from Cape Town in the South.

The Municipality comprises of an area of  $\pm 30\ 000$  square kilometres of which the greater part is referred to as "Highveld region" where the topography can be described as flowing green grassland with a climate ranging from mild in winter to warm in summer. A small portion however is of a more "Bushveld" nature where a pleasant summer temperature prevails all year round.

The Steve Tshwete Municipal area includes the following towns, villages and settlements: Middelburg, Mhluzi, Hendrina, Kwazamokuhle, Rietkuil, Pullenshope, Komati, Presidentrus, Naledi, Lesedi, Kranspoort, Blinkpan, Koomfontein and Doornkop. It has approximately 143 000 citizens of whom the overwhelming majority live in the town of Middelburg/Mhluzi whilst others reside in a smaller town called Hendrina/Kwazamokuhle, a number of mining and other villages, as well as in a vast rural area.

## ACHIEVEMENTS SINCE MARCH 2006:

- Adoption of the IDP
- Approval of the Budget
- Provincial winners of the Cleanest Town Competition

- Nominated hosts for the Annual MACFEST
- Housing allocations of 2 578
- All Clinics are testing and counselling for HIV/AIDS centres

## Economic Development

Middelburg is a major area of the economic activity in the Nkangala area with a large farming and industrial centre and a substantial growth rate. Some major features are the Columbus Stainless Steel, strong agricultural areas, a thriving commercial community and tourist attractions. The Mpumalanga Stainless Steel Incubator was created for the benefit of local raw materials and development of entrepreneurs.

## Challenges facing the municipality

To address challenges, the municipality needs to narrow the gap between the first and the first economy and providing equitable access to economic opportunities and supporting of the infrastructure and services to all who reside within the municipality.

### EXECUTIVE MAYOR MANTLHAKENG MAHLANGU

Made history when she was sworn in as the first female mayor of the Steve Tshwete Municipality in 2001. Now serving her second term and fifth year as Executive Mayor. She was born 12 February 1959, married with three (3) sons

## Academic qualifications:

A Diploma in Nursing and another in Midwifery from Bonalesedi College of Nursing. Has a Management Development Programme Certificate - University of Pretoria, etc. Currently studying towards a Master of Arts in Health Studies

## Political leadership role:

Chairperson of the Naming & Renaming Committee, Ward Committee, IDP Forum, AIDS Counsel and the Finance Committee of SALGA. Representative Councillor at the Nkangala District Municipality Member of the Premier's Co-ordinating Forum, District Mayors' Forum, District AIDS Forum, Mpumalanga Sainless Initiative Board Member, HIV/AIDS Orphanage Care Village committee, DPLG Brigade Board member.

## Vision

To be the best Local Municipality in the world in service delivery

## Mission

The Steve Tshwete Local Municipality is committed to the total well being of all its



Executive Mayor, Cllr  
Mantlhakeng Mahlangu

citizens through:

- The rendering of affordable, accessible, efficient and quality services
- The maximizing of infrastructural development through the utilization of all available resources
- The implementation of effective systems and procedures
- The creation of an enabling environment for local economic development
- Effective co-operation with relevant stakeholders

## Core Values and Principles

- To treat each other with dignity and respect at all times
- To diligently apply the principles of "Batho Pele" in our dealings with our citizens
- To perform our duties with a sense of pride and honesty
- To approach our responsibilities in a spirit of teamwork amongst ourselves and with other organs of state

## Goals

Seven (7) strategic goals have been identified to drive the vision and mission of the Municipality.

They are:

- Poverty Alleviation
- Service delivery
- Financial viability
- Economic Growth and Development (LED)
- Good Corporate Governance
- Good Co-operative Governance
- Integrated Environmental, Social and Economic Spatial



# THABA CHWEU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



## Geographic Overview

Thaba Chweu Local Municipality is situated in the north-western part of the Lowveld Escarpment in the Mpumalanga Province. The Municipality adjoins the borders of the following municipalities: Bushbuckridge, Mbombela, Emakhazeni and Greater Tubatse. The major towns in the area are Mashishing (Lydenburg), Sabie, Graskop, Pilgrim's Rest and the northern rural areas (villages) of Matibidi, Leroro and Moremela.

The municipality came into being after the December 5<sup>th</sup> 2000 local government elections and it encompasses the following disestablished municipalities, Belfast TRC, Lydenburg TRC, Lydenburg TLC, Graskop TLC, Pilgrim's Rest TRC, Sabie TLC and a portion of Nelspruit. The municipality is subdivided into 12 wards and has a total of 23 councillors of which 12 are ward councillors and 11 PR councillors. Thaba Chweu Municipality recognizes the **three traditional** authorities that are in its area of jurisdiction as institutions, namely **Mashile, Mohlala and Mogane Tribal Authorities**.

## Municipal service

TCM experienced an improvement of payment levels from the average of 67% (total billed) in 2004/05 to the average of 97% (total billed) in 2006/07 (Indigents and informal settlements considered). All 29 742

Households across the board are beneficiaries of the free basic electricity and water supply. This figure includes Eskom's supply of FBE in areas where they (Eskom) are an electricity license holder.

## Major Economic Boosters

There is an increase in mining activity near Steelpoort through the development of 15 new mines on a north-easterly axis about 30km outside Lydenburg, which will lead to an increase in income for the Lydenburg businesses.

There are also huge housing developments in progress or in planning for Lydenburg (5,000 houses), Sabie (335 houses) and the Graskop (400 houses on 477 stands) areas. This growth can be attributed partly to the increased mining activities as well as to tourism development in the region in general. The rapid growth of the Mashishing (Lydenburg), Sabie and Graskop towns is a manifestation of the huge demand for land, housing development, business development and social amenities.

## Tourism

Thaba Chweu has become one of the main tourist attraction area within the Province. The municipality has a huge potential to grow into a major tourism destination to host tourists not only from South Africa but also from the entire continent (Africa) and the whole world. The key factors contributing to this potential are: Its close proximity with the Kruger National Park serving as an anchor; the Blyde River Canyon National park, Pilgrims Rest (Historical Town) and the Biodiversity, Tourism Corridor Development and good transportation links with Gauteng and Mozambique by means of the Maputo Development Corridor.

## Vision

To become a legally compliant Municipality economically and infrastructurally to better the lives of the communities.

Executive Mayor: Cllr Clara Ndlovu

## Mission

To responsibly optimise the utilisation of human and physical resources in incessantly addressing the needs, expectations and socio-economic upliftment of the community of Thaba Chweu.

## Background of the Executive Mayor

The Executive Mayor, **Councillor Clara Ndlovu**, is a teacher by profession, a member of the ANC Branch of Ward 3, Deputy Secretary of the Bohlabela ANC Region, Secretary of the Bohlabela Region ANC Women's League, Chairperson of the Mayoral Committee and Political head of the Thaba Chweu Municipality. Her approach is consultative and she believes in team effort work. Ever-since she took over as Executive Mayor of Thaba Chweu Municipality, there has been both political and administrative stability in TCM. The backlog of problems that troubled TCM for many years is gradually and naturally addressed by providing solutions on daily basis. Through her political leadership, Thaba Chweu Municipality has just won an award at SALGA level for **"Best Improved Municipality on Institutional arrangements in Mpumalanga Province"**.



# IMPROVED COMMUNITY WORK THROUGH CDW'S

**N**elspruit - The MEC for Local Government and Housing, Candith Mashego- Dlamini recently met with all Community Development workers (CDW's) in the province. The meeting was part of the department's initiatives to ensure that it improves and strengthens its functionality and service delivery. The meeting was also used to bring an understanding of the scope of work before CDW's.

During the meeting MEC Mashego-Dlamini stressed the importance of the role being played by Community Development Workers in ensuring that government services reach all people. She said as the foot soldiers of government, CDW's must make sure that information being presented to government from the communities is true, that projects are continuing without problems and that they verify that the government services do reach the intended beneficiaries. The MEC further appealed to CDW's to work together with councilors and traditional leaders, as they are all working for one objective which is to improve the lives of the people.

An immediate task that the CDW's have been given is to collect information on the housing projects and the level of service delivery in the different communities. There are currently 327 CDW's and the department is recruiting an

## UNITY: MEC Candith Mashego-Dlamini with some Community Development workers

additional 160, which will bring the total to 487 CDW's. This will enable the department to make sure that every ward has a CDW from that ward.

The MEC said that the CDW's should work hand in hand with their municipalities as well as the Department.

She reminded them that they should have all Provincial Departments' budget speeches together with those of their municipalities, so they can know what government has planned for the current financial year. She said that those documents are their tools that will assist them to carry out their work.

MEC Mashego-Dlamini briefed the CDW's on the provincial governments flagship projects the Big Five (Water for all, Greening Mpumalanga, Capacity Building, Moloto Development programme and the Maputo Development

Corridor). The Big Five are economic development points in the province that would help improve the lives of the people. Eleven CDW's were acknowledged from all over the province as hard working and the MEC praised them for showing commitment and helping their communities understand government efforts to improve their lives. They are:

- **Thabile Malaza: Nhlazathse**
- **Bafana Msibi: Secunda**
- **Papi Motaung: Balfour**
- **Nomsa Sithole: Dr J.S Moroka**
- **Moses Mokgolego: Dr J.S Moroka**
- **Rankitsing Sepenyane: Delmas**
- **Thandiwe Skhosana: Emalahleni**
- **Martin Hlongwa: Thabachweu**
- **Emmanule Mathole: Mbombela**
- **Lettie Myeni: Nkomazi**
- **Muntu Maseko: Thabachweu**

## GRASPING: The CDW's at the session



# DEPARTMENT EMBRACES WATER FOR ALL PROJECT



**CLEAN:** Water purification plant in Barberton

**T**o support economic growth and sustainable development, the province has identified five flagship projects. These projects were identified for special attention through dedicated project management capacity, the concentration of resources and leadership provision.

The projects are:

- The Maputo Development Corridor,
- Moloto Development Corridor;
- Heritage and the Greening of Mpumalanga,
- Water for All in the province
- Acceleration of Management Capacity Building

Critical to this department is the rolling-out of water infrastructure to provide “water for all” in the province in a sustainable manner and the accelerated capacity building of managers in order to achieve efficient and excellent delivery on the vision of a better life for all.

The Water for All Flagship, as spearheaded by this department, is aimed at ensuring sustainable water provision for all in the Province through effective multi-disciplinary cross sector involvement. The concept statement is simply “*Water for All*”

This statement carries a robust message of the Government's drive to provide people with an entitlement to at least a basic level of water service.

## OBJECTIVES

- To accelerate the roll-out of water infrastructure to meet the higher level of service by 2010
- To ensure that the basic level of services are progressively provided in areas without service infrastructure
- To consolidate available technical and financial resources, improve capacity to implement and to strengthen cost recovery measures and sustainability
- To develop proper monitoring and pro-active evaluation tools and formats to monitor progress and assist with the identification of critical areas for intervention

## OUTCOMES

- Clean & safe water to 171 586 households through the roll-out of bulk water supply & reticulation over MTEF
- Proper monitoring and pro-active evaluation tools and formats to monitor progress
- Identification of critical areas for intervention
- Credible baseline information on backlogs and services
- Institutional and community capacity building

## IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

- National: DWAF, Treasury, DPLG, SALGA
- Provincial: DLGH, DWAF, SALGA
- Local: Local District (3) and Local (18) Municipalities
- Parastatals: DBSA, Financing Sector and Institutional Capacity Building Organizations
- Private Sector: Civil Engineering, Training and Financing Sector, DFI's, FET's



**SOURCE:** Oxidation ponds at Komatipoort



# **Vision, Mission and Values**

**Our Department is dedicated to serve our people and to  
treat them with respect.  
We therefore pledge our whole hearted support to  
the public.**

## **VISION**

**Sustainable Local Government and Better Housing for all.**

## **MISSION**

**Provision of provincial integrated support and monitoring  
framework for Sustainable Local Government, Human  
Settlements and  
Traditional Leadership towards a better life for all.**

## **VALUES**

**Consultation,  
Access,  
Courtesy,  
Information,  
Openness and Transparency,  
Redress,  
Value for Money,  
Encouraging Innovation and Rewarding Excellence.**



Mpumalanga  
Provincial Government



Department of Local  
Government and Housing

**HEAD OFFICE:**

Building 6 & 7  
Riverside Government Complex  
Nelspruit  
1200  
Tel. 013 766 6087  
Fax. 013 766 8441

**REGIONAL OFFICES:**

**Nelspruit: (013) 752 6063**

**Witbank: (013) 656 1066**

**Elukwatini: (017) 883 0827**

**Ermelo: (017) 819 5464**

**Kwamhlanga: (013) 947 2501**