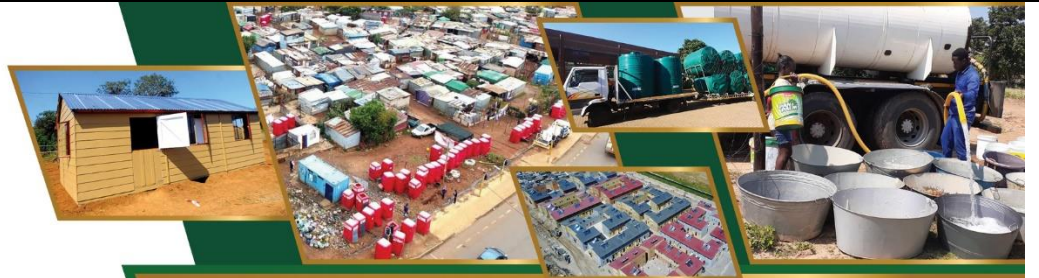




**MINISTRY
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS,
WATER AND SANITATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**



BREAKING NEW GROUND NEWS COVID-19

Welcome to the Breaking New Ground (BNG) newsletter for the Ministry of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation. This newsletter will keep you informed about the support given to communities in distress during COVID-19 lockdown.

Edition 8 - 29 May 2020

Ikemeleng Community finally moved to their new homes

Department of Water and Sanitation ready to provide water to schools



The Ikemeleng Community in Roodeport, Gauteng has been living in tented structures for four (4) years as a result of being evicted multiple times from the nearby farms. Their deplorable living conditions made it difficult to adhere to some of the COVID-19 government regulations such as social-distancing and practicing of safe hygiene.

Timothy Matseme (54) who suffered a stroke 26 years ago is one of the people who received a temporary house. He thanked the Department of improving his life more especially during the times when there is a pandemic killing people.

“What we have shown here is that Alternative Technology has taken us less than two months to provide 70 houses than what brick and mortar can do. I would like to say it is possible, these houses are as beautiful as any other house,” said Minister Sisulu during the handover ceremony.

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) has commenced with its commitment to support the Department of Basic Education (DBE) by supplying water to public schools.

The provincial education departments have identified three thousand five hundred (3,500) schools that have critical water supply challenges.

These schools are spread all over the country, except for the Western Cape. The highest numbers of these schools are in KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape, Limpopo and Mpumalanga.

The Department of Water and Sanitation has initiated an Emergency Water Supply Programme, through which water tanks will be installed at critical supply points and portable water will be delivered to these tanks, using water trucks.

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COVID-19

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National Human Settlements, Gauteng Human Settlements and the City of Johannesburg's
COVID-19 interventions for the Ikemeleng Community in Roodepoort

