



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



## BREAKING NEW GROUND NEWS COVID-19

Welcome to the Breaking New Ground (BNG) newsletter of 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 6 - 15 May 2020**

**Housing relief for Mamelodi hostel residents**

**3 475 schools to be provided with water**



The Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation, Lindiwe Sisulu has vowed to prioritise hostels as part of easing congestion in hostels. Easing the congestion at the densely populated hostels is another measure aimed at containing the spread of Covid-19.

Minister Sisulu visited Mamelodi hostel in Tshwane where approximately 1 000 Temporary Residential Units (TRU) are expected to be built and completed by the end of June to alleviate overcrowding at Mamelodi hostels.

"We are not going to force anyone to move. We have decided to prioritise hostels as living conditions are not good. We are working with our social partners to bring about change in people's lives. Our people have been deserving of this for a very long time. It's not right that they live in these conditions," Sisulu said.

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) is in a state of preparedness to assist the Department of Basic Education (DBE) to have the necessary water supply in all schools. This was confirmed by the Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation, Lindiwe Sisulu during a media briefing.

She said her Department is in the process of working with the Department of Basic Education (DBE) for the provision of water to about 3 475 schools identified by the DBE across the country.

In support of this cause, on 14 May 2020 the Minister accepted water storage tanks earmarked for schools that were donated by the Ambassador of Denmark to South Africa, His Excellency Tobias Elling Rehfeld on behalf of MAERSK - a Danish global logistics company.

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Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation COVID-19 interventions at the Mamelodi Hostel in the City of Tshwane, Gauteng



*"The risks posed by overcrowding in our settlements are real. This requires all of us in the sector to work in unison to save lives by containing the spread of COVID-19."* –Minister Lindiwe Sisulu

