



**MEDIA STATEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

06 October 2021

The HDA appointed to assist Kouga municipality to deliver sustainable human settlements

On 6 October 2021 the Kouga Municipal Council and the Housing Development Agency (HDA) launched a development project which will be followed by the formal signing of an agreement. This will enable the HDA to assist the municipality with the planning, project management, and implementation of its integrated human settlements pipeline projects.

The implementation of this project will see many previously disadvantaged communities being provided with sustainable human settlements and decent shelter.

In the immediate phase, nine (9) informal settlements (with over 3000 households residing within) will be upgraded to ensure that services (such as electricity, water, sewage and sanitation) are provided. Housing opportunities will also be provided for qualifying beneficiaries in the area. These housing opportunities include a variety of developments for low-cost housing (government's free housing programme for qualifying beneficiaries), Finance Linked Individual Subsidy Housing (government's bond assist subsidy for the gap market), and social housing (government's programme for beneficiaries who prefer to rent).

Among others, the informal settlements to be upgraded include Polar Park, Shukushukuma, Bungalow, Donkerhoek, Cyril Ramaphosa, Thornhill and Oceanview.

The Municipal Manager, Mr Charl du Plessis said that "these are projects of high priority in the municipality, and it is important that we get this project on the go as soon as possible. We are confident that the HDA will help us to expedite these projects for the benefit of our communities."

Representing the HDA, Mr Phumlani Mbulawa (HDA Regional Manager) emphasized that "it is important to note that this will be an inclusive process where communities will be engaged thoroughly during the development process. We are looking forward, as government, to sign a social compact with relevant communities so that this project is as inclusive as possible".

Issued by The Kouga Local Municipality and The HDA

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Best regards,

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About the HDA

The Housing Development Agency (HDA) is a national public sector agency that has the mandate to identify, acquire, prepare, and develop suitable and well-located land and hold and release buildings for the development of human settlements. The land may be government, private or communally owned. The agency also undertakes the programme and project management for the development of housing and human settlements. This also includes to the provisioning of Temporary Housing Units (TRUs) during emergencies such as the recent COVID-19 pandemic. The HDA carries out its functions in partnership with a range of stakeholders including national, provincial and local government and municipalities, as well as with communities, developers and financiers.

We also provide government with geo-spatial services and provide inter-governmental relations services. Furthermore, we provide support to national priority programmes, namely, Catalytic Projects, Mining Towns and Informal Settlements Upgrading, including Priority Housing Development Areas. We are funded through government grants (via the department of Human Settlements), interest of investments, loans raised, proceeds from the sale of land and fees from services rendered. The agency was established in 2009 through an Act of Parliament passed in 2008 and is accountable to the Minister of Human Settlements through its Board of Directors.

