The mayors of KwaDukuza, Mandeni and Ilembe District with their municipal managers and officials from the World Bank Group and Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs at the signing.

**Bid to fast-track title deeds**

KWA DUKUZA and Mandeni have signed a historic agreement with the World Bank Group (WBG), to roll out a pilot programme to accelerate and simplify property registration for local residents as part of the Vuletha Local Economic Development programme in the Ilembe District.

This partnership will provide for a simpler and affordable system for registering informal transactions for low-income areas and a bulk registration programme to issue first title deeds to owners of RDP houses.

The Title Deeds Restoration Project will bring dignity to the generations affected by the government of the past as it offers quality land administration assistance to residents, said the partners.

"This will also give the local people peace of mind and certainty in knowing that they can live and farm in their land and be assured of a wealth legacy that can be passed on from one generation to another. This will also create a space for a more sustainable and integrated human settlements value chain that improves family life, and access to basic services."

Although more than 4.5 million low-cost housing units have been built in SA for low-income households since 1994, many beneficiaries have not been issued title deeds to date. The lack of clarity of ownership - especially concerning land and title deeds in some areas - continues to disadvantage a large number of South Africans.

Weak titling of property, especially in poorer areas, limits the value of the property, including its use as collateral to access finance. Tenure security in the former homelands remains weak, even when the poor hold assets or land, its value is limited.

The high cost and complexity associated with transferring property formally have led to many people reverting to an informal system when transacting.

South Africa ranks 106 out of 190 economies in the World Bank Doing Business Measure on registering property due to high cost, procedures and low quality of land administration. At the national level, the WBG is working with the government to address some of the issues and improve the informal real estate market activity.

This pilot programme will be implemented in conjunction with the partners in charge of title deed restoration to expedite the issuance of title deeds.

The programme will be delivered as part of the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) Vuletha programme, which provides KwaDukuza and Mandeni with support on various municipal management and administration activities.

"Land titling is a major constraint to building a more inclusive society in South Africa. The programme will be working with the different partners to identify innovative solutions that can provide a more accessible system to people who want to transfer property and to unlock some of the critical challenges slowing down title deed issuance."

During the signing ceremony at the Lithibi Museum in Gqubule, the acting mayors of KwaDukuza and Mandeni Municipality welcomed the move, saying the concept will improve the lives of the people.

"It is important to streamline registration transactions of low-cost properties in low-income areas," said KwaDukuza acting mayor Dolly Govender.

"Many South Africans, especially those living in informal areas, are disadvantaged because they do not possess land and title deeds, which limit the value of their properties."

Mandeni acting mayor Phindile Sishl said "the programme complements efforts by Mandeni Municipality to improve the lives of residents through the roll-out of housing projects. Formalising legal ownership of property titles will improve livelihoods of homeowners."

The municipal managers of KwaDukuza and Mandeni are the signatories of the agreement.

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**Shakaland Technical College (S.T.C) (Pty) Ltd**

**VERY EXCITING NEWS**

Shakaland Technical College is urgently looking for matriculants, who are currently unemployed, but who wish to pursue a career in Civil Engineering and who must be residing in the Kwa Dukuza Ilembe area.

**CIVIL SUBJECTS:**
- Mathematics N1
- Building Science N1
- Building Drawing N1
- Bricklaying & Plastering N1
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We require the following information from you:

1. ID Book
2. Matric results with MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE (important pre-requisites for selection)
3. Your CV

N.B. Prospective students who meet the requirements will be sponsored by a reputed company from Stanger to study at Shakaland Technical College.

Kindly forward the above-mentioned documents to Shakaland Technical College at the latest by Friday 13/09/2019 before 13:00.

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