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The purpose of the presentation is to:

- Apprise on the Human Settlements White Paper, and
- HS Policy Priorities.
SUMMARY

White Paper for Human Settlements seeks to create an enabling environment for development of integrated and sustainable human settlements.

Sets out new vision, objectives, theory of change, key policy statements, policy position, roles, and responsibilities of stakeholders towards sustainable human settlements.

Is an outcome to a series of programme evaluations and expenditure reviews in partnership with the DPME and the National Treasury reflecting on the scope, scale, and pace of housing development.
The strategic focus of the White Paper takes into consideration the programmes and priorities of government, and aligns with the existing macro policies such as:

1. **Constitution of the Republic of South Africa** – Section 26 which establishes the right of access to adequate housing.

2. **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Goal 11** which seeks to plan cities and human settlements opportunities for all, with access to basic services, energy, housing, transportation and green public spaces, while reducing resource utilisation and environmental impact.

3. **National Development Plan (NDP)** – Chapter 8 focusing on sustainable human settlements and improved quality of household life.
STRATEGIC FOUNDATION

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN - VISION 2030

8. TRANSFORMING HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
6. INCLUSIVE RURAL ECONOMY
4. ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE
12. SAFER COMMUNITIES
3. ECONOMY & EMPLOYMENT
13. CAPABLE & DEVELOPMENTAL STATE
7. GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS
2. EDUCATION & INNOVATION
10. PROMOTING HEALTH
11. SOCIAL PROTECTION
14. FIGHTING CORRUPTION
15. NATIONAL UNITY

human settlements
Department: Human Settlements
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Houses • Security • Comfort
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION AND RECOVERY
BUILDING A NEW ECONOMY

NDP
POLICY CONTEXT

- The **prevailing notion** that the right of access to adequate housing requires the State to build housing for the population and that people without housing can automatically demand a house from the state constitutes mis-interpretation;

- Fundamentally, the **right of access to adequate housing does not oblige the Government to construct a house for the ‘entire’ nation**;

- Rather, the right of access to adequate housing covers measures that are needed to **prevent homelessness, prohibit forced evictions, address discrimination, focus on the most vulnerable and marginalized groups**;

- These measures require intervention from the government at various levels, viz. spending priorities; legislative, administrative interventions;
OBJECTIVES

1. To address the prevailing gaps and inconsistencies in the housing and human settlements sector
2. To respond comprehensively to contemporary local and international reforms;
3. To adequately respond to integrated planning strategies, including the important role of the market, public environment, institutional capacity and citizen participation which are instrumental towards the design of sound and effective policy frameworks.
Emerging Principles

Integration: To promote alignment in development planning, while progressively developing governance and administrative capacity through sustainable human settlements delivery approaches.

Alignment: To address the embedded policy, legislative and programme design gaps as well as regulatory inconsistencies to reflect contemporary reforms including reconciling it to international Treaties, Agreements and Declarations.

Innovation and flexibility: To create legislative framework to harness innovative and transformative approaches through creation of human settlements.

Inclusiveness: To promote human settlements systems that function as a whole.
Recalibrate the grant funding frameworks to optimize performance of our development grant instruments

Guide the de-risking mechanisms to enable private-sector financing to maximize & leverage government funding

Inform the amendment of the Housing Act and provide rationale for the new Human Settlements Development Act
Vision & Impact Statement

• **Vision**: Visible outcomes from well-coordinated spatial planning systems that will have transformed human settlements in South Africa into equitable and efficient spaces with citizens living in close proximity to work (economic opportunities) with access to social amenities and essential infrastructure.

• **Impact Statement**: A nation housed in sustainable human settlements.
1. Priority to be given to **vulnerable groups** - the elderly, child-headed families, and person living with disabilities

2. Collaborative review of the current land administration to embrace the **empowerment of women** to access land and land titles.

3. Exploration of a **quicker, simplified, and less costly process of registration and transfer of land and property for poor households**

4. Review and **adjust the pre-emptive right clause to ensure upward mobility and curb the informal transactions of subsidised houses.**
5. Engaging beneficiaries in decision-making processes to foster a sense of ownership and empowerment among residents, thereby contributing to sustainable outcomes.

6. Informal settlements upgrading—advocacy will be towards the prioritization of participatory planning and implementation.

7. Will promote in-situ upgrading - incremental upgrading and relocation will be a last resort consideration.

8. Backyard housing - the Department will firm up necessary regulatory measures amenable to building standards; the formalization and the provisions of the required internal infrastructure.
9. Social housing market - the principles anchor affordability, accessibility, safety, and contribution to socio-economic growth whilst effectively addressing demand and contributing to spatial restructuring.

10. Consideration of cost-effective construction methods, building materials, and technologies with attached incentives especially to holders of large and suitably located land parcels. e.g. Digitised Housing Needs Register, Quick response to emergencies and disasters.

11. Ensure that human settlement projects are contained within the urban edge of development nodes and at strategic locations along the development corridors to curb sprawl.

12. Emphasis being placed on settlement design principles that produce safe, liveable, and inclusive spaces, resulting in an improved quality of life for all citizens.
PROGRESS TO DATE

• **29 November 2023** - Cabinet approval for public comment and gazetting;

• **18 December 2023** - Gazette notice with Government Printers

• **24 January 2024** - Minister approved extension of public comments submission from 31 January 2024 to 28 February 2024;

• **26 January 2024** - Extension of the closing date for public comments was gazetted.

• The document is available -DHS Website, Urban Knowledge Exchange of South Africa, Dear SA, Twitter, Facebook & Whatsapp

• Road shows with Provinces and Metros are in progress
EMERGING ISSUES

1. Change the qualification criteria, prioritise South Africans and not foreign nationals
2. Create jobs and empower communities
3. Upgrade informal settlements
4. Use IBT and densify in urban areas
5. Manage the demand and spatially transform space
6. Be bold the programme is not sustainable
7. Provide rent and back yards
# Thematic Discussions

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| Priority 1        | HS White Paper - Targeted Housing  
• Special and vulnerable groups  
• Emergency housing  
• Eradication of Mud Housing  
• Removal of Asbestos in houses  
• Blocked Projects | Sustainable Innovative Building Technology  
Digital Transformation  
Empowerment of Designated Groups, Employment, and Job creation |
Human settlements Priorities & Immediate Challenges

• The HS priorities will be delivered using a multi-pronged delivery model driven by the public, private sector, community & hybrid that involves relevant parties.

• The Dept will continue to focus on rolling out of a housing subsidy programme that prioritizes serviced stands, IBT N&S that include water-wise technology, improved engineering services, solar panels & implement facilitative programmes that contribute to growing South Africa’s economy & create employment.

• The Dept will enter into partnership with Agre’ment SA in promoting the use of IBT.

• However, cost containment measures by the NT has forced the sector to reduce in-person meetings with the communities, & the sector hopes that the revised approach will not breed a new set of challenges and negative impact on its work.

• The cost containment has led to issuing of directives to reduce the use of SPs and professional resource team which had been previously used to support the Department in implementation of the above priorities.
It is recommended that the stakeholders:

- Human Settlements White Paper synopsis, and
- HS Policy Priorities.
THANK YOU