
**SPEECH BY EXECUTIVE MAYOR CLLR MOGOBO DAVID
MAGABE ON THE OPENING OF SEKWATI EXTENSION
OF ROAD D4258**

VENUE: MAMONE

DATE: 06 MARCH 2010

Programme Director
Mayors from our Local Municipalities
Councillors
Makgoshi
Employees of our Government
Friends from the Media
Ladies and Gentlemen

Thobela,

I am really humbled to stand before this community today to celebrate one of our government's achievements.

With so many service delivery challenges on our shoulders, days like these give us hope that the ANC-led and democratically-elected government of South Africa is on the right track.

We are a government, which recognises that development is a people-centred phenomenon.

At the begging of this week, we hosted the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) in our District. These honourable Members of Parliament came down here to exercise their oversight role of monitoring our work.

They will be coming back again on the 23th of March to continue where they left off. Their visit is intended to check up on us if we are really delivering the much-needed services to our people.

These kinds of oversight mechanisms prove what I have just said that in this government we believe that people are at the centre of development; development is about people.

The road we are opening today is one step ahead towards reversing infrastructural backlogs in our District and it is expected to have a direct, positive impact on the lives of our people.

Let me emphasise that we still have a long way to go. The majority of our people in rural areas are still in dire need of roads, water, sanitation, public transport facilities and electricity.

Roads are an integral component in our people's everyday lives, in the sense that they enable them to participate fully in socio-economic and political activities of this country.

The Greater Sekhukhune District Municipality has more **1 200 kilometres** of gravel road networks that are in very bad condition and need to be upgraded by tarring them. This network excludes access roads, which our five Local Municipalities are responsible for.

It is for this reason that the District Municipality has committed **R150-million** towards addressing the road infrastructure backlogs in the 2009/2010 financial year.

This amount will see to it that we complete a number of identified projects in the District. Some of these projects have been completed while some are work in progress.

This is how far we have gone in some of the projects:

- Phelangwe/Ga-Maisela Road (phase 1 completed)
- Matlerekeng Road (phase 1 completed)
- Moutse Internal and Access Roads (completed)
- Phahlamanoge Bridge (completed)

The Sekwati Extension of Road (D4258), which is a subject of our gathering here today, has cost the District Municipality about **R34, 5-million.**

But before I go further, let me take this opportunity to pass my condolences to the family of Mr Ali Phala who died after being struck by lightning on site during the construction of this road.

May his soul rest in peace.

I am particularly elated that we have played a role in local economic development as one local subcontractor was hired to take part in this project and **78 local people** were employed.

This proves the point I mentioned above that this government believes in development that is centred on people.

That we are committed to improve the lives of our people by fighting the scourge of poverty through creating job opportunities and make the environment conducive for the previously disadvantaged people to take advantage of business opportunities that are on offer in government.

We hope that this road will add value to our people and enable them to realise their ambitions and fulfil their socio-economic dreams.

Thank you.

