

Praise for developers

Acting premier honours recipients of housing awards who made a difference in their work

ELFAS TORERAI

ACTING North West Premier Raymond Elisha showered praise on institutions and individuals who received Govan Mbeki housing awards.

The event was held at the Rustenburg civic centre on Tuesday.

Tlokwe local municipality was voted the best accredited level one developer for the quality of houses it had erected around the Potchefstroom area.

Construction company Toro Ya Africa was also rewarded for the best community residential units category for the housing project in the same municipality.

The two significantly contributed to the delivery of more than 14 000 housing units that resulted in the province being declared the best performing in housing delivery across the country during the 2012/13 financial year.

Women contractors also made their presence felt after Lebo Aaron of L&R Welding and Tool Suppliers won the best woman contractor category.

This followed her outstanding work on housing development projects in



GOING UP SUCCESSFULLY: House builders have been rewarded. PICTURE: GALLO IMAGES. INSET: Public works MEC Raymond Elisha. PICTURE: ELFAS TORERAI

Manthe and Tlapeng villages near Taung. Aaron's company was established in 2003.

So far, she has built 250 houses mostly in the Dr Kenneth Kaunda district municipality.

"Winning this award for me means it is another step in the right direction.

It's tough in the construction industry especially if you are a woman but I'm glad that I'm managing," she said.

Another woman, Cecilia Thomas, 28, of Barzani Development, Project Management & Construction, was crowned best youth contractor.

"Winning is very good for me

because it's an indication that I do have talent in the sector. I worked hard day and night to make sure that what I give to the people is the best."

In his remarks, Elisha said award winners had set the standard for North West and the country at large.

"All the recipients of the awards are our partners who excelled in making it possible for us to deliver on our mandate. In the past year we have successfully provided houses to our people.

"These are women and men who have laboured hard, paid attention to detail, loved their output of their work and demanded nothing else but excellence."

Elisha added that the provincial department of human settlements set aside a R2bn budget to further deal with the housing backlog in the financial year and urged contractors and others involved to work together.

Human settlements MEC Nono Maloyi congratulated the winners and promised his department would continue to lead in providing quality houses through the help of companies that are prepared to do excellent work.

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