



public works
& infrastructure

Department:
Public Works and Infrastructure
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Media Advisory

MINISTER PATRICIA DE LILLE TO HANDOVER TITLE DEEDS TO EMERGING BLACK FARMERS IN GROBLERSDAL, LIMPOPO

In line with government's efforts and commitment to redress and land reform, Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, Patricia de Lille will be joined by President Cyril Ramaphosa and Ministers serving on the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) on Land Reform to hand over title deeds to emerging black farmers in Groblersdal, Limpopo on Saturday 22 May 2021.

The handing over of the title deeds is a clear demonstration of government's commitment to land reform through land redistribution.

The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure has transferred the land on a gratis basis for land redistribution purposes.

The handing over of the title deeds to 30 black farmers comes after a long journey for the farmers who have been farming on the land for 25 years.

In 2000, the then National Department of Agriculture entered into lease agreements with the Tafelkop Farmers Association in terms of Government's Land Redistribution through Agricultural Development (LRAD) program.

Subsequently in 2009, the former Limpopo Department of Agriculture (LDA) recommended to the Department of Public Works (as the custodian of the land) that the land should be transferred to the farmers who had been in occupation since 1996.

After a long journey and processing this matter through the relevant and statutory government processes, this year, the title deeds were finally registered in the names of 30 black farmers from the Tafelkop Farmers Association.

To celebrate this milestone, President Ramaphosa will lead the title deed handover together with Minister de Lille, Land Reform IMC Ministers, Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Land Reform, Thoko Didiza, Minister of Justice, Ronald Lamola, Acting Minister in the Presidency, Khumbudzo Ntshavheni, Limpopo Premier, Stanley Mathabatha and other government leaders to handover the title deeds to the Loskop Farm to the farmers.

The farmers have successfully farmed cotton and other agricultural produce on the land for many years and supply local food stores, school feeding schemes as well the Pretoria and Johannesburg Fresh Produce Markets. The extent of the land now officially registered in the names of the farmers measures 189 hectares and is valued at more than R25.5million.

The handover event signifies government's commitment to land reform and realising the freedoms of our democracy through bringing about spatial and land justice.

Government will celebrate this land reform success with the group of farmers and their families as to mark a new chapter in their journey as their land owners' status will enable the farmers to achieve their dreams of pursuing partnerships with investors and expanding their agricultural operations. This will in turn help them make a greater contribution to our economy, help create more jobs in the region and assist the mission of South Africa's Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan to "Grow South Africa Together"

Details of the title deed handover are as follows:

Date: Saturday 22 May 2021

Time: 10h00

Location: Loskop Farm, Tafelkop, Groblersdal, Limpopo

NB: In order to observe COVID 19 protocols, a media pool arrangement will be in place. Media not attending the event will be able to view the handover event via livestream on all government social media channels.

Only accredited media will be allowed into the event venue.

ENDS

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