

**Minister of Public Works  
Ms S Sigcau  
8 June 2002**

[Back](#)

## **Launch of Umzimkhulu Highlands Community Production Centre together with Umzimkhulu Plough Back**

Programme Director, Mr Freeman Momvalo  
Premier of the Eastern Cape, Rev Makhenkesi Stofile/ Representative  
Traditional Leaders here present  
Executive Mayor of Alfred Nzo, Mr M Sogoni  
The Mayor of Umzimkulu, Mr Bheki Dzanibe  
Ms Lulu Gwagwa, today representing the Umzimkulu Professionals Initiative  
Rev Dr KE Mgojo and Mr Rooi Kheswa  
Distinguished guests  
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my privilege today to again reiterate the Government's pledge to build a better life for all in South Africa. It is with the brilliant flame of hope, passion and willingness that I am sure you are all participating in creating a future worth living for.

Friends and compatriots, we have already witnessed the example of these professionals who, working together with the people of the area, want to ensure that through skilling, the people of Umzimkulu will not be passive participants in programmes calculated to create such a better life.

This project is limited to two villages along a maize belt formerly owned by Tracor. It consists of fencing of 14ha and 400ha, repairs to the seedling nursery, baking equipment, rehabilitation of farm buildings, upgrading of water services and the cropping of vegetables. R1,5 million has been budgeted for this project under the Community Based Public Works Programme.

Community Production Centres (CPCs), as a concept, are focused on rehabilitating existing disused productive assets in the rural areas. In partnership with the Department of Agriculture and Land Affairs and others, the Department of Public Works is revitalising infrastructure in the existing irrigation schemes to promote production activities for the market and food security for a large number of beneficiaries.

In Limpopo the Elandskraal CPC has recently been launched, while Upper Arabie is well underway in the production of spirulina. Mpumalanga's CPC, Cairn Lemon, is ready to harvest the first lemon oil and already a market has been established overseas, with a beverage company. Disaneng in the North West is about 70% finished in terms of infrastructure rehabilitation while the Qwaqwa CPC will soon start in the Free State as will the Schmidtsdrift CPC in the Northern Cape. Good progress and some results are coming in from Lambasi, Keiskammahoek, Zinyoka and Ncora in the Eastern Cape as well as from Ndaya and Makhatini Flats in KwaZulu-Natal.

The Community Based Public Works Programme is a direct attack on poverty. Only an integrated programme will achieve impact, to which we firmly contribute - working with our sister departments, provincial governments, and local structures in addressing agricultural, transport, communication, service and trade infrastructure development.

I trust that we are now also working with you, the people of Umzimkulu, to ensure that development is invigorated and sustained by the contribution of the Highlands Community Production Centre.

Take charge of your future, shape it to your dreams!

[top](#)