

## LED PROJECTS

Local Economic Development offers local government, private sectors, non-profit sectors and the local community an opportunity to work together to improve the local economy. It focuses on enhancing competitiveness, increasing sustainable growth and ensuring that growth is inclusive.

The John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality is currently involved in these kind of projects namely: the Devil's Claw Project, the Thwane Commonage and the Manyeding Cultivation.

The Devil's Claw is a common name for *Harpagophytum procubens* and *zeyheri*. It is an indigenous plant that has been used by traditional healers as an ailment remedy for amongst other fever, skin cancer, arthritis, high blood pressure, liver and kidney problems.

In 2006 the Department of Nature Conservation in conjunction with the JTGDM funded the project to provide basic infrastructure e.g. fencing, water reticulation, drying area, store room and ablution facilities.

The project is duly registered as a cooperative commonly known as "Tlhago ke pholo boswa" and it has 95 beneficiaries.

The Thwane Private Nature Reserve is situated between the towns of Hotazel (85km) and Van Zylsrus (30km) and it has 6808.08ha in extent. It has been proclaimed as a Private Nature Reserve in the Northern Cape Provincial Legislation (Nature and Environmental Conservation Ordinance, 19 of 1974) on the 17th of September 2001.

A Council Resolution was taken to incorporate this project into the Municipalities Integrated Development Programme. It was agreed that the Northern Cape Provincial Land Reform Office would pursue this project as a commonage project to benefit the Van Zylsrus community.

In September 2009, the municipality in conjunction with Kumba Iron Ore, the Department of Agriculture and the Manyeding Community identified a need to launch agriculture project in Manyeding. The main aim was to create a sustainable agriculture business that will benefit the broader community of Manyeding through employment, skills development and economic empowerment.

The project consists of three (3) phases. The first one was to establish a vegetable production unit for training purpose as well as provision of infrastructure. The second phase was for commercialisation and during the pilot phase, more than 60 community members were employed.



***Devil's Claw Project***



***Thwane Game Reserve Manyeding***



***Cultivation Project***

## ***JTGDM SCOOPS BEST ACCREDITED MUNICIPALITY—LEVEL 1***

**T**he John Taolo Gaetsewe District municipality since 2008 to April 2013 been able to construct 294 houses. As per the annual allocations, forty square meters per housing unit were built regardless of national construction material supply challenges experienced during 2010 which held construction works back and forced planned works to be completed in 2011.

The unit comprises of two bedrooms, bathing and toilet room, and an open floor kitchen and dining. The quality was uniform as per the minimum standards set by the National Home Builder's Registration Council (NHBRC) and the National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act. Two hundred and sixty eight (268) houses were handed over to beneficiaries who never had proper housing as guided by the approval of applications and another twenty six (26) houses are completed and due for a formal hand over.

Van Zylsrus is a relatively small town in the Joe Morolong local municipality with a population close to 3000. However, that does not exclude them from benefiting from government. This was evident when the municipality built 294 houses under Breaking New Ground to provide basic housing for the community of Van Zylsrus. This was also done in line with goal one (1) and goal seven (7) of the millennium development goals which target the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger.

The project created 22 job opportunities as part of the Expanded Public Works Programme. Through this project, our Housing Unit won the Provincial Govan Mbeki award for level 1 accreditation.

The Municipality is rendering a quality assurance support function and a plays a coordination role to the Local Municipalities. There is an effort to have all projects registered with the NHBRC. Out of the five (5) projects, only three (3) are registered and the other two (2) are not registered. However; the municipality with the assistance of the Department of Human Settlements, is making an effort to probe in the dolomite nature of the areas identified.

The Housing Manager had this to say ""We are accredited for level one and we are doing some functions relating to level two, which includes project management. We are capacitating ourselves to attain the specific level two requirements. The requirement of professionals in the municipality is being sought through the Municipal Infrastructure Support Agency."

The Housing Unit structure is functional and four well equipped staff members are serving in the section and the Unit is also getting all the support it needs from the entire municipality.



***RDP Houses in Van Zylsrus***