

Govt introduces new housing scheme

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The department of human settlement this week hosted its first Finance-Linked Individual Subsidy Programme (FLISP) aimed at helping people in the R3 501 and R15 000 income band acquire houses.

The system will benefit, among others, civil servants such as policemen, nurses, soldiers and administrative staff who have struggled to buy houses in the past.

The workshop, which was held at Lebohang building in Bloemfontein by 30 practitioners who will be implementing the FLISP, intended to fulfil one of President Jacob Zuma and Free State Premier Ace Magashule's priorities announced in the State of the Nation Address and State of Province Address respectively.

The programme is run by the National Housing Finance Corporation (NHFC), a human settlements institution, which is the implementing agent and is in partnership with commercial banks.

Free State Human Settlement spokesperson Senne Bogatsu said the programme will help a lot of people who are not able to obtain or qualify for housing finance because of their income status which is regarded as too low for mortgage finance but too high to also qualify for the government free-basic-house subsidy scheme.

“This programme is what our people have been waiting for. Not everyone is waiting for a government-subsidized house. People want to have homes but have not been able to because they earn too little for a mortgage bond. Now government has enabled home ownership through FLISP,” said Bogatsu.