public works & infrastructure
Department of Public Works & Infrastructure
FREE STATE PROVINCE

Media Statement
To: All Media

THE COUNCIL FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT HOST 2025 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT FORUM IN MANGAUNG, FREE STATE

The Council for the Built Environment (CBE) hosted a Two Day (21-22 August 2025) Built Environment Stakeholder Engagement Forum (BESEF), at Ilanga Estate, Bloemfontein.

This year's forum is held under the theme: "Building and Shaping the Future: For a sustainable, intelligent, agile and thriving built environment."

The CBE was established for the purpose of instilling good conduct within built environment professions, mobilizing transformation in the built environment professions, protecting the interest of the public and advising the South African Government on Built Environment related issues.

It also serves as a strategic platform for continued dialogue, collaboration and innovation among key stakeholders within the built environment sector.

As an invited guest speaker to deliberate on the built environment and women empowerment, the MEC for the department of Public Works and Infrastructure, MEC Dibolelo Mance emphasised that the 'build industry can no longer thrive without the active participation, leadership, and innovation of women. As we reflect on the progress made and the challenges that remain, one truth is clear. Women's empowerment is not only a matter of equity, but also a catalyst for innovation and transformation in the built industry," said MEC Mance.

The MEC also added that the presence of women in architecture, engineering, construction, and infrastructure development brings new perspectives, creativity, and resilience that enrich the sector and drive sustainable growth.

The engagement was also joined by the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, Hon. Dean Macpherson, Executive Mayor: City of Mangaung, Cllr Gregory Nthatisi and the CEO of CBE, Dr. Msizi Myeza.

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