



## **Vuna Awards Fact Sheet**

Vuna is the Nguni word for “Harvest together”. As a symbol of the Vuna Awards, it celebrates those who are helping to sow the seeds of development and are ensuring a good harvest for the lives of all the people of South Africa.

The Vuna Awards are an initiative of the Department of Provincial and Local Government [DPLG] in Partnership with the Development Bank of Southern Africa [DBSA], the National Productivity Institute [NPI] and the South African Local Government Association [SALGA]

The Vuna Awards were introduced in 2003 to seek out those municipalities who exercise innovation and excellence in fulfilling their service delivery mandate.

In section 152[1] of the Constitution of South Africa [Act 108 of 1996] Local Government is charged with the following objectives :

- a) to provide democratic and accountable government for local communities
- b) to ensure the provision of services to communities in a sustainable manner
- c) to promote social and economic development
- d) to promote a safe and healthy environment; and
- e) to encourage the involvement of communities and community organisations in the matters of local government

South Africa has 284 municipalities, all concerned with service delivery to the people who live within their boundaries. Many municipalities have made great progress in redressing the imbalances of the past. Many have seized the challenge of making the best and most effective use of their resources to benefit their stakeholders. Vuna Awards recognises the best and encourages others to work towards excellence.

