

MAYOR WELCOMES THE PRESTIGIOUS GOOD GOVERNANCE AWARD

Blouberg Local Municipality Mayor, Her Worship Cllr Maria Thamaga has welcomed the good governance recognition award presented to the municipality for its outstanding performance by Good Governance Africa(GGA) during its 10th Anniversary event held today (October 2, 2024) in Johannesburg.

In March, the GGA through its Governance Performance Index (GPI) - 2024 ranking, ranked Blouberg Local Municipality Number 1 for its outstanding performance from the sixty-one (61) Category B4 - Mostly Rural Local Municipalities Category. According to GGA's Governance Insights and Analytics, Head of Programme, Ms Chrissy Dube, when conducting the ranking for best performing municipalities; the GGA checked how the municipality looks like from Service Delivery perspective, Audit, Administrative; Leadership and Governance, Planning and Development, Monitoring as well as other mandates. Service delivery is weighted most due to the importance the local government has in terms of distributing core services to households.

" The reason we are doing local government work is because between, national, provincial and local government, local government is the closest to the citizens and part of GGA's mandate is to improve the lives of citizens by empowering them to active citizenry by being accountable citizens that are able to hold the government to account , while we empowering the state to be a capable state. It is not a competition; GPI is a mirror for every municipality to look at. If you have seen where you ranked as a municipality in the GPI , we are able to do a deep dive , give you the reasons why you ranked where you ranked; where you are doing well and where you need to improve".

Handing over the GGA Awards of Recognition, Executive Director GGA East Africa, Tina Asante-Apeatu indicated that maladministration, corruption are shamed publicly and it is also crucial to recognized good governance performance publicly.

Upon accepting the Award, Mayor Maria Thamaga indicated that, the municipality will continue to do things by the book and prioritize its citizens in terms of service provision. The Mayor further thanked GGA founder, Mr Robert Rose for the good work in advancing good governance in the continent.

" Thank you very much for the opportunity, I feel very much honored on behalf of Blouberg Municipality to receive this Award of Recognition. This, says a lot about us as an institution. The GPI rating indicates our ability to deliver sustainable services regardless of how much we have, how we run our finances, the quality of the team work as Council, the planning and our administration in general. I would like to extend my appreciation to the founder, Robert Rose and his entire team. Your commitment to good governance in Africa is really encouraging. Continue to advocate for good governance in our mother continent, and we wish you many many more decades of existence".

Other categories awarded as top performers in local government were;

■ Metropolitan Rank | City of Cape Town (Western Cape)

- Big/Large Towns Local Municipalities | Saldanha Bay Local Municipality (Western Cape)
 - Secondary Towns Local Municipalities | Drakenstein Local Municipality (Western Cape)
 - Small Towns Local Municipalities | Swartland Local Municipality (Western Cape)
 - Rural Municipalities | Blouberg Local Municipality (Limpopo);
- As well as those municipalities that achieved second spots.
Good Governance Index top ranking on District Municipalities ;
- Non-Water Services Authority District Municipality | Cape Winelands (Western Cape)
 - Water Services Authority District Municipality | Joe Gqabi (Eastern Cape).

Among other dignitaries at the ceremony were; National Commissioner(Deputy Chairperson)Public Service Commission of South Africa, Ms Zukiswa Mqolomba, African Union(AU) Commission, Head of the African Governance , Ambassador Salah S Hammad , Justice Richard Goldstone and representatives from Coorporative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA), Auditor General of South Africa (AGSA) Embassy of Finland, African Union Secretariat Peer Review Mechanism and Mail & Gurdian Newspaper.









Award of recognition

**Top Performer:
Rural Municipalities**

Presented to

Blouberg Local Municipality

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Deji Hastrup', is positioned above the printed name.

Deji Hastrup
Chairman, Good Governance Africa, SARO

October 2024