Abahlali baseMjondolo

Public housing in South Africa



Project author or developer: **Abahlali baseMjondolo**

Where:

ZA / Afrique du Sud / EThekwini

Website:

www.abahlali.org

Abahlali baseMjondolo (Zulu, Shack Dwellers) (SOUTH AFRICA), also known as AbM or the red shirts is a shack-dwellers' movement in South Africa which is well known for its campaigning for public housing. It is the largest shack dweller's organization in South Africa and campaigns to improve the living conditions of poor people and to democratize society from below. The movement refuses party politics, boycott selections and has a history of conflict with both the African National Congress and the Democratic Alliance. Its key demand is that the social value of urban land should take priority over its commercial value and it campaigns for the public expropriation of large privately owned landholdings. The key organising strategy is to try "to recreate Commons" from below by trying to create a series of linked communes.



