



Ahmed Vawda at the Housing Solutions Conference in Auckland Park, Joburg. Photo by Watson Mcofeli

Private sector's help needed

By NJABULO NGCOBO

HOUSING companies and agencies have to work with the government to help people get money to buy affordable houses.

This was the message of the Department of Human Settlement at the International Housing Solutions Conference in Joburg, that was held to share ideas on how to make sure that people are able to buy affordable houses.

Ahmed Vawda, the technical advisor to the director-general, said some municipalities had successfully worked with private organisations to ensure that people were able to live in better houses.

"Lendcor and government will soon be working together to provide housing for rural people, so why can't government and other private organisations find each other?"

Vawda said they were presently in discussions with the private sector.

Kagiso Urban Management director, Graeme Reid, said the lack of subsidies for buyers had a major negative impact on affordability.

According to Reid the tax system also had to be reviewed to support the delivery of houses for this market.

