



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

EdTM

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

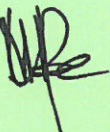
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES: QUESTION ★111 FOR ORAL REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Ms M L Moshodi (Free State: ANC) is attached for your consideration.


DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 05/05/2017

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED



**MRS NP MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**

DATE: 07.05.17

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO ★111

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 26 APRIL 2017
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 10)

★111. Ms M L Moshodi (Free State: ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

Whether her department has any programmes to raise awareness on the importance of (a) water conservation and (b) the promotion of sanitation best practices (details furnished); if not, why not; if so, (i) how effective are the awareness programmes in achieving the intended objectives and (ii) what are the further relevant details? CO155E

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REPLY:

- (a) Yes, my Department has programmes to raise awareness on the importance of water conservation and the promotion of sanitation best practices. My Department coordinates a number of Education and Awareness programmes for water conservation, namely: South African Youth Water Prize, WC/WDM Social Advocacy in the Agriculture Sector, and School & Community Outreach Campaigns.

South African Youth Water Prize (SAYWP)

The SAYWP is a science and technology based programme that is targeted at high school learners. The main objective of the SAYWP is to promote the protection of South Africa's natural resources and to encourage and empower the youth to participate actively in integrated and community based water resources management.

Water Conservation and Water Demand Management (WC/WDM) Social Advocacy in the Agriculture Sector

The objective of the programme is to educate the farmers and their workers about the importance of implementing WC/WDM in their daily activities in order to curtail water losses in the sector.

School & Community Outreach Campaigns

My Department also conducts road-shows to create awareness about the importance of water conservation and promotion of sanitation best practices. The road-shows include visits to schools, taxi ranks, shopping complexes and community centres to convey messages on water use efficiency. The messages are conveyed through presentations, street theatre, and a demonstration on how to repair a leaking tap.

- (a)(i) These education and awareness raising programmes have achieved the set objectives of ensuring that communities and water use sectors improve on the efficient use of water and appreciation of importance of water conservation.
- (a)(ii) Together with sector partners and the private sector, my Department participates in awareness campaigns during world recognized Environmental Calendar Days such as

World Water Day, Earth Day etc. These special days are observed throughout the year to reinforce and raise the profile of water conservation, as well as to solicit political support and to encourage municipalities to prioritize water conservation and water demand management.

- (b) Promotion of sanitation best practices through lesson learning and knowledge sharing within the water and sanitation sector is a priority. My Department works through Water Information Network of South Africa (WIN-SA) to facilitate, co-ordinate and provide access to required information and knowledge in the water sector especially for local government and private/NGO agencies. There is a huge amount of information out there – people with know-how, documents, events lesson etc. WIN-SA puts together and provides an overview and insight through entry points, one of which is web portal. Beside the web portal, best practices are shared through working sessions, panel discussion and strategic dialogues. My Department has Information Dissemination Programme to disseminate sanitation tools, guidelines, policy, strategies to municipal officials on regular basis. These documents assist them in the planning, implementation and monitoring of sanitation projects and programmes.

Furthermore, my Department has the Councilor Development Programme to empower local government councilors to provide well-informed political leadership in the delivery of sustainable sanitation services.

- (b)(i) Whilst solutions could not be given, it is pertinent to raise issues around attempts to deal with sanitation delivery. The lesson learning platforms and awareness programmes in achieving the intended objectives is changing the mindset of communities and changing the bad practices in municipalities thereby enhancing sanitation services delivery.
- (b)(ii) Further relevant details are that together with its sector partners and the private sector, the Department embarked on awareness campaigns in the form of World Recognized Day Events. These special days were observed during the year to reinforce and raise the profile of sanitation, to solicit political support and to encourage municipalities to prioritize sanitation and hygiene education and share sanitation good practices. (Global Hand-Washing Day, World Toilet Day, Hygiene Campaign, Sanitation and Hygiene Week).

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