



## **INTERNET ARTICLE**

### **DWS awards excellence at the National Adjudication Ceremony**

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The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), on Friday, 29 September 2017, gathered learners from different provinces at Birchwood Hotel and Conference Centre, Boksburg, Ekurhuleni. These were learners who had participated in various action projects under the 2020 Vision Programmes.

The award ceremony was officiated by Acting Deputy Director-General for the Project Management Unit, Ms Petunia Ramunenyiwa, and aimed at acknowledging excellence depicted by learners who participate various programmes including Baswa Le Meetse, Aqua Enduro, South African Youth Water Prize, Eco Schools and Public Speaking.

Speaking at the ceremony Ms Ramunenyiwa said, “We would like to acknowledge the work of the educators who have availed themselves to hone the skills of the learners and inculcate in their learning programmes critical issues of water and sanitation.”

The biggest winners of the Baswa Le Meetse Project were from KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng. These are learners who dominated sub categories such as praise poetry, drama, poster, music and public speaking.

The Gauteng Province also obtained 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the public speaking project.

The participants of the South African Youth Water Prize were awarded with bursaries and certificates of participation. The Limpopo Province won the first prize of R9 000 and therefore represented South Africa at the World Water Week in Stockholm, Sweden.

Under the Eco Schools Programme, KwaZulu-Natal won R50 000 as the first prize, Northern Cape collected R30 000 for their 2<sup>nd</sup> prize, while the Free State scooped R10 000 as the 3<sup>rd</sup> runner ups.

The Aqua Enduro Programme also awarded prizes, and learners from Gauteng were awarded the 1<sup>st</sup> prize.

Part of the prizes on the night included 67 bursaries to all winners as well certificates and trophies of excellence.

Closing the ceremony, Ms Ramunenyiwa expressed her gratitude to all the sponsors for their endless support of these programmes. Sponsors include Rand Water, Sedibeng Water, Department of Education, the City of Ekurhuleni, Water Research Commission, the South African Youth Water Prize Jury as well as the South African South African Institution of Civil Engineering.

**Mbalenhle Dlamini**