



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS brings heads together to discuss water quality management

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Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) today brought various officials from relevant sections in the Department and some water sector stakeholders and partners together to find solutions for challenges associated with Water quality management. This is through the Integrated Water Quality Management (IWQM) Symposium currently underway in Centurion, Tshwane under the theme **"Taking Innovation Into Practice"**.

Chief Director of Water Policy in the Department, Marie Brisley believes this a much needed platform to help alleviate the negative impacts faced by IWQM. She gave a comprehensive presentation on various policies in place to control activities in this sphere such as the sanitation policy and the wetland policy.

"The Department is currently working on how to improve regulation and enforcement processes to improve water quality, because that is one of the biggest challenges that we are facing. We are also looking at ways to work and engage with local government to achieve and rectify this, as they are the responsible party".

Impacts include those caused by factors such as uncontrolled discharges from abandoned mines and mine dumps, as well as non-compliance to water use license prescripts, amongst other things.

Key areas of discussions include building partnerships, improving monitoring and information management, strengthening regulation and innovating finance as well as aligning policies to best support the initiative.

Various organisations that form part of the South African Strategic Water Partners Network (SWPN) presented their various initiatives and programmes aimed at improving the quality of drinking water in the country.

Maduvha Maseda