



INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS's Gauteng Provincial Office up the stakes in technology to improve service

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The Gauteng Provincial Office of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) plans of integrating various information systems are gaining traction following a workshop with representatives of the Brabantse Delta Water Authority and Hydraulics, both based in the Netherlands.

The workshop which took place at the Provincial Office on Friday, 24 November 2017, was meant to provide a briefing to the staff about the uses and the efficacy of HydroNet As a portal of all water resource management systems of the DWS. The workshop was also used to plan the implementation of the HydroNet in the Vaal Water Management Area.

When up and running, the HydroNet will provide impeccable central information from which officials can access up-to-date information to make informed decisions on water resource management interventions as and when necessary.

The Haudralics representative, Ms Helga Vuist, said the HydroNet is a technological water management tool that will assist the Department to optimally distribute water resources, monitor the main water polluters, empowering water users as well as monitoring the status of the Vaal Water Management Area.

“The system will facilitate access to internal and external data, combine and analyse and keep an eye on the water resources,” Ms Vuist said, that the system will provide timely alerts and reduce impact while providing information to stakeholders.

The existing systems that will be integrated in the HydroNet include EWulaas, Water Management System (WMS), Hydstra, Water Use Authorisation and Registration Management System (WARMS).

DWS Upper Vaal Proto CMA's Dr Konanani Khorommbi expressed his anticipation for the use of the technology, saying it will not only assist one unit but that it must be to the benefit of every unit in the department.

Dr Khorommbi said they were going to look at the possibility of further configuring the Hydronet to display the information in the various customer care centers of the Department. Dr Khorommbi said: “As we look forward to the setting up of this system, we will be investigate different modalities. However, we want the system to not only to be accessed by those in the water control rooms but to be accessed by everyone in their own offices.”

Information Technology specialist at the Provincial Office, Mr Charles Manqele, said the beauty of the system is that once it is running, officials will be able to access



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information using various methods, including through their Cellphones and tablets/ipads.

Follow up workshop will take place towards the end of January 2018 to hammer out the details of the rollout of the system.

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