



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS's graduate trainee passionate about water resource management

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Ambitious and determined, Katlego Ledwaba is a young person who has always worn his heart on his sleeves when it comes to water issues.

The graduate of the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) acquired a diploma in civil engineering last year after receiving funding from the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) to increase the shrivelling skills in the water sector.

The DWS bursary has seen Katlego from being a young person ready to take any career opportunity that presented itself to becoming a passionate trainee graduate with a keen interest in water resource management.

Ready to take up any career, he was introduced to available careers in the water sector by his school's bursary office where he got to know about exciting careers in the sector. Having options of a range of careers, Katlego chose to pursue civil engineering and he never looked back.

Now with the department's Upper Vaal Proto CMA, the 23-year old Katlego from Madiba Park in Limpopo says he has found his purpose, adding that he has no regret becoming an engineer.

Katlego says he saw the full weight of his decision to take up a career in civil engineering when he was assisting with an installation of a pipeline in Venda where there is still water shortage.

"The situation in Venda was an eye opener for me when I realised that since the advent of democracy some people were still without running water. This made me aware of the magnitude of the challenge we still have as a country and that this is one area where we need to do more," says Katlego.

Despite still being a novice, Katlego is fully aware of his role in the water to ease to the challenge of water scarcity.

He says: "As young people we have a role to play in the water sector. As a technically savvy generation, we should come up with innovative ways by using the technology we have at our disposal to better manage our water resources."

With an insatiable appetite for learning more, Katlego believes he still has more to learn, having just been with the Gauteng Provincial Office for only four months.

A person who is more at home working in the outdoors, Katlego places his love for the construction side of his career as his one true calling.

"I am a hands-on person and so naturally I am very much interested in the construction and I feel this is where I can make an indelible mark and being with the department will go a long way in moulding that person," says Katlego.



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Katlego says his life-long dream is to combine his entrepreneurial spirit with the skill he is currently acquiring from the department to one day start his own company in the construction industry.

Hosia Sithole