



INTERNET ARTICLE

Having fun while learning about the water and sanitation sector

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Fifty four Grade 11 Mathematics and Physical Science learners are having fun whilst increasing their knowledge and skills and competing for bursaries to further their education in the water sector. A healthy mind requires a healthy body, and the learners are nourished both mentally and physically through physical activities and mental educational tests as part of the Aqua Enduro competition that took place in the Kruger National Park from 03 to 08 December 2017.

Aqua Enduro is one of the flagship programmes of the Department of Water and Sanitation aimed at addressing the skills shortage in the scientific and engineering disciplines within the water sector. The competition is open to Grade 11 learners studying Mathematics and Physical Science with an interest in the water sector. Aqua Enduro forms part of the Department's 2020 Vision for Water and Sanitation Education Programme. This year marks the tenth year of the programme which has seen about 147 learners receiving bursaries to fulfill their dreams in the scientific and engineering sphere.

The learners are so excited about being the chosen ones from their provinces and the experience they are gaining as part of the programme. "I am here to gather as much information and skills as possible. Since the beginning of the programme, I have noticed that teamwork is critical not only for the project but in life in general. This programme is also assisting me to enhance my knowledge of the water sector. I'm focused in receiving a bursary as I intend to pursue a career in hydrology. I will share the knowledge I have gained with my peers and encourage community to save water as it is scarce and limited resource", stated one of the learners, Sphiwe Msibi of Mdzili Secondary School in Schulzendal in the Mpumalanga Province.

Another learner, Yolanda Meke from The Beacon Secondary School in Phuthaditjhaba in the Free State Province, who wants to be a mechanical engineer, stated that she is enjoying the activities and the interactions with other learners from other provinces as it exposes her to



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other cultures. “The game drive was the highlight of my week especially when I saw an elephant and a giraffe”, she said.

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