



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Tshepiso Lehutjo's hard work earned her DWS graduate trainee bursary

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Tshepiso Lehutjo is 23 years old and was born and bred in Mokopane Village, Limpopo Province.

She is an active individual who does not fear challenges or responsibilities. She flourishes when given the opportunity to lead and have often found herself at the forefront of projects.

"I enjoy interacting with people in various platforms and volunteering at organisations such as WomenEng. I have a good interpersonal skill that is why I do not shy away from learning new experiences. I ensure that I am always improving my personal and intellectual abilities," said Tshepiso.

She was one of the young people who competed in the 2010 AquaEnduro competition in Port Elizabeth representing Gauteng province.

According to Tshepiso, she was able to study Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Civil Engineering at the University of Witwatersrand for four (4) years as a result of the bursary she received through the AquaEnduro competition.

Tshepiso graduated in December 2016 and started working for DWS in February 2017 as a graduate trainee under Engineering Services on a three (3) years contract.

"I am involved in environmental engineering and design reviews. For environmental engineering I contribute to the environmental aspects of large capital projects such as dams. With Engineering design reviews, I am part of a team which reviews engineering designs for projects that require water licenses", said Tshepiso.

When asked about how she feels as one of the DWS graduate trainee, she responded with a smile saying "I feel privileged to be part of the graduate trainee programme which contributes to the development of the country. It feels good to be involved in such a programme that empowers young people and gives them a platform to build their careers. It's more than just a job at the department; it's a career in a water related field", answered Tshepiso.

She said that she appreciate being in the public sector because she know that the work she does is for the people of South Africa and not for profit. The main challenge she has right now is the transition from being a student to be an employee as she has to apply what she learned at school and this is not always easy.

Lastly, "I would like to take this opportunity to encourage young people to choose a career in the water sector because water will always be needed, if you are someone who is passionate about the development of your country then you should consider it. Whether there is an abundance of water or there is a shortage of water, your expertise will always be required. Water is a critical resource in



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shaping the development of a country and there are lots of opportunities within the water sector,” concluded Tshepiso.

Emmah Maluleke