



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS signs an agreement with Japan International Cooperation Agency to enhance skills in the water sector

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Water and Sanitation Director-General, Mr Dan Mashitisho has described the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Japan International Cooperation Agency as a step in the right direction in minimizing challenges faced by the water sector.

He was speaking during the signing ceremony held on Friday, 21 April 2017 in Pretoria to usher a new era building much needed technical skills in the water sector.

Director-General Mashitisho who represented DWS in the signing ceremony said that he was very excited about this partnership adding that this particular joint venture is different from other relationships DWS has with other countries.

"This is a sustainable relationship which will provide the South African water sector with a unique opportunity to establish its own training capacity and will continue to benefit the country for generations to come. It is better to teach someone how to fish than always give them fish and that DWS will leverage on this opportunity," he said.

DWS will through this collaboration receive technical support through its Infrastructure Branch Training Centre (IBTC) to curb challenges of aging infrastructure, aging staff, lack of junior staff in technical fields, lack of skilled artisans and implementation of talent management. Programmes for the IBTC include water control officers, plant operators, meter calibration, water purification, water reticulation, on-revenue water reduction and mentoring and coaching.

This is not the first time the two parties are joining forces towards a good course, back in 2013 about 70 water sector officials were trained in Japan and two completed their masters' studies there.

Maduvha Maseda



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