



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Inkomati-Usuthu users engaged on water charges

11 July 2017

Water users in the Inkomati and Usuthu Catchments were engaged as part of the consultation process in relation to the raw pricing charges. The consultation in the Usuthu catchment took place on 05 July 2017 in Mkhondo and the Inkomati Catchment consultation was conducted on 07 July 2017 in Mbombela.

The Inkomati-Usuthu Catchment Management Agency (IUCMA) presented its business plan and the revised charges to the stakeholders and engaged them. The IUCMA also presented its budget and CSI projects for the financial year. The stakeholders were also informed that the IUCMA will start collecting revenue in October so as not to be surprised when they get invoices from the catchment agency.

The stakeholders raised concerns regarding the water quality and requested assistance in dealing with invasive alien plants as they are affecting river flows and reducing accessible water, especially in the Hlelo River. The stakeholders also requested the Department and catchment agency not to dump the water tanks installation project. "The water tanks project is assisting emerging farmers and communities in a very serious light. I can attest that the project is feeding a lot of kids in a school in my area. I therefore plead that this project be continued as it has a positive impact in communities, especially the poor communities in terms of poverty alleviation", said Mr Mnyando from Dundonald.

In terms of section 56, of National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998 the Minister may, with the concurrency of the Minister of Finance, from time to time by notice in the Government Gazette, establish a pricing strategy for any water use within the framework of existing relevant government policy. The Minister as mandated by the National Water Act, from section 56-60 requires the Department of Water and Sanitation to establish a pricing for raw water charges. The water use charges are crucial for the funding of water resource development as well as achieving the equitable and efficient allocation of water.



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Budgets and charges are determined by both Catchment Management Agencies and Operational Cluster offices.

Themba Khoza