



## INTERNET ARTICLE

### DWS celebrates water month at Manamakgotheng, Moses Kotane Municipality

27 March 2023

In celebration of the National Water Week, Deputy Minister of the Department of Water David Mahlobo visited Manamakgotheng in Moses Kotane Local Municipality to assess completion of phase one of Manamakgotheng Bulk Water Supply on 24 March 2023.

Deputy Minister Mahlobo was accompanied by amongst others, the MEC of Local government Mr Nono Maloi, MEC of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism Ms Tsotso Tlhapi, Chairperson of Salga in the North West Mr Molefe Khumalo, Bojanala District Mayor Ms Nketu Nkotsoe, Coca Cola and other stakeholders.

Phase two of the projects is currently underway and is expected to be completed by the end of April 2023. It focuses on building a reservoir to augment the current infrastructure to address water provisioning and to provide permanent water relief to communities of Moses Kotane Local Municipality.

The new reservoir which is under construction will supply the community with 1.2 megalitres of water per day, whereas the current reservoir can only give 0.6 megalitres (600 000 litres) a day. Therefore, the two reservoirs will supply a capacity of 1.8 megalitres per day.

Mr John Ratombo from the infrastructure in the province, said Phase three of the project, which is reticulation, will be completed by the end of October or the beginning of November 2023 according to

In his address DM Mahlobo said that the month of March is a human rights month, where in SA we celebrate that we must be respected that we are people.

He reiterated that the 22 of March is celebrated as an international water month and currently the minister is in New York representing South Africa dealing with issues of water.

“20-26 March is national water week, but the whole month of March is celebrated as water month. The issue of water is an issue of life – without water or oxygen we can’t live”. DM Mahlobo said.

He further said that 94% of the population has water but there are people who still don’t have water.

‘The government understands that some don’t have water and we have to do more. The President has prioritised water problems to be resolved and people should get water in their houses. The challenges of water supply in North West is that there are areas which do not have water, but the department will do whatever it takes to make sure that people get water because there are sources of water in Moses Kotane”, said DM Mahlobo.

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## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
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Vaalkop dam can provide mines, agriculture and the communities with water but the problem is how to keep that water as the reservoirs are small.

Magalies water requested funding from the budget facility, and more than 1.4 billion was approved for 3 projects in Moses Kotane and 2 projects at Rustenburg. There is going to be a 15kilometres pipeline from Pilanesberg which will pass at Moses Kotane and communities should get water. Magalies to start with the process of acquiring contractors for the pipeline while waiting for the money which will be disbursed by the end of June or July.

Molatedi dam will also be looked at as another form of supplying water to the communities of Moses Kotane. The provincial head and his counterpart from Cogta and the municipal manager together with the technical directors were given two months to come with technical report of how to get funding, and to present the plan and designs with regards to getting water.

Many communities are using boreholes. According to a report from the province Moses Kotane has 290 boreholes, and out of the boreholes 35percent are not working.

Deputy Minister Mahlobo also raised these concerns in his speech

- Illegal connections are a big problem whereby pressure of water comes down
- traditional leaders allocating stands without planning and these people need water
- Building on top of infrastructure
- Building inside rivers, not checking the flood lines
- Vandalism whereby communities steal parts and strip off pumps for copper
- Business people – 30 percent local, whereby they leave projects incomplete
- Pit toilets will contaminate ground water

“Work together, side by side with communities we are going to bring water” those were the DM’s parting words.

**Morekeng Phali**

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