



INTERNET ARTICLE

North West Sanitation holds a Provincial Sanitation Task Team meeting

16 August 2023

The Department of Water and Sanitation's (DWS's) sanitation unit in the North West province held the Provincial Sanitation Task Team (PSTT) meeting at Anew Hotel in Rustenburg.

The meeting is a follow-up to the development of national sanitation integrated plan (NSIP) meeting held at Rio Casino in Klerksdorp in March 2023.

PSTT comprises of different stakeholders in the province. These stakeholders include the four District Municipalities in the province, Water Services Authorities (WSAs), Office of the Premier, various Departments including Department of Health, Education, Human Settlement, Social Development, Agriculture and CoGTA, different NGOs, Waterboards, Salga and others.

The objectives of the PSTT is to engage with provincial sanitation sector stakeholders, with a specific focus on ensuring that all key sanitation challenges and associated root causes contributing to the status of sanitation in the province have been identified, co creating an appropriate provincial action plan to provide solutions.

The establishment of the PSTT is in par with the departmental legislative mandate – the National Sanitation Framework (NSF), to work towards achieving sustainable development goal - SDG6.2.

Ms Nonceba Sineke from DWS Head office said “The Water and Sanitation masterplan plan instructed us that we need to come up with an integrated plan, hence the NSIP that is one of the reasons we are here.” By the year 2030, we are expected to provide safely managed sanitation services to all in South Africa.

In his opening statement, Mr Kolokoto from Sanitation unit in the province said “We are all here to build the province, not to pinpoint fingers, to check where are we coming from, where we are now and how do we go forward. Sanitation is dignity”.

PSTT is to deal with access to Sanitation services to all within the North West province, address backlogs and Green Drop Report Outcomes. According to the green drop report, almost all municipalities in the province are in the red – meaning that their Waste Water Treatment Plants are in a critical state.

Another challenge that the PSTT will deal with includes the vacant positions for Process controllers and the skill gaps in that field, as this seems to be the challenge in municipalities.

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water & sanitation

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Water and Sanitation
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The roles and responsibilities of the PSTT are and not limited to:

- Coordination and to provide strategic advice for sanitation service delivery.
- Monitor the adherence to norms and standards during the implementation of sanitation
- Monitor progress made and report towards meeting SDG 6.2 and NDP 2030 targets to the NSTT and AMCOW
- Promote services that use Water effectively and efficiently
- Promote the use of sanitation innovations.
- Promote safely managed services that are sustainable in order to improve human health, reduce poverty and promote economic growth.
- Report progress to National Sanitation Task Team (NSTT)

From the meeting these are some of the key actions:

- Risk factors and risk management to be incorporated into the NSIP's action plan for the province
- To relook at Process controllers, based on approved regulations and to check on the Iris system, to get information
- Confirm backlogs by WSA action produced from figures that were presented by Mr Kolokoto
- CoGTA to formally invite department of Human Settlements into the DDM core infrastructure group
- DWS to also ensure that the gaps on bulk infrastructure are taken into the DDM core infrastructure group for actioning
- CoGTA, DWS and Salga to participate in the informal cluster led by the Dept of Human Settlements
- DWS to present NSF key provisions at the Human Settlements forum also at the DDM core group
- Department of Public Works (DPW), Department of Health (DOH) and DWS to discuss the ownership of the Waste Water Treatment Plant utilised by DOH
- DOH and Department of Basic Education (DBE) to engage DWS on dry boreholes for DWS to provide assistance
- DWS to send report to DBE and DOH on what data is required towards meeting the 2030 targets

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