



INTERNET ARTICLE

Esmy Madumo is proud to be serving under the Department of Water and Sanitation

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Born and bred in a rural village of Seabe in Mpumalanga, Esmy Madumo juggles many roles as a manager in the Department of Water and Sanitation, a mother and a wife, and is currently pursuing her Master's degree in Environmental Science.

Her role in the Department is centered around the transformation of Irrigation Boards into Water User association, facilitating Catchment Management Forums, and the establishment of the Catchment Management Agencies.

Her day-to-day roles are encompassed by the mandate of the Department which is to establish reforms and make sure that water resources are protected, used, managed, and conserved in a sustainable manner.

"To be able to achieve the Department's mandate, I always achieve through continuous Interpersonal skills, teamwork, presentation skills and Batho pele principles. It is important that we serve our communities to the best of our abilities, and the basic principles of service delivery is the bedrock to achieving our Departmental goals" said Madumo.

Madumo said that platforms such as Catchment Management Forums are voluntary structures that play a very vital role in water resource management chain, because Non-Government Organization represents communities.

She said that within the water service forums, which are service delivery inclined, as a woman she strongly believes that there should be a merge between National Water Act (NWA) and Water Service Authorities (WSA) to ensure that the correct services are efficiently delivered to women, mothers, and girl-children.

She further said mentions the Department is moving swiftly to ensure that barriers are being removed so that efforts for transformation are realised in the water sector.

"Departmental programmes such as Women in Water Entrepreneurship Incubator, Mentorship programme, and Women in Water and Sanitation Forums are revolutionary and designed to empower women of our country, and most importantly to further create new economic opportunities for the previously disadvantaged to push back poverty and joblessness", she says.

Madumo said that women are gradually turning the tide as they now occupy senior leadership positions. "This is demonstrated by a recent appointment of the Minister of Water and Sanitation,

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SOUTH AFRICA IS A WATER-SCARCE COUNTRY

Pemmy Majodina and many more such as women deputy director generals, Directors and Chief Directors. We have also noticed a change in engineering fields with many women engineers being appointed and occupy senior positions which were previously male dominated in the water and sanitation sector”, she added

Madumo quoted by saying: “Freedom cannot be achieved unless women have been emancipated from all forms of oppression. In this Women’s month and beyond we want to see women being free from oppression – there is evidence of women emancipation however the pace is slow. We still experience patriarchy especially from social, tribal, and religious system however women are beautifully and wonderfully made by God. I’m part of the Charlotte Maxeke Institution where one of our slogans is women of charitable deeds. In this women’s month, despite all the odds that we can experience, we are given power by God to conquer in all situations. Life is like seasons, winter will come, summer will come autumn will come also Saturdays will come but yesterday cannot be like today. Let’s continue to be steadfast and serve our country with pride. Prayer must be a cornerstone of our life. Enjoy Women’s Month”, ends Esmy

Katlego Bolokang