



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**PARTICIPATION BY THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WATER AND
SANITATION**

HON. PAMELA TSHWETE

**ON THE OCCASION OF UNVEILING THE AFRICA WATER
INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (AIP) SUPPORT TO PIDA WATER (2019-
2024)**

*"ACCELERATING PROJECT PREPARATION AND FINANCING OF
TRANSBOUNDARY WATER AND HYDROPOWER PROJECTS IN AFRICA:*

LEARNING FROM AFRICA AND SCALING UP"

GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL, STOCKHOLM.

Date: 29 August 2018

Time: 07.30 - 09.45

Venue: Grand Central Hotel by Scandic, Stockholm

Conveners: African Union, AFDB, AWF, NEPAD Planning Agency, AMCOW,
GWP

Chairperson: HE Prof Makame Mbarawa, AMCOW President

Minister of Water and Irrigation, Tanzania

Excellences

AMCOW Executive Secretary

President of the Global Water Partnership

Our Moderator:

Panelists

International Bankers present

International Cooperating Partners

Ladies and Gentlemen

All protocol observed

I stand here today humbled by the task before us, grateful for the trust you have bestowed that I participate at this important gathering where Africa is moving forward to ensure that we are funded so as to change the lives of our people, in particular of women and youth.

In his inaugural address to Parliament of South Africa, His Excellency President Cyril Ramaphosa, bemoaned the slow progress in implementing water infrastructure projects in South Africa.

This challenge is not unique to South Africa only but has been noted in the African Minister's Council on Water (AMCOW's) evaluation of the Programme for PIDA Water projects. We welcome this platform to come up with concrete actions to ensure that water infrastructure projects are implemented.

South Africa is pleased that the High Level Panel on Water (HLPW), established by UN Secretary General and World Bank President,

recognized the need for a comprehensive AIP to catalyze SDG's implementation and job creation within our continent. The Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP), championed by three African Heads of state on the High Level Panel on Water (HLPW) (South Africa, Mauritius and Senegal), will play an important role in improving the investment outlook for water security and sustainable sanitation in Africa.

AIP will strengthen the business case for investments in water security and prepare bankable projects as instruments to stimulate economic growth. Thus, the efforts and work done by all role players towards achieving the objectives of the AIP is commendable.

Let me share with you how South Africa has managed to find innovative ways to cooperate on Trans boundary water resources and ensured that we attract investment for the projects implementation.

South Africa has water sharing agreements and a number of water and energy infrastructure projects that are being implemented.

Lesotho: Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP), South Africa gets water and Lesotho gets hydropower;

Namibia: The feasibility study on the Vioolsdrift/Noordoewer project which is nearing completion;

Botswana: Several transboundary water management projects have been implemented.

eSwatini on the Maguga/Drie Koppies Dam where South Africa gets water and ESwatini also generates electricity;

Zimbabwe A framework has been approved to jointly commission a study to assess the feasibility for South Africa to get water from Zimbabwe Water Sources.

Programme Director, allow me to share with you one of the key projects with hydropower component, which is LHWP, which was

developed in partnership between the governments of Lesotho and South Africa. Phase 1 of the project entailed harnessing the waters of the Senqu/Orange River in the Lesotho highlands through the construction of a series of dams for the mutual benefit of the two countries. I invite you to get further details of the projects, at the Department of Water and Sanitation Exhibition Stand

LESOTHO HIGHLANDS WATER PROJECT (LHWP) BENEFITS TO LESOTHO

The GDP rose from 3% per annum in pre-project period to 5.5% per annum during Phase I construction, with more than 16,000 jobs created. Development of two large scale trout farms, construction of high quality roads with improved access, improved electricity supply network and industry growth realized from the power generation. Clinics and Community halls were also built and there is now improved telecommunication systems network.

LHWP BENEFITS TO SOUTH AFRICA

High quality water is transferred to South Africa with reduced water treatment costs, with a secured and cost effective water supply for Mining, Industrial, Agricultural and Households.

Employment opportunities were created during construction of the Delivery Tunnel, and new Border posts established.

Phase II of the project promises benefits beyond the increased water and electricity supply. The two governments have agreed that 30% of the construction will be designated to women and youth.

In Conclusion:

The underlying message remains that the current level of financing for water and sanitation activities on the continent falls far below the level required to meet the SDG's, AU agenda 2063 and Africa Water Vision 2025 commitments. I would like to encourage African

Governments to commit to providing the necessary political support to the implementation of both the AIP and PIDA.

I also wish to call on International Development Partners and Private Sector to continue to support Africa's initiatives and development. Let us learn from experiences such as those I highlighted within the Lesotho Highlands Water Project. Finally, South Africa is in full support of the AIP and PIDA, and is fully committed to deliver its mandate in this regard. **I thank you!**