

## **Let's unite to care for water so it cares for us**

AS WE are in winter, most parts of the country have started to experience minimum, or no rainfall. This happens while we live during an unusual era in where Covid-19 is sweeping the country with daily infections and more people losing their lives.

Central to the fight against this virus is ensuring adequate hygiene. The World Health Organization has advised that washing hands with soap regularly is a catalyst in reducing the spread of the virus.

It is unavoidable and fair for people to ask questions about availability in the country, particularly in water-stressed areas. One question is how do you balance washing hands regularly while using water for house chores, agricultural and industrial purposes and then be expected to save water. South Africa is among the driest countries in the world.

The time has arrived that every human being unite under the umbrella theme "Save water and save lives". If we fail to use water sparingly, we'll all be fish out of the water. Both rich and poor need water to survive.

Government has pulled all stops to make sure everyone has portable water access, be it tap water, groundwater or tanks supplied water to rural and informal settlements. The ball is in our court now – either we change our behaviour on water or face the consequences of water supply shortage.

That will result in water rationing. Every drop counts. We need you to save water. If we act responsibly and care for water, it will care for us.

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