

Water security is everyone's responsibility

SOUTH Africa is one of the 30 driest countries and receives about half the world average in terms of rainfall.

Climate change is having a negative impact on water resources and availability as a result of high evaporation due to hot temperatures and unpredictable rain patterns.

All these put South Africa in a tight corner and calls for everyone to prioritise the conservative, wise and sparing use of water and prevent the pollution of water resources and unnecessary water losses.

Water is life and has no substitute

which makes it important that we all become responsible water users to ensure sustainable water supply and security for the current and future generations.

The time to take action is now. We all have to work together to ensure that we achieve this goal.

Leaks have been identified as the major cause of water loss. It is therefore critical that we fix all leaks.

Individuals have to fix leaks in their households. It is also the responsibility of citizens to report leaks in the bulk pipelines. Municipalities and

water service providers must quickly fix all bulk pipeline leaks. They must invest in infrastructure maintenance and have dedicated budgets for operations and maintenance.

Pollution is a threat to water security. Let us protect and prevent our water resources from being used as dumping sites.

Water security is in our hands. We all have a responsibility and role to play in ensuring reliable and sustainable water supply for all.

THEMBA KHOZA | Department of Water and Sanitation