



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### MEDIA STATEMENT

#### 3000 Young People Now In Training

**28 September 2015**

*Deputy Minister of Water and Sanitation, Ms Pamela Tshwete, launched the War on Leaks (WoL) training programme today when welcoming the first batch of 3 000 recruits from various provinces during an orientation process.*

*The launch by the Deputy Minister took place at Vincent, East London, in the Eastern Cape for those students who live in the vicinity. Tshwete noted that today, in the nine provinces of South Africa, approximately 3000 trainees who were selected for the first intake for the War on Leaks training programme are now going through this orientation programme.*

*“A month ago, we were an army of 3000 water agents, plumbers and artisans in Port Elizabeth when we launched the War on Leaks and now we have been reduced to the fraction of that to ease learning and training,” said the Deputy Minister.*

*With this training programme launch, the War on Leaks has now started. “You are now expected to play your individual roles and responsibilities in ensuring that we succeed in the fight against water leaks.”*

*Tshwete explained that the programme is launched amid the realisation that South Africa is a water scarce country, adding that there is a huge shortage of technical skills and that South Africa lose approximately R7,2 billion a year. “Beyond this training programme we want to see qualified water agents making a difference by educating communities on using water sparingly and efficiently”, added Tshwete.*

*Tshwete congratulated the trainees for responding to this initiative.*

**END.**

**Issued by the Department of Water and Sanitation**

**For more information please contact: Media Liaison Director, Sputnik Ratau on cell 082 874 2942.**

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