



## MEDIA STATEMENT

**21 JULY 2021**

### **Limpopo dams are stable - but on a downward spiral**

Limpopo province dam levels are stable, although on a decline week-on-week due to lack of rainfalls during this winter season. The provincial levels have slightly decreased with 84.1% this week compared to last week's 84.7%. The water levels have significantly improved this year as compared to last year's 66.5% during this time.

Moreover, the water storage in the province has also declined and stands at 1 245.3 cubic metres out of a full capacity of 1 480.1 cubic metres. This is according to this week's Department of Water and Sanitation's reservoirs report.

The Polokwane Water Supply System supplying water to Polokwane and other surrounding areas is currently sitting at 90.7%, a notable decline from last week's 91.3%. Therefore, the Department of Water and Sanitation calls on the residents of Limpopo to be cautious when using water.

Ebenezer Dam in Groot Letaba, which supplies the majority of communities around Polokwane, has remained unchanged this week at 100.2%. this is a huge improvement from last year when it stood at 14.6% at this time.

In Vhembe District, Nandoni Dam supplied by Levhuvhu River, is stable at its full capacity with 100.8% this week from 100.9% last week. The dam was 99.9% full last year at this time. Vondo Dam is also stable with 99.2% this week, compared to las week's 99.4%. The dam stood at 95.5% capacity last year.

De Hoop Dam in Steelpoort, which supplies the community of Sekhukhune and the local mining industries, is also stable with 97.6 this week, compared to last week's 97.9%. This is an improvement from last year's 94.4% at this time. Flag Boshielo Dam is normally at its full capacity but is now on a downward spiral, recording





87.1% this week from 88.1% last week. The dam recorded 100.0%. last year at this time.

Mokolo Dam in Mokolo River has suffered a slight decrease with a margin of 0,1%. It is now sitting at 99.9% from last week's 100.0%. This is a great level compared to 57.4% last year at this time.

Tzaneen Dam which supplies water to farmers for irrigation in the area has also seen a slight decrease of 0,1% this week. It is now sitting at 100.3% from last week's 100.4%. This dam was at a low of 53.6% last year at this time.

A critically low Middle Letaba Dam continues on its downward spiral with 8.8% this week, compared to last week's 9.0%. This is still a paltry improvement compared to 2.2% recorded last year at this time. Doorndraai Dam in Sterk River which is also at its low levels has declined to 39.9% this week compared to last week's 40.1%, an improvement compared to when it declined to 10.8% last year at this time.

Water still remains a scarce resource in the country, and this season of winter is affecting the levels in the country's dams, and Limpopo is not spared.

The Department of Water and Sanitation still reiterates its call on water consumers, particularly in Limpopo province to continue using water sparingly, as the dams continue to decrease week on week.

**End**

**Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation in Limpopo**

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