



DWS SCHOOL
INTERVENTION

GUIDELINE DOCUMENT

INTERVENTION PROJECT

WATER IS LIFE - SANITATION IS DIGNITY

Toll-Free 0800 200 200 www.dwa.gov.za



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Introduction

Water is our life- blood. Without clean, accessible water there is no future for life in South Africa. Although nature (ecological infrastructure) provides clean water for all, for free, the situation in South Africa is bleak. Our water resources are continually being degraded by human activities, such as pollution, and this is contributing to the possibility of severe risks for all. Our communities need to be educated continuously on water use efficiency for a sustainable integrated water resources management.

It has been identified that most schools in South Africa especially in rural areas are sitting with a huge challenge of water scarcity, water wastage and poor management of toilet facilities. Lot of cases have been witnessed and reported whereby learners become victims of drowning in pit toilets. The toilet facilities in rural schools are in dire situation- learner's dignity is compromised on daily basis. Having identified that most schools have a challenge of water scarcity, water wastage and poor management of toilet facilities, an Intervention Project was initiated to assist schools to address these challenges.

Background

Water and Sanitation Education Programme (WSEP) is an awareness creation Programme which hopes to change attitudes, mindsets and promote behavioural change on integrated water resources management and promote careers in the sector. The action projects of Water and Sanitation Education Programme are the vehicle to disseminate water and sanitation messages with the hope to achieve the aims and objectives of the Programme. It was discovered that during participation learners excel in conveying these messages but when it comes to practice there is a huge gap- Intervention Project was then initiated.

Intervention Project (IP) focus areas are water wastage, greening of schools, proper management of toilet facilities, health and hygiene good practices. The project should target all schools that have gaps on the above- mentioned focus areas.

Aim of Intervention Project (IP)

Intervention Project aims to strike balance between theory and practice.

Objectives

- To promote health and hygiene awareness and education.
- To promote greening of the schools.
- To create awareness around the importance of proper management of toilet facilities.
- To promote good health practices.
- To encourage schools to have sustainable water and sanitation projects.

Intervention Project Implementation

Intervention Project must be aligned to Curriculum Support (CS) project, which is the core project of Water and Sanitation Education Programme. Educators from the schools that have been mobilized for the Intervention Project will be required to attend an empowerment workshop on the Curriculum Support project and will have an opportunity to interact with the water and sanitation Learner Support Materials (LSM) that are meant to enhance learning and teaching. Following the mobilization of schools with challenges, Provincial Officials may start an Adopt a School initiative, whereby relevant stakeholders may be involved in order to maximize resource utilization; so that such school is capacitated- that may include empowerment workshops, provision of educational charts, water tips, and so forth. Support to such schools should be continuous until the anticipated outcomes are achieved. Schools need to be encouraged to start up water and sanitation projects. Schools that are performing well may be encouraged to serve as a knowledge hub for their neighbouring schools.

A number of schools are expected to become water and sanitation good ambassadors as a result of the project's implementation.

After the adoption date of the school, the stakeholders that would have committed to support the school are allowed to implement their commitments. Such school gets adopted for a period of two years starting from the following year.

To ensure the sustainability of the water and sanitation projects, the schools that have been adopted must be continuously monitored and provided with all necessary support throughout the year.

Potential Partners

Provinces may mobilise as many internal and external partners as possible for the successful implementation of the project. Below is the list of potential partners:

- 1) Department of Education (DoE)
- 2) Department of Health (DoH)
- 3) Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
- 4) Water Boards (WB)
- 5) Faith- Based Organisations (FBOs)
- 6) Non- Profit Organisations (NPOs)
- 7) Water Research Commission (WRC)
- 8) South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)
- 9) Municipalities
- 10) Community Structures, etc.

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