

## **INTERNET** ARTICLE

## Youth Indaba urges youngsters to actively participate in economic development programmes

## 23 July 2019

Young people have been encouraged to participate in the economic development programmes and projects of the country so as to prepare them to playing big roles in water and sanitation sector ventures.

The Youth Indaba, organised by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), was held in Boksburg, Ekurhuleni on Tuesday, 23 July 2019.

The aim of Youth Indaba is to provide a platform for discussions and exchange of constructive ideas to address the challenges confronting the sector, especially the youth, including how to groom them for future leadership positions.

Giving his opening remarks, Director Transformation in DWS, Mr Curtis Mabena said the primary intention of the Youth Indaba is to seek and encourage engagements, technical expertise and knowledge sharing among the youth in the water and sanitation sector with a view to improve institutional governance, performance, job creation and ultimately the service delivery to their communities.

"Young people should not sit on the side lines, but should instead become active citizens so that the government policy is influenced to meet their. The reality is that government cannot employ everyone, and, therefore, the youth need to strive to be employers particularly in the fields where there are skills deficits", added Mr Mabena.

This Youth Indaba is held with the intention to facilitate conversations with the young people on the achievements and progress made on the DWS Youth Development Strategy, including facilitating the development of a youth development roadmap plus coming up with solutions to meet the challenges facing the youth.

2019 Youth Indaba focus into these areas that are at the center of sustainable youth empowerment, Job Creation, Entrepreneurship, Skills development and DWS Youth Network Structure.



It is therefore important to see how the youth can contribute towards the South African water industry sector, as this will allow the country to unlock a number of effects that will multiply opportunities for socio-economic development.

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