



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

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DWS partners with Envirosan to provide handwashing stations for Tshwane clinic

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in Gauteng provided a lifeline to community members when it recently teamed up with Envirosan to install three handwashing stations at Dilopye Clinic in Region 2, Hammanskraal in the City of Tshwane.

Hammanskraal has experienced prolonged water challenges as communities have had to contend with substandard quality of water, as a result of the Rooiwal Water Treatment Works not operating optimally.

The Department is part of government's intervention measures to provide water and hygiene materials to communities, schools and clinics during the lockdown in an effort to curb the spread of the coronavirus.

DWS's Molebogeng Baloyi, said the installation of the handwashing stations was the result of cooperation between the Department and Envirosan, saying that the handwashing stations would provide much-needed assistance to the clinic during the spread of the Covid-19 global pandemic.

Baloyi expressed hope that the handwashing facilities would go some way to easing the extent to which the virus was spreading as patients could use the facilities to wash their hands with soap and water to keep the virus at bay.

"This area is facing water challenges and so it is important for clinics such as this one to at least have facilities that will help to lessen the burden on the health system. Patients and staff at this clinic can now use these facilities to wash their hands," said Baloyi.

Ms Mmankwere Komape, a manager at the clinic, expressed appreciation for the installation of the handwashing stations, reiterating that the scale of the virus necessitated that there should be a collaborative approach between all sectors to tackle the spread of the virus particularly in areas that were water-stressed.

She said the handwashing stations had come handy for everyone and especially the patients since they could wash their hands on their own, adding that this has even decreased queues at the clinic.

"The clinic has to attend to a lot of patients who come for our services and with the outbreak of the coronavirus the situation was even more complicated. However, now that we have these handwashing stations patients find it easy to wash their hands and that makes everyone's life a little bit easy," she said.

Komape added that they were encouraging patients to use the handwashing facilities because this was one of the ways to ensure that the virus was not allowed to spread.



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