



INTERNET ARTICLE

Blue and Green Drop programmes resuscitated to help improve water quality in SA

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The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) has committed to effectively implement the recently re-launched Blue and Green Drop Certification Programmes which call for excellent drinking water and wastewater quality management in the country.

The programmes are being reinstated following the Presidency's commitment to fast-track the delivery of economic reforms through Operation Vulindlela which aims to enhance service delivery in various sectors of society.

The Department has since rolled up its sleeves to make sure compliance to legislation takes cause and remains dedicated to ensure risks revealed through these programmes are managed and abated in order to enhance the work of the Department as a water sector regulator.

"The Blue and Green Drop programmes will be reinstated alongside other measures to strengthen the water quality monitoring system. These enhancements will provide a strong foundation for the establishment of an independent regulator for the water sector to ensure rational pricing and effective monitoring of service standards," said Acting Deputy Director-General Leonardo Manus, responsible for Compliance, Monitoring and Evaluation.

The programmes were recently reinstated by DWS in conjunction with its entity, the Water Research Commission during a public webinar, with great support from Water Services Institutions, the Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) and private entities.

Speaking during the webinar, the Department's Acting Director-General, Deborah Mochotlhi expressed that she was confident that the programmes will help enhance the state of water infrastructure and ultimately provide the public with good quality water.

"As a sector, we have heeded the call by President Ramaphosa and I am confident that these programmes will take the Department to a higher trajectory as we perform our regulatory mandate", she said.

Mochotlhi added that she believed that through the programmes, some municipalities will be propelled to ensure the state of wastewater treatment and water infrastructure at municipal level is up to standard.

The Department has reiterated its assurance to the public that it will continue to fasten its hand on municipalities in order to ensure that water services received by citizens of this country are of acceptable quality and standard.

The last Green Drop and Blue Drop reports were published in 2013 and 2014 respectively. Therefore, the Department's resuscitation of the programmes aims to undertake full Green Drop audit and Blue





water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Drop partial assessment in 2021, and a full Blue Drop audit and a Green Drop partial assessment in 2022.

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