



## INTERNET ARTICLE

### **DWS forges ahead with Phase 3 of Makhado West Bulk Water Supply Scheme despite hiccups**

23 February 2021

The Regional Bulk Water Supply Scheme in Makhado in Vhembe District Municipality is in the final stages of its completion.

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) provided an impetus to kick start this project with the purpose augmenting availability of potable water to the needy communities.

The project is made up of different components such as: the construction of 17 km Gravity steel pipeline, creation of 13.6 km Rising main steel pipeline, the establishment of Pump station and the building of a 7.5 ML Reservoir.

According to the Project Manager Felix Mothiba, the country's lockdown due to the outbreak of COVID-19 impacted negatively on the progress of the project. The area has in recent times experienced torrential rainfalls and this has halted construction work to some extent. "Some of the issues that caused unfavorable effect to the advancement of the project are: deteriorating of plant-excessive plant breakdowns which affect production, delays in approval to access some of the farms, and hold ups in approval of method to be used to construct the pipeline across the national roads" said Mothiba.

The project which commenced in October 2014 currently sits at 87% completion; the revised anticipated completion date is 31 March 2021 with the exclusion of impediments such as heavy rainfall and others that might be encountered.

Mothiba further said the full completion and implementation of the project will ensure that around 37 villages located in the Western part of Makhado have access to potable water.

Among those villages set to benefit are: Vulabadzhi, Raphalu, Muduluni, Thembaluvhilo, Diteleni, Ha-Madodonga, Lufukula, Muraleni Block A, Muraleni Block B, Muraleni Block C, Ha-Mamburu and Ravele.

This project is one of many that the Department of Water and Sanitation has undertaken in an effort to increase water supply to communities, particularly the previously disadvantaged communities.

**Fhatuwani Tshikulumela**

