



## INTERNET ARTICLE

### **Minister Mchunu calls on world leaders to do more to ensure universal access to water**

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The Minister of Water and Sanitation, Mr Senzo Mchunu has challenged global leaders to embrace change and come up with innovative ways to address water challenges across the globe. He said this will help with the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, Goal 6 on water and sanitation.

Minister Mchunu said this during his address at the annual World Water Week seminar organised by Stockholm International Water Institute on Wednesday, 25 August 2021.

Minister Mchunu's address focused on "Step-forward: building resilient institutions through spaces for adaptive and participatory decision-making."

Speaking to global leaders, Mchunu implored that they ask themselves hard questions; "Have we done what we've pledged to do?"

"As we look back at the steps, we have taken to address global water challenges, have we put in place the decision making processes that will ensure sustainable delivery of water and sanitation services for all?" Mchunu quizzed.

He put the spotlight on Covid19, which put spotlight on global water security as water has been at the centre of the fight against the spread of the novel coronavirus.

Minister Mchunu says the virus should be a lesson on how to accelerate and enhance water decision making.

"Covid-19 ravaged economies, lives, and livelihoods globally, without forewarning and left us with very little time to prepare our combat strategies. Water became the centre of convergence and stood as the first line of defence against the virus. It remains evident that as we all washed our hands with water, we left the unserved to face the virus barehanded. Let us use this crisis as an escalator for accelerated and enhanced water decision-making."

He added that the plight of the impoverished can no longer be ignored, challenging leaders to do better in delivering these basic human rights.

"To those leaders who have not started providing this right to life, Step in and join other leaders. To those leaders who are progressing in changing the lives of our people, Step up. And to those leaders who are on course in striving to leave no one behind, we applaud you and would like to invite you to step forward and act on water with and by all".

He concluded by reminding world leaders that the key to water conservation is valuing this precious resource.





## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



"Valuing water can play a crucial role in changing the way we manage water."

**Sinethemba Madolo**



Department of Water and Sanitation South Africa



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