



INTERNET ARTICLE

DDG Mathye calls for multi-stakeholder and partnership approach to address sanitation challenges

22 November 2022

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in partnership with Water Research Commission (WRC) and the South African Institute of Civil Engineers (SAICE) commemorated World Toilet Day by engaging on a dialogue under the theme Rethinking sanitation service delivery. The commemorative event occurred on Friday, 18 November 2022 at Avianto Hotel in Muldersdrift.

World Toilet Day is an official United Nations international observance day which is commemorated on 19 November annually. This day is celebrated with a view of inspiring action to tackle global sanitation crisis and put an end to open defaecation.

The dialogue was aimed at eliciting action to tackle the global sanitation crisis and achieve Sustainable Development Goal 6 which advocates for adequate and equitable water and sanitation for all by 2030.

The dialogue was attended by various strategic partners and stakeholders along the sanitation value chain, these include civil engineers, architects, builders, developers and other stakeholders within the built environment and construction industry. The afore-mentioned stakeholders delivered presentations about Next Generation Sanitation (NGS) and Non-Sewered Sanitation Systems (NSSS) technologies.

Addressing the attendees at the session, Deputy Director General (DDG) of Water Resources Management Rimate Mathye commenced his speech by highlighting the importance of partnership indicating that in South Africa the role of the private sector is at the centre of the National Development Plan.

DDG Mathye continued to plead with partnerships in the private sector to assist in terms of bringing solutions to water and sanitation challenges.

“As part of the multi-stakeholder approach to accelerate sanitation provision and other basic services, the Department of Water and Sanitation has recently adopted the Water Services Improvement Plan (WISP) in April 2022” Mathye said.

“The provision of adequate and equitable sanitation services is a constitutional mandate of the department, therefore, the Department will work with the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) and National Treasury as it implements WISP programme”, Mathye indicated in his closing remarks.

After the panel discussions and networking opportunities, members of the dialogue session went to Tsholetsega Primary School in Kagiso to view the progress made at Enviroloo Clear Recirculating Toilet System since 2020.

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