



## **INTERNET ARTICLE**

### **Minister Mchunu launch Olifants Management Model at Ga-Malekana Tribal Authority in Limpopo**

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The Minister of Water and Sanitation, Senzo Mchunu in cooperation with Lebalelo Water Users Association launched the Olifants Management Model Programme (OMM), on Thursday, 27 October 2022 at Ga-Malekana Tribal Authority just outside Burgersfort in Limpopo.

The programme which is a collaboration between the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and Lebalelo Water Users Association (LWUA) epitomises the effectiveness of public - private collaboration in addressing challenges in the water and sanitation sector.

The proceedings of the launch commenced at Ga-Malekana Traditional Authority Council. This was attended by Kgoshi Malekana, Minister Mchunu, Water and Sanitation Director General Dr Sean Phillips, Chairperson of Lebalelo Water Users Association Prakashim Moodliar, Sekhukhune District Municipality Executive Mayor Councillor Julia Mathebe and Mayor of Mogalakwena Local Municipality Councillor Ngoako Taueatsoala.

The launch is aimed at accelerating potable and bulk raw water infrastructure in pursuit of ensuring that communities within reach and the surrounding mining companies in Sekhukhune and Mogalakwena District Municipalities are supplied with adequate water by 2030.

Addressing the attendees at the launch, Minister Mchunu expressed the department's commitment towards the provision of water to the people of South Africa as a whole.

"Our meeting here is a very good example of collective efforts between government and the private sector. I would like to express a great deal of gratitude to Lebalelo Water Users Association for partnering with us in this important milestone" Minister Mchunu said.

The project scope amongst others includes enabling water supply to Mogalakwena by moving a portion of the Lebalelo scheme's current supply from Flag Boshielo Dam to De Hoop Dam and developing reticulation and related infrastructure to benefit a total of 134 villages.

The estimated cost of the programme is R24 billion and will be funded on 50:50 contribution principle between government and Lebalelo Water Users Associations. This programme will address pressing water needs to approximately 380 000 people in the defined areas in the Limpopo province and will be able to create 42 000 jobs.

**Fhatuwani Tshikulumela**

**SOUTH AFRICA IS A WATER SCARCE COUNTRY**

