



## **INTERNET ARTICLE**

### **Educating the learners on proper sanitation, health and hygiene and water conservation**

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The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) North West together with Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti District Municipality (DRSDM) and the Department of Health, celebrated sanitation month through a public education awareness road show on 22 May 2022. The roadshow was held at Kopanang Primary school in Magogong village, Greater Taung Municipality in the DRSM and the focus was on promoting good hygiene within the learners and communities.

The educational awareness roadshow focused on sanitation, water conservation, proper hygiene habits. The learners were taught about the importance of proper sanitation hygiene practices which are key to prevent the spread of diseases. Proper sanitation also preserves human dignity which makes access to proper sanitation critical for all citizens.

Health inspectors from the district municipality took part in educating the learners on the importance of washing hands with running water, proper handwashing techniques including washing the nails and in between the fingers. It was emphasised to the learners that they should never wash hands with water that was used by another person as this means that they are taking the germs of another person.

Furthermore, the learners learnt that hand washing should not only be done when coming from the toilet, but hand washing should be a practice that happens anytime.

As South Africa is a water scarce country, the audience was reminded of the importance of water conservation and wise water use of the available water and the protection of the water resource.

Ms Lerato Selogilwe from DWS Capacity building unit encouraged the learners to be water ambassadors and to spread the message of water conservation within their respective communities. Learners were also reminded to harvest rainwater as much as they can and use it for hand washing and watering their plants since there is water scarcity in their villages.

Ms Mangie Rakale from DWS Sanitation Unit also used the opportunity to remind communities to protect and take care of their toilets and refrain from throwing foreign objects inside.

**Morekeng Phali**

**SOUTH AFRICA IS A WATER-SCARCE COUNTRY**

