



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
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INTERNET ARTICLE

A gleam of hope for possible active participation of youth in water conservation

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There was a sign for a better future in the water demand management sector as high school learners proved competent during the Department of Water and Sanitation's South African Youth Water Prize Competition (SAYWPC) for aspiring young water engineers held recently in Pretoria.

Grades 10 and 11 learners from various high schools across the country convened at the Faircity Roodevallei Hotel in Cullinan, Gauteng to showcase their different ideas to improve the state of water supply in the country. This they did through innovative water conservation methods and other techniques to expand water resources.

Three grade 10 learners from Mitlhari High School in Limpopo shone the brightest as their project was announced as the winner after several fascinating and impressive exhibitions by the learners.

The invention includes the use of cell phones to control the level of water through a sensor in reservoirs from a distance to avoid overflow by manually and automatically opening and closing the reservoirs.

The learners said that they hope that their project will go a long way in minimising water wastages in their school, community and hopefully the country as whole.

The learners were awarded bursaries from DWS to study any water related course at an institution of their choice, cash prize of R9 000 to split among themselves, laptops and the much coveted opportunity to represent South Africa at this year's Stockholm Junior Water Prize competition in Sweden.

The SYWPC is the Department of Water and Sanitation's educational programme where high school learners are tasked to come up with scientific methods and experiments that could assist in curbing and addressing water backlogs. This is done to encourage more youth towards water and sanitation related careers.

Maduvha Maseda