



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### DWS's focus for this Financial Year – Deputy Minister

23 June 2015

*The apartheid infrastructure planning discriminated against the rural and poor communities, says the Deputy Minister (DM) of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DW) Pamela Tshwete.*

*Speaking to members of the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) in Parliament, Cape Town recently, the DM noted that “With this progressive and developmental budget the Department will change this skewed provision of services”.*

*She said the budget contains resources that will be used to transform the socio-economic situation in the country. The youth, women and people living with disabilities will be considered because the plan is to empower the small business people and develop them into big business of tomorrow.*

*The department will continue to address the skills shortage through the Youth Development programme targeting youth throughout the country and placing them in various municipalities as part of job creation. Their skills will assist municipalities to rollout infrastructure development and continue the fight against water leaks.*

*She explained that State President Jacob Zuma will be launching the first In-take in the skills development programme in Nelson Mandela Bay on 18 July 2015 targeting about 15 000 youth trainees.*

*This budget will indeed contribute to job creation, family stability, water savings, management of ecological degradation and pollution. Further formal academic training in institutions of higher learning and DWS's Learning Academy will be provided through our bursary programme.*

*More candidates will be identified for studies and on graduation will also be absorbed into the various branches of the department. “Our water conservation strategies will continue to be enhanced through youth participation in programmes such as Eco Schools, Youth Summit Programmes, the 2020 Vision Programmes and Young Water Ambassadors”.*

*She said these are DWS's awareness and information sharing programmes on water and sanitation management.*

*Women will also be targeted through the War on Leaks and Adopt-A-River programmes. “It has been our priority as the department to ensure that the water source is well maintained and protected from pollution and ecological degradation. These women, as part of their contribution will be paid a stipend that will contribute to their lifelong needs. They will be able to put food on the table, take care of their medical and other family needs”, she noted.*

*In conclusion, the DM added that the management of water and sanitation will always be about people and for the people. “It is the people themselves working with the department that are set to overcome our water and sanitation challenges.*



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*"DWS's plan through this budget is to reach out to all communities without discrimination. We have said "Water is Life and Sanitation is Dignity" and we therefore cannot fail to provide these most essential services to our people," she added.*

*She thanked those people who have made it possible for the department to be where it is today, adding that these includes the youth, the women out there, the business sector, academic institutions and many water and sanitation service organisations working in local communities.*

**Ike Motsapi**