



INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS proudly hosts the Women in Water Awards

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Strong and hardworking women from across the country were unable to conceal their excitement as they received VIP treatment during the recent Women in Water Awards (WWA) celebrations, an event solely dedicated to women who are active in the sector in their localities.

*The occasion that oozed glamour and elegance was held at the Olympia Park Stadium in Rustenburg, Northwest on Friday 33 August, under the theme **“Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Women’s Charter and 20 Years of Freedom: Moving Women’s Agenda Forward”***

Being the sixth of its kind, the event sought to acknowledge and honour the great contribution made by women in the water sector and to also showcase the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)’s role and commitment in women development.

Dressed elegantly in mostly colorful traditional regalia, the different nominees from various categories duly occupied the VIP section. Each winner took to the stage to receive their prizes which ranged from R20 000 to a whooping R100 000 sponsored by Rand water.

The 1st prize winners in the Education and Awareness category stated that they are grateful for the department’s effort in acknowledging ordinary women like them. They also added that the prize money will go a long way in boosting and expanding their projects. All the women who won prizes shared the same joy and couldn’t stop singing the department’s praises, indicating that this initiative is indeed a great tool for women empowerment.

DWS Minister, Honourable Nomvula Mokonyane commended the women for their outstanding contribution to community upliftment and water conservation, citing that such hard work and commitment should never go unnoticed. She went on to say that it is heart breaking to know that there are still women who travel long distances in the rural areas to collect water for their families, and that the women who are working against the odds to minimize such backlog deserve to be honoured.

Throughout her keynote address the minister repeatedly recited the expression “Mosadi o tshwara thipa ka fa bogaleng” and sang along with the audience to songs praising women.



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The Women were awarded according to the following categories:

<i>Category</i>	<i>Winners</i>	<i>Prize</i>	<i>Province</i>
<i>Adopt a River</i>	<i>1.Swartkops Adopt a River Project</i>	<i>R100 000</i>	<i>Eastern Cape</i>
	<i>2.Umkariso Women in Water Cooperative Limited</i>	<i>R50 000</i>	<i>Gauteng</i>
	<i>3.Mosekimang Agriculture Project</i>	<i>R20 000</i>	<i>Gauteng</i>
<i>Education and Awareness</i>	<i>1.Batjha Community Based Organization</i>	<i>R100 000</i>	<i>Free State</i>
<i>Water Conservation</i>	<i>1.Mosadi Tshwene Projects</i>	<i>R100 000</i>	<i>North West</i>
	<i>2.Kraaipan Eco Garden</i>	<i>R50 000</i>	<i>North West</i>
	<i>3.Refilwe Vegetable Project</i>	<i>R50 000</i>	<i>Free State</i>
	<i>4.Brunville Community Development Council</i>	<i>R20 000</i>	<i>KZN</i>
<i>Community Development</i>	<i>1.Re a Dira Home Based Care</i>	<i>R100 000</i>	<i>North West</i>
	<i>2.Tanani Matiko Disabled & Multipurpose Primary Co-operative Limited</i>	<i>R50 000</i>	<i>Limpopo</i>
	<i>3.Vukuzenzele Food Garden Project</i>	<i>R20 000</i>	<i>Western Cape</i>
	<i>4.Valley of Hope Project</i>	<i>R20 000</i>	<i>Northern Cape</i>

Maduvha Maseda

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