

## **INTERNET** ARTICLE

## **DWS sets focus on Local Government**

29 August 2014

The Minister of Water and Sanitation, Honourable Nomvula Mokonyane cited that "great support and assistance of the Local Government not only aids public service delivery but also forms an integral part of National Water Management and Conservation, playing a vital role in ensuring public protection of water resources".

Minister Mokonyane made these comments during the celebrations of the Women in Water Awards held on Friday 22 August at the Olympia Park Stadium in Rustenburg. Mokonyane revealed that the Department of Water and Sanitation aims to assist local government in maintaining and reviving their ageing water infrastructure and has various programmes and projects awaiting implementation with some already underway.

The Minister also mentioned that DWS plans to take the issue of constant monitoring and evaluation at the local government sphere in a serious light as a way to assess the success and gaps in programme implementation to ensure transparency and a speedy service delivery. This is important as delivery of services mainly resides at this level.

She further said that many of these programmes will focus on engagement with the community, educating them about the significance of using water sparingly and taking care of water resources and infrastructure. She added that both the government and communities share the responsibility of water management.

Minister Mokonyane emphasised that the DWS is set on taking action in fighting water woes across the country, and that getting involved with the communities through partnerships with local government is a critical part of that action.

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## Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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