



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS working towards an integrated water and sanitation policy

07 August 2015

The Department of Water and Sanitation convened with other water sector stakeholders and government departments to discuss the draft and clarify the need for the National Sanitation Policy Review in Benoni, Gauteng on Thursday 06 August 2015.

Delegates in the meeting agreed on the notion that both water and sanitation policies should be consolidated and linked to create one user friendly policy framework as the issues surrounding both services are intertwined. Such a link which is already under construction will further ensure that the inter-connectedness between the two is more understandable to both communities and individuals.

The main purpose of the gathering was to locate the gaps that exist in the current policy in order to augment and strengthen it.

Free basic sanitation, provision of sanitation services for backyard dwellers and bulk sanitation infrastructure, as well as the establishment and functions of regional sanitation utilities are some of the vital issues that formed part of the caucus around the draft policy.

South African's current sanitation policies are transformational and thus focused on addressing sanitation backlogs in the country, with the concepts of reduction, recycle and recovery in the sanitation sector not entirely addressed. The new policy will seek to highlight and emphasize the role of sanitation provision in water conservation through the use of appropriate technologies which are environmentally sustainable.

Maduvha Maseda