



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### **Church's Women's Month celebration throws weight behind DWS' Drop-the-Block Campaign**

17 July 2016

The Women's Month celebration at International Assemblies of God in Kwa-Thema, Ekurhuleni, supported efforts towards water conservation when it endorsed the Department of Water and Sanitation's (DWS') Drop-the-Block Campaign at the weekend.

A congregant and main speaker, Ms Nomvula Mofokeng, highlighted the centrality of God in providing water resources by quoting various passages of the Bible which tackle issues around water.

Amongst the passages quoted by Mofokeng was Isaiah 41:18 and 20, which speaks about the omniscient power of God in making water available in impossible circumstances.

Said Mofokeng: "Lesotho is a place from which our own country gets its important water supply and this is God's making. In this underdeveloped country God is providing us with water so that, as the Bible says, we know that He (God) is God."

Mofokeng said each person had a God-inspired obligation to conserve water, linking this duty to Proverbs 5:5 of the scriptures which reads thus: "Drink water from your own cistern, running water from your own well." Consequently, Mofokeng appealed to the congregation to use their water efficiently so that they save it and as a result avoid high bills.

Mofokeng reiterated the depletion to critically low levels of the dams, saying this was the reason there was a need to intensify awareness for behavioural change on the part of communities.

She warned: "Currently the dams are below abstraction levels. Maybe this will lead to water restrictions and to obviate this situation we need to conserve our water and this starts with you and me."



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DWS IGR and Sector Collaboration Deputy Director, Mr Jethro Monareng, who did a live demonstration on how to install the green blocks into the cisterns, said these played a vital role in reducing the water used when flushing the toilets.

He said the green blocks reduced the water used from nine litres to seven litres, making a huge impact in households where there are more than two people using the toilet.

A total of 166 green blocks were distributed to the congregation, which will be followed by a large scale distribution of the blocks in the township with the aid of various stakeholders.

Following the demonstration, the congregation was given an opportunity to interact with Ms Mofokeng and Mr Monareng by asking questions and comments.

The common thread of the questions and comments ranged from issues such as households being able to purify its grey water for reuse and dealing with pipe and tap leakages.

The congregation was given tips of how to save water, which included pouring water into a cup rather than letting the tap run while brushing one's teeth, repairing all leakages in the house and using water saving taps.

**Hosia Sithole**