



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### **DROUGHT RELIEF TANKS FOR UMJINDI & THEMBISILE HANI**

21 April 2016

The communities of Barberton in Umjindi Local Municipality and Kwaggafontein A in Thembisile Hani Local Municipality received 80 kl (80 000 litres) water tanks to assist in water supply. The tanks are provided by the Department of Water and Sanitation as part of drought relief interventions.

The water tanks are meant to bring some relief to the municipalities as these municipalities are some of the most affected by the current drought in the Mpumalanga Province.

The water tanks will be used for storage to assist the local communities with water supply in times of water shortages as the country is experiencing its worst drought in many years. The water sources in both municipalities are running low and with the current drought meaning the possibility of rain is limited. As such the water tanks will mitigate the negative impact of the drought on the communities.

The tanks are filled with water to ensure that community members have access to water in reasonable distance implying that they will not have to travel long distances to get water.

The communities are humbly requested and encouraged to take ownership of and care for the tanks to ensure that the tanks are kept in good condition, ensuring that the community have access to water, the source of life in hard times as the drought is still with us.

South Africa is a water scarce country and the current drought is making the water challenge severe which calls for all of us to change our water use behaviour and embrace water conservation in everything we do.

**Themba Khoza**