



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### **DWS hosts eye-opening policy national public consultation workshop in Pretoria**

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To promote transparency and include citizens in decision making processes, the Department of Water and Sanitation held a National Public consultation session on the gazetted Climate Change and Hydropower Generation policies in Pretoria today. The session housed experts from the water and energy sectors under one roof with the main aim of soliciting comments and inputs into the draft policies as a way of ensuring that the two policies are watertight.

According to the Director in Policy, Mr Hlalanathi Fundzo the session of this nature was necessary to ensure that the department takes all relevant measures into consideration. "It is good that we have experts from various organisations as this will give the department insight on matters such as those related to energy to ensure feasibility and sustainability of the two policies," he said.

As seen with the effects of the current drought that climate change is inevitable, the climate change policy will inform effective management of its impacts on water sources, whereas the sustainable hydropower generation policy will focus on development of hydropower utilising existing DWS infrastructure. This will be part of the long term intervention by DWS to support sustainable power supply.

Delegates agreed that the session was an eye-opener as several relevant issues and concerns were raised, addressed and cleared to ensure that the implementation of these policies is sustainable and feasible.

The consultations will continue until the end of September 2016.

Maduvha Maseda