



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS launches Drop-the-block Campaign in Kimberly

22 July 2016

Officials of the Department of Water and Sanitation this week descended on Galeshewe township in Kimberly to distribute 60 000 toilets blocks as part of the department's Drop-the-block Campaign in Northern Cape.

Resplendent in their yellow campaign reflectors, 400 volunteers from various townships of Kimberly flooded the streets of the vibrant township as they went from door-to-door, showing residents how to insert the toilet block in the cisterns.

Among the volunteers were the Chwes from the Khoisan tribe in Platfontein township just outside Kimberly.

The week-long campaign, which was launched at RC Elliot Hall, was led the department and Sol Plaatjie Local Municipality.

The Drop-The-Block is an eco-friendly innovation of placing a block in a toilet cistern to save water. It is designed to reduce potable water consumption by up to 2 liters per flush.

The first beneficiary of the drop the block campaign who was Keitumetse Phakoe of Galeshewe township said she was very excited to receive a block that will save her a substantial amount of water,

"For the past few years I have been paying a high bill on water and now with the introduction of this technology I hope that my bill will come down."

The Project Manager of the campaign, Jabu Mtolo, described the campaign as an overwhelming success.

"The spirit among the volunteers and local residents is exceedingly high and we were received warmly wherever we went."

Mtolo the volunteers started working early and they by the time they finished in the evening they were exhausted but looked forward to the task the next morning

On average, toilet flushing uses up to 31% of the overall household consumption, therefore making toilet flushing one of the highest consumers of water in the house.

By Themba Khumalo