



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

The MIP maintains an impressive 'business as usual' approach despite setbacks

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The Mopani Intervention Project (MIP) water supply initiative in Giyani, Limpopo Province is showing great development progress despite the many challenges that pose a threat to its goals. To date ground water augmentation to sixteen (16) villages around the Giyani area that were deemed priority areas has been completed and people are enjoying access to clean water.

The Lepelle Northern Water Board (LNW), which is the implementing agent of the project on behalf of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), faces major challenges of illegal water connections and vandalism of infrastructure whilst ensuring the fast tracking of the work since their involvement in the project. In all of this a number of milestones continue to be achieved.

"Aside from the existing operations and maintenance challenges that the project is facing, we have impatient residents who resort to illegal connections for domestic use and also those that practice this for bulk use," said the Acting CEO at LNW, PK Legodi.

This he said is hindering water from reaching certain parts of the villages and also disrupts consistency of supply.

Other milestones include the refurbishment of the Giyani Waste Water Treatment Plant, revitalization of existing 154 boreholes and the construction of 50 elevated steel reservoirs to be connected to the bulk pipelines, amongst others.

The MIP was conceived after Minister Mokonyane issued a directive in August 2014 to Lepelle to regularise water and sanitation provision in the Mopani District. This was necessitated by the fact that the Giyani area was officially declared a disaster zone and thus would receive frequent Presidential Monitoring Visits.



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The work that is currently underway at this moment has also benefitted the local economy as the PSP, namely Khatho Civils has employed about 500 locals who are on site working towards the completion of this project.

This is a good story to tell, even as more work still needs to be done in the area. This includes the upgrade of the Giyani Waste Water Works, construction of bulk pipelines to villages as well as reticulation of villages that have new extensions but no reticulation infrastructure to ensure that they also receive water.

The MIP is estimated to be completed in June 2017.

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