



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### **KHALIPHANI TO REPRESENT MPUMALANGA IN SAYWP**

20 April 2016

Khaliphani Secondary School from Mbombela Local Municipality outdid other competing provincial schools with their innovative water project to walk away with the first prize during the South African Youth Water Prize Provincial Competition held at the Nelsville Community Hall on 19 April 2016.

As a reward for their efforts, Khaliphani Secondary School won the R3000 first prize plus the chance to represent the province during the national competition. James Khoza Secondary School took the R2000 second prize and Greendale Secondary pocketed R1000 for coming third.

The South African Youth Water Prize is the Department of Water and Sanitation's project to enhance the interest of learners in water and sanitation related careers and address the challenge of skills shortage in the country. The SAYWP competition encourages learners to identify water and sanitation related challenges in their schools or communities, conduct research, recommend and implement solutions. This requires the learners to be innovative to come up with workable solutions. The SAYWP is part of the department's broader 2020 Vision for Water and Sanitation Education Programme (VFWSEP) which is a school based education programme which promotes water use efficiency, water quality management, awareness creation about alien invasive plants and their impact on water resources, and health and hygiene. The programme is implemented in collaboration with the Department of Education.

In his address, the provincial 2020 coordinator, Mr Thami Mndawe thanked all the participants for their efforts and stated that everybody who managed to come and compete is a winner. He further stated that the learners to take the comments by the adjudicators as words of encouragement and urged the learners to use the comments to improve their projects in the future.

The winning team's representative, Sinethemba Dlamini dedicated their achievement to the support of their educator and school. She stated that their project was the result of their desire



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to make a contribution to the development of their community and to make meaningful change to people's lives as healthy water means healthy people. She also stated that they will use the comments of the adjudicators to improve their project so as to win the national competition.

Mr Mawuku, the educator of the winning learners dedicated the win to the commitment and cooperation of the learners and the schools in terms of dedicating their time. He also appreciated the support of the Rand Water treatment plant in Kanyamazane for their advice. Lastly, he encouraged other educators to take the competition seriously as it is beneficial to learners and in addressing the skills shortages in the country.

All the participating learners and educators pledged to support the Department's water conservation campaign and become water ambassadors in their schools and communities.

**Themba Khoza**