



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### INTERNET ARTICLE

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#### **LEARNERS ENCOURAGED TO TAKE WATER RELATED CAREERS**

Learners from the Gert Sibande District, especially around Mkhondo Local municipality were encouraged to consider water related careers in order to assist with closing the skills gap in the sector. Learners descended on the Mondi Science Centre in Piet Retief in Mkhondo Local Municipality for the Career Expo from 03 to 06 May 2016.

The department's stand led by Mr Mndawe from the 2020 Vision programme was a hype of activity and managed to present to and engage with learners from 39 schools during the 4 days. On day 1 we managed to present to 4 secondary schools, followed by 8 secondary schools and 1 higher primary on day 2. On day 3 we managed to engage learners from 17 secondary schools and on the last day we presented to 9 secondary schools.

Key in the presentations were careers in the water sector, water conservation and the 2020 vision programmes aimed at creating awareness amongst learners about the water sector. To make the presentation exciting and interactive and to entice the interest among learners, the water and sanitation chart was used. The chart was used to take the learners through the stages water goes through until it reaches their taps. This created an understanding of the water value chain and encouraged the learners to conserve water, whilst showcasing the different careers in the water value chain and sector.

The learners were also exposed to the department's 2020 Vision programme and encouraged to participate so as to be able to get bursaries whilst in essence closing the skills gap in the sector.

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