



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Stakeholders Engaged on Groundwater Management

19 August 2016

Stakeholders from different sectors in the Mpumalanga Province were engaged for their inputs and comments relating to the National Groundwater Strategy during the consultation workshop held on 18 August 2016 at the Department of Water and Sanitation's Mbombela Office. The stakeholders in attendance came from the major water using sectors which included municipalities, government departments, mining, agriculture, industries, service providers, NGOs, and SANPARKS.

The National Groundwater Strategy is required to let the full role or potential of ground water towards water security in South Africa unfold, to establish a framework within which stakeholders at all levels can become an essential part of good groundwater governance in the country, and to initiate a long-term process of rolling out sustainable groundwater utilization within the Integrated Water Resource Management.

The National Groundwater Strategy framework looks at enabling legislation, stakeholder driven development, leadership, responsive groundwater regulatory framework, groundwater resource protection, sustainable groundwater resource utilization, appropriate institutional development, redirecting finances, groundwater resource planning and development, groundwater information management, regional and international partnerships, water sector skills and capacity.

In his closing remarks, the Acting Provincial Head, Mr Masala Mulaudzi emphasized that the inputs of all the stakeholders are crucial as the strategy is not only for the department but for all and water security is for all in the country. He further reminded the participants about the drought currently experienced in the country and urged all to use water, including groundwater, sparingly as we are not sure when we will receive rain. He also reminded the audience that water is the only resource without a direct substitute and therefore it is important to always conserve it.



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The public can access and view the National Groundwater Strategy document on www.dwa.gov.za/Groundwater/NGS2016.aspx and can also submit their inputs and comments via the email address: NGS@dws.gov.za.

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