



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS continues to stabilize the drought-stricken KZN

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The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in partnership with uThungulu District Municipality in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) will hit the ground running in their bid to involve the residents in curbing the water scarcity currently experienced by various parts of the province caused by drought. This will happen as they launch the KZN Drought Awareness Campaign tomorrow, 24 February 2015 at Umlalazi Municipality in uThungulu District Municipality, KZN.

The campaign will run throughout the period of the drought and seeks to engage community members who reside in the areas most affected in the battle to encourage extreme water conservation and demand management by sharing with communities different water saving methods and activities. Most importantly the operation seeks to educate and enlighten the residents about the severity of the drought and how collaboration between all stakeholders would come in handy in ensuring sustainability during this dry period.

Community members will be implored to pledge to use water sparingly and also commit themselves to water saving in all the activities which will be conducted by the respective municipalities. These actions also include adhering to water restrictions during certain hours of the day which will be determined by the municipality and also practicing water saving tips which will be provided during the launch.

During the campaign residents will be provided with 25 litre plastic water canisters to store water in addition to the water harvesting tanks that were and are still being

erected in the areas since the beginning of the drought. Food parcels will also be distributed to the communities since the drought has also affected the food supply in the province.

These efforts come after DWS revealed that it has set aside about R352, 4 million to help ease the situation after the areas were declared a disaster zone. The KZN Department of Corporate Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA) has also allocated about R400 million towards assisting municipalities in containing the current circumstances.

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