



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Sanitation Infrastructure

17 June 2015

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) Minister Nomvula Mokonyane impressed on members of the National Council of Provinces that the complete eradication of the use of bucket toilets across the country in formal areas is eyed for the end of December 2015.

South Africa today still has a backlog of 88 127 buckets in the formal areas. The Bucket Eradication Programme (BEP) is a priority programme of the Ministers of Water and Sanitation, Human Settlements and Cooperative Governance. The Department of Human Settlements has appointed government entities reporting to the three Ministers as Implementing Agents for the programme. These are Water Boards, Human Settlements Entities and the Municipal Infrastructure Support Agent in case of Department of Cooperative Government.

A National Governance Structure was established called Troika led by the three Ministers and a technical one led by the Directors General and senior officials. The implementing agencies utilized in the programme are Bloem Water, Lepelle Northern Water, Magalies Water, Municipal Infrastructure Support Agent (MISA), Sedibeng Water and National Urban Reconstruction and Housing Agency (NURCHA).

In the 2014/15 Financial Year, the Bucket Eradication Programme eradicated 20 560 bucket toilets comprising of the Free State (4056), Eastern Cape (2672), Northern Cape (2421), and the North West (398).

Through this Programme, the remaining bucket toilets will be eradicated at a cost of R975 million.

Through the Rural Household Infrastructure Grant, the Department delivered 9347 dry on-site sanitation solutions to rural communities in the Free State (392), Eastern Cape (2334), North West (425), KwaZulu-Natal (3903), Limpopo (1843), and Mpumalanga (450) units.

In 2015/16, some R115 million will be invested and a further 11 000 units will be provided in these provinces and municipalities to eradicate rural sanitation backlogs.

Overall, the Budget allocations for the 2 Sanitation Grants is as follows: The allocation for the Bucket Eradication Grant is R975, 3 million and will eradicate some 30 069 Bucket Toilets; Rural Household Infrastructure Grant (Direct Grant) is R48, 182 million delivering 5072 dry on-site sanitation solutions whereas the Rural Household Infrastructure Grant (Indirect Grant) allocation is R67, 328 million and will deliver some 7426 dry on-site sanitation solutions, respectively.

This service is rendered in the 27 Priority District Municipalities through the Water Services Authorities and the Department as implementing Agent.

Currently, it is estimated that some 88 127 households in formal settlements are utilising the bucket system as a form of sanitation. This backlog is found predominantly in the Eastern



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Cape, Free State, Northern Cape and North West Provinces and at the end of this programme the Department would have eradicated some 58 453 buckets with decent sanitation in the form of water borne sanitation.

In pursuit of sustainability of the programme, DWS shall also strive to standardise sanitation costs, align sanitation projects amongst the various government departments, and ensure that adequate budgets are set aside for operations and maintenance of the infrastructure.

The Implementation programme for the 2015/16 year is as follows: In the Eastern Cape Province, the Department will focus on eradicating some 5013 bucket toilets in the municipalities such as Makana (Grahamstown – 288), Sundays River Valley (Patterson – 1245), Ndlambe (Nemato – 1250) and in Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality (Despatch – 2230 Units); the latter emanating from the relocation of families from the nearby informal settlement to serviced sites at a cost of R150 million.

Whereas a significant part of the Bucket toilet backlog is located in the Free State Province, however, the programme seeks to eradicate some 16 521 buckets as follows - In the Setsoto Local Municipality buckets will be eradicated in projects such as Marquard (848 Units), Ficksburg (5396 Units), Senegal (2913 Units) and Clocolan (3379 Units).

On the other hand, in the Nketoana Local Municipality, the Department will be eradicating buckets in following areas: Petrus Steyn (2424 Units), Lindley (517 Units), Arlington (210 Units) and lastly Reitz (834 Units) at a cost of R495, 6 million.

In the Northern Cape Province, a total of 8337 Buckets toilets will be eradicated in a number of municipalities that include Emthanjeni: Britstown (424 Units) and in the Khara Hais: Rosedale (2374), Pabalello (533 Units), Louisvale (800), Dekota Weg (306 Units), Kameelmond (122) and Kalksloot (138 Units).

In addition, bucket toilets will also be eradicated in the Renosterburg Local Municipality in the project areas of Petrusville (Phase 2 – 20 Units) and Phillipstown (107 Units), as well as in the Siyacuma Local Municipality in the areas of Bongani (555), Griekwastad (480 Units) and Campbell (596Units).

Lastly, projects in the Ubuntu Local Municipality, including in Victoria West (890 Units) will be assisted. In the Nama-Khoi Local Municipality various sites will be targeted (192 Units) and in Kai Garib (800 Units).

The allocation for Northern Cape Province will be R250, 1 million. In the North West Province, a total of 198 buckets will be eradicated in the City of Matlosana Local Municipality in areas such as Kanana (73 Units) as a continuation of the work commenced during the previous financial year.

The community of Boitumelong (125 Units) in the Lekwa Teemane Local Municipality will also see the provision of water-borne sanitation and the replacement of the bucket toilets by December 2015 at a cost of R5, 9 million.

In conclusion, Minister Mokonyane said DWS acknowledged that a firm foundation has been created for the Department. DWS now needs to consolidate its monitoring and evaluation processes.



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“Minister Mokonyane pointed out, as the Department we are pleased with the level of co-operation and the support we receive from the leadership in the various provinces and for that I wish to thank all our provinces”.

Ike Motsapi