



INTERNET ARTICLE

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Stockholm World Water Week 2014

Preparations are underway for the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) delegation led by Minister Nomvula Mokonyane and her Deputy Pamela Tshwete to attend this year's gathering of the Stockholm World Water Week (SWWW) 2014 which starts next weekend.

The SWWW, since its establishment in 1991, identifies and addresses a particular theme each year to enable a deeper examination of that specific water-related topic. While not all events during the week relate to the overall theme, the workshops driven by the Scientific Programme Committee and many seminars and side events focus on other various aspects of the theme.

*This event is significant as it captures the attention of water warriors around the world. It will be held at the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) from Sunday, 31 August, 2014 ending on Friday, 05 September 2014. The theme for this year's event is **"ENERGY AND WATER-a link for our future"**. About 2,500 participants and 200 collaborating organizations from around 130 countries are expected to attend the event.*

The SWWW is an annual gathering where water professionals meet and discuss issues surrounding evolutionary progress and prospects on water. Organised by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), the event brings together experts, practitioners, decision makers and leaders from around the globe to exchange ideas, foster new thinking and develop solutions.

The week-long conference entails a comprehensive programme of seminars, workshops and networking events on the world's most urgent water-related issues. Discussions cover various water and related issues with the purpose to increase awareness and stimulate action of human daily activities impacts on the environment.

The Department's participation in the SWWW conference is informed by the following objectives: Focus on new thinking and positive action toward water-related challenges and their impact on the world's environment, health, economics and poverty reduction agendas.

The year's conference focuses on activities that are aligned to the Department's broader strategic goals and objectives. The Department, in partnership with other South African water sector partners, will participate at the SWWW Expo, exhibiting, marketing and showcasing promotional material on what the SA water sector has achieved.

SIWI Executive Director, Mr. Torgny Holmgren indicated that through this year's theme, the institute believes this is just the beginning of a closer cooperation between the two sectors - Water and Energy. "It is only by thinking and acting together that we can create lasting change. We have invited energy and water professionals from the science and research communities, governments, international organizations, civil society and the private sector to present their perspectives".

He added that the Institute is looking forward to inspiring seminars, productive workshops and enlightened debates on some of the most crucial issues facing the world's population.



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Part of the DWS delegation will be three Limpopo learners from the Taxela High School. The three learners, Dipuo Nthane, Nthabiseng Kabe and Tebogo Mamabolo, are the winners of the 2014 South African Youth Water Prize (SAYWP). The learners will compete with their peers from around the world, looking at innovative ways of addressing localized water-specific challenges in new ways. South Africa has proudly won this competition twice before and as such the country holds thumbs for this group.

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