

INTERNET ARTICLE

The National Annual Youth Summit on Water and Sanitation is anchored on the political will of the leadership of government

2 July 2015

The Deputy Minister (DM) of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Pamela Tshwete says the National Annual Youth Summit on Water and Sanitation is anchored on the political will of the leadership of the DWS working in partnership with the Department of Basic Education, the love and capabilities of educators and acceptance and enthusiasm of the learners.

DM Tshwete echoed these sentiments during the Gala Dinner during the hosting of the youth summit at the Birchwood Hotel and Conference Centre in Boksburg, east of Johannesburg on Wednesday, 1 July 2015. "In addition to the education fraternity we have the Out of School Youth and Young Water Professionals. These groupings are supported by different organisations that continue to mobilise society towards acceptable behavioural norms and standards," added the DM.

She pointed out that the 2015 National Annual Youth Summit on Water and Sanitation was attended by 99 educators, representing 77 schools, 274 learners, 72 Departmental officials, 30 Out of School Youth and in total we had 552 Summit participating delegates. "I have noted the presence of the water supporting institutions such as Monash University, Water Research Commission, Rand Water, Amathole Water, Sedibeng Water and WESSA.

These institutions have worked very closely with our local municipalities; they have guided the department in the Water management and sanitation provision. We are happy to also work with these institutions in nurturing talent amongst the young people," the DM noted.

The DM said: "Also, allow me to extend my warm greetings to my leaders present here today, the delegations representing the participating schools, the Out of School Youth, the Young Water and Sanitation Professionals, our Sponsors, our Partners and all Government officials present here."

On Thursday, 2 July 2015, several awards were handed to the winning schools and individuals, and these include the following:

In terms of Baswa le Meetse 15 schools won themselves prize money. Half of each prize will go to the learners and the other half will go to the school to improve the quality of learning.

Five (5) schools won themselves Media classrooms. These media classrooms will be provided with computers and internet connection.

Twenty (20) bursaries were awarded to learners in terms of the Aqua Enduro Category. These learners will study water and sanitation related careers.

Three Echo (3) Schools with best water education practices won prize money.

Nine (9) bursaries were awarded to learners in the Public Speaking Category. These learners will study water and sanitation related careers.

And, 40 educators received certificates of participation.

Ike Motsapi