



water & sanitation

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Water and Sanitation
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INTERNET ARTICLE

The DWS Youth Water and Sanitation Summit comes to a sterling end

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The National Youth Water and Sanitation Summit proceedings which started at the beginning of this week in Ekurhuleni, Gauteng ended with a much anticipated award giving ceremony yesterday, Thursday 02 July 2015. The summit, hosted by the Department of Water and Sanitation as part of its Youth In Water programme, saw several learners from schools across the country walk away with amazing prizes and experiences.

From getting bursaries, state of the art media classrooms and laptops to scoring a trip to represent South Africa at a prestigious event in Stockholm, Sweden, Deputy Minister Pamela Tshwete said during her address that she believed all learners who were present during the summit were winners by virtue of being part of such a successful endeavour.

Nhlonipho Nukeri from Mithlari High School in Limpopo said he feels very accomplished and has learnt a lot as far as water education is concerned from his fellow learners. Nhlonipho and two of his classmates snatched first place in the South African Youth Water Prize Competition after coming up with an innovative method of water conservation and will represent South Africa in Sweden.

“This is an exciting and overwhelming experience for us and we plan to make South Africa proud”, Nukeri said.

Gauteng MEC for Education Mr Panyaza Lesufi expressed his enthusiasm towards the event during his welcoming speech. Comparing the youngsters to gold because of their value to the nation’s future Lesufi said he believed that it is very important that the youth must be equipped and prepared mentally to be innovative at a young age.

He added: “The standard of innovativeness of South African youth should measure up to the global standards and they should be able to go out there and compete against the best in the world on projects related to science and technology”.

The youth in water programme is an initiative of the Department of Water and Sanitation to encourage the involvement of youth in water related challenges faced by communities through innovative solutions for water shortages and promoting water conservation through active awareness actions in their communities.

Maduvha Maseda