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Waste Water Treatment Works receive an upgrade

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The Department of Water and Sanitation has set aside an initial budget of over R300 million to repair and upgrade the 26 semi or non functioning Waste Water Treatment Works.

The investment comes in the wake of amidst various reports about fears of raw sewage, which flows into the Vaal River, affecting environmental, social and economic uses of water.

Consultations with representatives of municipalities from Mpumalanga, Free State, Gauteng, North West and Northern Cape Provinces was held to launch and map out a way of implementing what is being described as emergency interventions on dysfunctional WWTWs.

The primary objectives of the emergency project are to put into place proper functioning structures that will include the training of process controllers and improve health and safety issues; and most importantly the replacement of dilapidated infrastructure.

In support of the municipalities, the department will ensure payment to the contractors appointed, will address and monitor the capacity of the 26 WWTWs that is connected to the Vaal.

The process will also aid or benefit the unemployed, especially graduates that will be trained as process controllers in a venture known as project Bambanani. It should be noted that DWS intervention is aimed at improving service delivery to the masses in relation to reliable, clean and drinkable water.

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Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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