



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS gears itself for the official launch of Global Handwashing Day

12 October

The Department of Water and Sanitation is gearing itself for the official launch of the Global Handwashing Day celebrated on 15 October annually.

The launch will take place on Friday, 13 October 2017, where Minister Nomvula Mokonyane will kick off the first leg and visit three institutions at Matlosana (Klerksdorp), North West to talk about the importance of practising hygiene standards and reemphasising the importance of washing hands with soap.

Deputy Minister Pamela Tshwete will follow the lead and celebrate the Global Handwashing Day in Matjhabeng Local Municipality in Free State on Monday, 17 October 2017.

The annual awareness creation day, which is celebrated across the globe, aims to encourage people to wash their hands with soap in the effort to reduce the spread of diarrheal disease and 50% of the infections acquired in healthcare settings.

This year's theme is "Our Hands, Our Future", reminds us that hand washing protects our own health, but also allows us to build our own futures, as well as those of our communities, and the world.

The global celebration is part of the annual sanitation campaign by the Department of Water and Sanitation, which also boasts the annual World Toilet Day on 19 November 2017.

The two-pronged campaign will include a myriad of activities across the country ranging from handwashing activations at taxi ranks and schools to educational health and hygiene talks and the reemphasis on the importance of access to decent sanitation services to everyone.

The Department is calling on all internal and external stakeholders whether at school, in a health facility or within communities, to participate, inculcate the culture of washing hands with soap and invest in a better future.

Mbalenhle Dlamini