



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Learners from Mahikeng address water leaks during SAYWP competitions

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High water bills and loss of water through leaking water pipes will be a thing of the past if things go according to the plans of three learners from Living Faith combined school from Mahikeng in the North West province.

The learners, Thoriso Taukobong, Luyanda Dibe and Oratile Monnamme won the provincial competitions of the South African Youth Water Prize for their water monitor invention which will assist to identify leaks on the main municipal water pipe line and give a direct location of where the leak is located on the pipe line.

According to the learners, their invention came after being told that the water bill at their school was too high.

“We did an inspection at our school to ascertain the cause for the high water bill and discovered that there were leaks on the water pipe. These made us to realise that our school was contributing to the 37% of water lost through leaks causing the country to lose R7 billion per year, said Thoriso Taukobong.”

The water monitor will have to be connected to the main water pipe line for it to be able to detect any leaks and send signals to the nearest municipal office where plumbers will have to be dispatched to fix the leak.

“Our invention will come in handy because it will be able to detect leaks even if its underground and a signal showing a direct location will be send to the municipality, said Taukobong.”

Moreover, the three (3) learners will represent the North West province at the National SAYWP competitions in June this year. These learners will receive full bursaries to study any water related courses at universities of their choices through the flagship programme in line with the department’s 2020 Vision for Water and Sanitation Education Programme aimed at educating learners about efficient use of water and protection of water sources.

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