



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Serve with commitment and passion and fight the demon of corruption in the public service

22 June 2018

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) joined the Mpumalanga Provincial Government in celebrating Africa Public Service Day under the theme “**Combating Corruption in the Public Service Institutions through Stakeholder Participation and Ethical Leadership**” in Vaalbank in the Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality on 22 June 2018. Africa Public Service Day is celebrated annually on the 23rd of June in an effort to recognise the value and virtue of service to the community since the Pan African Conference of Ministers of Public Service met in Tangier, Morocco 24 years ago.

DWS engaged the public through an informative interactive exhibition where the toll free call centre number was promoted to encourage the public to engage the Department on issues of concern. Through the interactions, the Department enlightened the public on its programmes and encouraged the public to make use of the Departmental call centre to address community concerns. Water conservation was highly promoted throughout the exhibition.

In her address, the Premier of Mpumalanga, Ms Refilwe Mtshweni, encouraged the public and civil servants to play an active role in rooting out corruption in the public service. “For Africa to achieve the targets of the AU Agenda 2063, we must fight the demon of corruption in the public service. We need to change how we see ourselves and how the world perceives us as Africa. The prevailing perception of a continent associated with corruption continues to overshadow the success that we have made in the continent. Corruption impedes economic growth by discouraging foreign and domestic investment, taxing and is dampening entrepreneurship, lowering the quality of public infrastructure, etc. Democracy becomes vibrant and is strengthened when civil society and other stakeholders can freely, without fear and favour, assist government to combat corruption”, she said.

She further appreciated the commitment and passion of public servants and encouraged them to continue serving the public with pride. “The Africa Public Service Day is about priding us towards ensuring and committing to the provision and delivery of value and quality service to all citizens. As we engage in this regard, it is important to come up with mechanisms and



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resolutions geared towards the eradication of corruption and promotion of ethical conduct in order to provide sustainable quality service to the citizens”, she stated.

As part of the commitment to serving the public through delivery of quality services, the Premier made a commitment to the community that she will work hard to address their water problems as the municipality is having challenges in terms of water provision to communities. Water is life and a basic need, therefore people deserve to get quality potable water for their existence.

Themba Khoza