



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### MEDIA STATEMENT

#### **Cyclone Dineo improves water levels in Ehlanzeni District**

21 FEBRUARY 2017

The Mpumalanga dam levels have improved marginally this week due to the recent rains which can largely be attributed to Tropical Cyclone phenomenon which was experienced in some parts of the country.

The dam levels in the province increased by 1, 7% from 67, 1% last week to 68, 8% this week. At the same period last year, the dam levels in the province were at 59, 9%.

According to the Department of Water and Sanitation's weekly state of reservoirs report for this week Ehlanzeni District benefited a lot from the recent rains.

Compared to last week's report, the dam levels show a drastic improvement. Water levels at Driekoppies Dam increased from 28.7% to 35.8%, Witklip Dam increased from 60.4% to 76.8%, Primkop Dam increased from 74.6% to 101.7%, Kwena Dam increased from 46.2% to 48.9%, Da Gama Dam increased from 55.4% to 65.1%, Inyaka Dam increased from 67.1% to 76.1%, Ohrigstad Dam increased from 34.2% to 52.2%, Blyderivierpoort Dam increased from 100.3% to 103.5%.

Elsewhere in the province there were some improvements as well as decreases in dam levels.

Nooitgedacht Dam increased from 71.4% to 72.1%, Vygeboom Dam increased from 100.4% to 101.0%, Witbank Dam increased from 97.7% to 98.5%, Buffelskloof Dam increased from 100.3% to 102.2%, Westoe Dam increased from 75.2% to 75.6% and the Heyshope Dam increased from 80.9% to 81.4%.

Dams that show a decline in the water levels are mainly in the Nkangala and Gert Sibande Districts and include Middelburg Dam which showed a decrease from 45.8% to 44.9%, Loskop Dam decreased from 63.2% to 63.0%, Rhenosterkop Dam decreased from 21.8% to 21.5%, Grootdraai Dam decreased from 99.9% to 99.4%, Jericho Dam decreased from 73.4% to 73.0%. The level of the Morgenstond Dam showed no changes and remains at 58.0% as last week.



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The Department of Water and Sanitation urges the public to be extra cautious when approaching rising and overflowing rivers and dams to prevent the loss of precious life and property. The public is further urged not to play in the rising rivers to avoid contracting and the spread of waterborne diseases.

It is crucial to always remember that South Africa is a water scarce country, therefore we must always use water sparingly for water security for the current and future generations. Water security is in our hands. Water is life and has no substitute.

**Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation**

**For more information contact: Sputnik Ratau at 082 874 2942**

**For further enquiries contact: Themba Khoza on 082 600 5666**

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