



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Rain drops brought some impact in dam levels around Free State

24 February 2017

The rains from last year and the most recent ones have slightly improved the water situation in Free State but the province is still not yet out of the woods.

Over the past year, the Free State province has been engulfed by a dire water situation leaving some communities without water due to very low dam levels and some dams without water at all.

According to the latest dam level assessment report by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Tierpoort Dam which was at 0% last year has rose to 5.5% this year. Kalkfontein Dam last year was at 4.0% is standing at a dangerously low 6.1%. Groothoek Dam last year was at 0% and has made a slight improvement to 11.4% this year.

While the other dams are still dangerously low, other dams have made notable progress. Allemanskraal was at 13.7% last year and this year is at 30.7%. Erfenis was at 9.5% last year and this year is at 69.5%, Koppies Dam last year was at 38.3%, has made a significant turn-around, and is at 100% this year. Fika Patso last year was at 12.5% and this year at 43.4%.

This recovery is due to the rain received over the past year as well as the result of the impact of water restrictions imposed by municipalities to ensure that there is controlled water use.

The South African Weather Beareau Services has predicted more rain in the coming days.

The Department of Water and Sanitation applauds its communities for the cooperation in adhering to the water restrictions imposed since last year however, communities should continue to use water sparingly and explore opportunities to reuse grey water for gardening and cleaning.

END

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