



## **water & sanitation**

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### **MEDIA STATEMENT**

#### **Youth in the water sector close off youth month by pledging to be agents of youth empowerment**

30 June 2017

Some of the youth involved in the water sector signed a pledge based on a Youth Development strategy which will ensure a lasting legacy for the youth. The pledge was signed in Benoni, Gauteng today and formed part of a three day Water and Sanitation Youth Indaba.

The pledge is set against the backdrop of four main objectives; Entrepreneurship, Job creation, skills development and institutionalization amongst the youth. Deputy Minister (DM) Pamela Tshwete was there to witness the signing of the pledge and commended the youth for taking such big steps.

The pledge will be used as a lobbying tool to consolidate support and ensure coordinated participation of the different sector partners.

DM Tshwete said that young people should be innovative and come up with solutions to address the current water challenges. "Entrepreneurship in the water and sanitation sector is key, the latter cannot be achieved if young people still want to be employed", she added.

She further revealed that the department is looking into finalizing such opportunities with countries like Hungary, Italy and China where students could be nominated for studies on water Related Courses and exchange programmes in that regard.

Currently there are trainings that are conducted for our young engineers and water specialists in Japan periodically where there are students that are studying in Japan from different provinces through a partnership that the Department has with the Japanese International Co-operation Agency (JICA).

**END.**

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

**For more information contact: Sputnik Ratau, DWS Director, Media Liaison: 082 874 2942**

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