



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### MEDIA STATEMENT

#### **DWS spearheads the cleaning of Mutale River to mark Mandela Day**

19 July 2018

As part of Mandela Day activities, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), together with its partners, spearheaded the successful cleaning of Mutale River in Makonde in Vhembe, yesterday.

This clean-up was held under the auspices of the Clear Rivers campaign, an annual departmental initiative which encourages individuals, businesses and civil society organisations to roll up their sleeves and be part of the cleaning of water resources such as rivers, streams and wetlands.

Addressing the volunteers, DWS Limpopo's Director for Institutional Establishment, Ms Doris Maumela emphasised the need for the community to make sure they do not dump dirt on the river banks as that will end up in the river and polluting the water in the process.

"As we are all aware that South Africa is a scarce water resource country, there is a need for water security, particularly in the face of global climate change. We call on communities to stop turning the river banks as their dumping site, as that will affect the water that is flowing in this river. The dirt that we see here around the river was dumped here by us the community, hence we need to mobilise everyone and encourage them not to dump dirt near our water sources. We need to make sure we work together with municipality and make sure we police our areas and report those who continue to pollute our river banks", said Ms Maumela.

The department also calls on citizens to continue saving water as we continue to keep our water resources clean. The province's average dam levels this week are at 72.6%, which shows a decrease compared to last year's 77.00%. Water users in the province are encouraged to play their role in saving water to ensure that we do not run out of water.

The Water Management Area for Limpopo continues to decline compared to last year this time, when dam levels were at 88.00%, compared to 75.7% at the moment. In the Olifants, it is now at 71.3%, a decrease compared to last year's 73.3%.

The Polokwane Water Supply Systems is at 92.5% showing a slight movement compared to last week's 93.3%. The Luvuvhu Water Supply System is sitting at 97.9% same as last week. The dam level at Nandoni Dam is recorded at 99,80% this week which brings relief to communities.

The Ebenezer Dam is at 85,92% this week, whilst Tzaneen Dam has declined to 38,15% which is a concern to the farmers in Mopani.

Mokolo Dam increased slightly from 86,13% last week to 85,66% this week and De Hoop Dam is currently sitting at 89,44%, crucial for the communities of Sekhukhune that are supplied by the dam.



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

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

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