



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# MEDIA STATEMENT

## Decline in Mpumalanga water levels continues

04 September 2018

The dam levels report by the Department of Water and Sanitation has shown a 0.7% decline in water levels in Mpumalanga, dropping from 77.1% last week to 76.4% this week.

The report also shows that water levels in the water management areas of the Province also declined, with the Olifants catchment dropping from 68.5% to 67.6% and the Inkomati-Usuthu catchment dropping from last week's 78.2% to 77.7%.

Dam levels in all the listed dams in the three districts of the Province recorded declines in water volumes with only the Da Gama Dam in Ehlanzeni District remaining unchanged at 76.6%. The majority of the dams are above 60% with the Westoe Dam in Gert Sibande District around 50% and decreasing from last week's 50.5% to 50.4%.

As we approach the hot weather months, more water will also be lost through evaporation, therefore it is crucial that we all play our part in conserving and using the available water wisely and in a sparing manner. With climate change part of us, we are not guaranteed good rains to fill up our dams, so it is up to all of us to ensure water security by using the available water wisely.

We must always remember that South Africa is a water scarce and one of the driest countries in the globe and that water has no substitute, which poses a challenge to all of us to make every drop count.

**ENDS**

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

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

**For further enquiries contact: Themba Khoza on 066 301 6962**

**For media releases, speeches and news visit the Water & Sanitation portal at: [www.dwa.gov.za](http://www.dwa.gov.za)**