



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Knysna High School scooped position one during the WC provincial South African Youth Water Prize competition over the weekend.

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The competition was very tight on Saturday 05 May as the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) held the Western Cape South African Youth Water Prize (SAYWP) Provincial programme in George under the 2020 Vision for Water and Sanitation Programme.

Grade 11 learners from three schools, George High School, Knysna High School and Vredenburg High School were competing for the first position as they presented their projects to a panel of judges. SAYWP gives learners an opportunity to identify water and sanitation related problems in their schools or communities (problems like water sources pollution, water-borne diseases, health and hygiene, invasive alien species), do a research and present recommendable solutions to the problem/s. Knysna High School impressed the judges most with their awareness category. The school recommends the use of grey water for flushing and watering gardens to curb water wastage. Shante Strydom from Knysna High says on average, 798 houses can flush more than 10 000 liters of clean potable water per day. "We suggest that people must start thinking about converting grey water into usable water", said Strydom.

Knysna High School also walked away with R6000-00 and will represent the province during the national competition in Pretoria later this month, with a possibility of representing the country in Stockholm, Sweden, during the Stockholm Junior Water Prize competing against more than 27 countries. Vredenburg took position two and George High was placed third.

SAYWP is a science and technology collaboration between the DWS and the Stockholm Water Foundation in Sweden. The objective of this competition is to promote the protection of the country's natural resources and increase awareness amongst young people. This programme gives young aspiring scientists an opportunity to compete under awareness, invention or intervention categories.

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