



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### MEDIA STATEMENT

#### **DWS and stakeholders raise water and sanitation awareness in Monato Primary School**

05 April 2019

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in partnership with Bojanala Platinum District Municipality, Rustenburg Local Municipality and Department of Health raised water and sanitation awareness at Monato Primary School in Rhenosterfontein on Thursday, 04 April 2019.

This is part of ongoing efforts by the department and associated stakeholders to educate the public about the value of water and the need for sustainable management of this scarce resource.

The occasion was envisaged to continue building on the ongoing awareness creation within the broader South African community in a bid to forge partnerships with various members of the community to actively participate in water source management.

The aim of the occasion was to encourage learners to change their attitudes towards water usage, with particular emphasis on water conservation to ensure its sustainability in future and also remind everyone about the importance and responsibility that every citizen must take in ensuring the efficient use of water resources and also to highlight the importance of handwashing and food safety and hygiene.

Addressing learners at Monato Primary School, Mrs. Kelebogile Sekgethfrom Rustenburg Local Municipality highlighted the need to conserve water daily to ensure sustainability of this scarce resource.

“We never know the worth of water until our taps are dry. This does not have to be the situation with you in your school and various localities. You have to help us to conserve water at all costs for the current and future generations, said Sekgetho.

“We believe that you as learners are the best educators and are able to change the mindset of your families and the entire community. Thus, we are here today to educate you about the importance of water. Always remember that water cannot be substituted with anything. Help us conserve water and become water ambassadors in your different localities”, said Mrs. Kelebogile Sekgetho.

Mr Tieho Ntja from the Department of Water and Sanitation gave presentations and demonstrations on hand washing with soap in a bid to encourage regular hand washing with soap and raise awareness of hand washing with soap as the most effective and inexpensive way to reduce the spread of diseases.

“We are here to reiterate and inculcate the importance of regular hand washing with soap and also to promote good sanitation practices and pave a way forward in terms of delivery of sustainable sanitation services”, said Tieho Ntja.

Mr Tisetso Dipele from Bojanala Platinum District Municipality shared basic ways of how learners can ensure that their water is safe to drink. “You can boil your water and leave for a



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certain time to cool before you can use and you can also add half teaspoon of jik on 20 liters of water to ensure that your water is safe to drink.

END

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

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