



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



MEDIA STATEMENT

DWS'S Youth Indaba calls for youth inclusion in water economy

24 July 2019

The Department of Water and Sanitation urged young people from all walks of life to take a keen interest in the economy by playing a significant role in the water and sanitation sector.

This came out during a Youth Indaba which was organised by the Department in the City of Ekurhuleni in Boksburg on Tuesday, 23 July 2019.

The Indaba was held to facilitate ongoing conversations on the achievement and progress made on DWS's Youth Development Strategy and to facilitate the development of a Youth Development Roadmap to meet the challenges that face the youth.

It also provided a platform for robust discussions and constructive ideas about challenges confronting the sector and how the youth can take positions of leadership in the sector.

DWS's Director for Transformation, Mr Curtis Mabena, said the primary intention of the indaba is to encourage engagements, technical expertise and knowledge sharing among the youth in the sector.

He added that this will improve institutional governance, performance, job creation and ultimately service delivery to communities.

"Young people should not sit on the side but should instead become active citizens so that they influence government to meet their needs. The reality is that government cannot employ everyone and therefore the youth must strive to become employers, particularly in fields where there are skills shortages," said Mr Mabena.

He said this year's Indaba is placing premium on sustainable youth empowerment, job creation, entrepreneurship, skills development.

Mr Mabena added: "It is therefore important to see how the youth can contribute to the water sector in the country as this will allow the country to unlock a number of multiplier effects for socio-economic development."

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

For more information contact: Sputnik Ratau on 082 874 2942 or Khulekani Ngcobo on 082 723 6030.

For media releases, speeches and news visit the Water & Sanitation portal at:
www.dwa.gov.za



Department of Water and Sanitation South Africa



DWS_RSA