



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### **Gauteng DWS and Sokhulumi water forum's door-to-door campaign champions water conservation**

11 March 2019

The Sokhulumi Village outside Bronkhorstspuit in the City of Tshwane was a hive of activity when the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in Gauteng conducted a door-to-door campaign to raise awareness about water conservation as part of the Water Month celebration.

The campaign, which was done in partnership with the Sokhulumi Water and Sanitation Community Forum and the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta) took place on 07 February 2019 under the theme: "Leaving no one behind; water for all".

DWS's Water Sector Support Chief Development Officer, Mr Aifheli Makumbane, said the campaign was important in the village as there were three out of four sections that were receiving water with the fourth depending on a borehole.

Mr Makumbane described the situation in the village as dire because there was lack of water and that residents relied on water tankers for water supply.

He said the campaign was of particular importance in the village as residents need to understand the water situation that is facing their village and the country as a whole.

A member of the Water and Sanitation Community Forum, Annah Mahapela, said the door-to-door campaign would serve to sensitise the community about the importance of conserving water and making sure that the available water they had was used sparingly.

"We are well aware that the country is facing a serious challenge of water shortage and our village is experiencing this situation. Our community needs to understand that water the water we have must be used sparingly. We cannot afford to waste the available water," said Ms Mahapela.

Echoing Ms Mahapela's sentiments, a member of the community, Ms Alicia Grobbelaar, said the Water Month and the campaign should be used to encourage the community to reflect on the way they relate to water resources, adding that it was time community members did their part to save water.

Ms Paulina Moraba, who is a representative of the Sokhulumi Traditional Council, described the water situation in the village as serious, saying at times some sections of the village went without water during the day and only received it at night.

Ms Moraba said: "The challenge of water scarcity here makes should serve to point to the fact that we cannot use water without regard to our future. When we use water we should take care to not waste this precious resource because it is very limited."

**Hosia Sithole**