



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Media Statement – 25 July 2023

To All Media

RE: Limpopo Government looks at alternative water provision for Giyani

The Limpopo Provincial Government has taken a significant step towards addressing the water crisis in Giyani by signing an agreement with the Water Research Commission on 24 July 2023.

The agreement is part of the newly launched Giyani Local Scale Climate Resilience Programme (GLSCRIP) aims to enhance climate resilience and water utilisation in the Giyani area. The programme focuses on scaling and optimising multiple-use water systems, services, and alternate energy options.

The GLSCRIP is a 3-year community-led programme scaling Multiple Water Use Systems (MUS) and solar energy to develop, research and demonstrate practical and sustainable water and climate adaptation solutions in Giyani to improve water sources, utilisation, community resilience and local economic development.

The project is currently implemented in five agricultural sites: Daniel Ravalela Farm, Dzumeri Farm, Loloka Farm, Dzumeri Farm 2 and Muyexe Community Project. It is also being implemented on four community sites of Mbhedle, Mayephu, Mzilela and Matsotsosela, with a population of approximately 5 000 residents.

Mr. Walter Segooa, Deputy Director General for Stakeholder Management Coordination, signed the memorandum on behalf of the Provincial Government. He emphasised the alignment of this strategic partnership with the key priorities and aspirations of the Limpopo Development Plan (LDP), which aims to ensure integrated and sustainable socio-economic and infrastructure development while improving the quality of life for Limpopo citizens.

The Government of Flanders has given R40 million over three years to support this initiative, with the funding set to conclude in 2024. Afterward, the project will be expected to sustain itself.

Mr. Nikolas Bosscher, the Government of Flanders Representative, highlighted the significance of this collaboration, stating: "The challenges faced by South Africa, particularly in Limpopo, are the semi-arid climate and water delivery or availability

issues. In Giyani, these challenges are even more pronounced, especially in meeting the MDG 2026 targets."

Dr. Jennifer Molwantwa, CEO of the Water Research Commission, emphasised the importance of harnessing skills and knowledge to empower communities to manage their own environment. She stated: "This project has laid the foundation for us to learn and do more with less. The lessons learned from this programme will serve as valuable information and knowledge for future endeavours. Indigenous knowledge, combined with scientific innovation, has been instrumental in helping communities adapt and progress."

The Limpopo Provincial Government invites the public to witness the positive impact of the GLSCRIP firsthand. They encourage people to visit the areas in Greater Giyani Municipality to see the implementation of flushing toilets without reticulated water, showcasing the innovative solutions being developed to address the water challenges faced by the community.

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About Limpopo Provincial Government:

The Limpopo Provincial Government is committed to improving the lives of its citizens through sustainable development and infrastructure initiatives. The government works tirelessly to address challenges and create opportunities for the people of Limpopo.

About the Water Research Commission:

The Water Research Commission is a South African organisation dedicated to water research and development. It collaborates with various stakeholders to find innovative solutions to water-related challenges and promote sustainable water management practices. For the Giyani Project it is in partnership with Tsogang Water and Sanitation (Tsogang), Association for Water and Rural Development (AWARD) and the University of the Western Cape (UWC).

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#LetsGrowLimpopoTogether
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