



**Mopani District
Municipality**

BAMBENI WATER PROJECT REIGNITES HOPE FOR THE COMMUNITY



The Bambeni Water Reticulation Project is on track to be completed ahead of time, reigniting hope to more than two thousand residents who have been struggling with water supply for years in that village.

Bambeni village along the R529 road is one of the first 24 villages where the Mopani District Municipality is busy with the water reticulation project. The project forms part of Nandoni-Giyani Water Project which is meant to supply water to the people of Greater Giyani Municipality.

The contractor for the project which is worth just over R20 million was introduced to the community in December last year. And while the project is scheduled to be completed in January 2024, progress is already at 62% - way ahead of its schedule.

The project has already covered 12,3 km of the 13.1 km in construction of water reticulation network. The work also entails yard connections to 633 households, and so far connections to 580 households have been completed, bringing so much hope to the community.

"We are struggling with water in this community. Currently we are getting water from the borehole and we then have to buy water whenever there is a breakdown on the borehole. The project will bring so much relief to the community," says Christinah Machethe.

The project has so far created 23 direct work opportunities as part of the expanded public works programme (EPWP), and five small businesses are also benefiting from the project through sub-contracting.

Panic Baloyi is one of the labourers employed on the project. He says he was sceptical at the start of the project, but he is more confident now that the community will have water. "I have gained some experience working on this project, but ultimately the community will have water. Our struggles are about to end. This community will have water soon."



The contractor has done refurbishment to the 800kl reservoir, and is currently busy with the construction of the 80kl elevated steel tank.

The Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi visited the community late last year where he met with the stakeholders. He used the opportunity then to implore the stakeholders to embrace the project and to ensure there are no stoppages.

"We are happy and encouraged by the progress recorded on this project. And what is more pleasing to us is the support the project has received from the community and the level of leadership provided by the stakeholders. This is a model community and we can only hope that other communities embrace the projects so that our people can have sustainable water supply," he said.

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