

Executive Mayor says the overflowing Nwamanungu dam presents an opportunity for sustainable water provision



Mopani District Municipality's Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi has assured communities around Greater Letaba Municipality that the Municipality is working on plans to leverage on the opportunity presented by the overflowing Nwamanungu dam, formerly known as Middle-Letaba dam. The dam supplies water to communities in Greater Giyani, Greater Letaba and parts of Vhembe District. After over two decades of low levels — it was 9.2% full this time last year — recent rains have brought the dam to full capacity.

Speaking at an imbizo at the Look Community Hall on Tuesday, 17 March the Executive Mayor said the Municipality is busy finalizing plans to assess the current bulk water infrastructure and water treatment capacity, and will seek funding where necessary. The Executive Mayor said the Municipality was following through on the commitments made during the state of the district address to construct 19880 VIP toilets across the district. He said that 14567 have already been completed, and 2234 units are within the Greater Letaba Municipality.

The Executive Mayor also said that he has been made aware that certain contractors were not paying labourers, adding that the Municipality is terminating the contracts of service providers who have not paid workers. He said that labourers will be paid in the next few days.

He also used the opportunity to invite young people to apply to participate in the 4IR SMMEs broadband incubation programme. The programme aims to train and incubates young entrepreneurs to support the rollout of Mopani District Wi-Fi towers. The programme forms part of the Mopani District Municipality's DDM-LED initiative under the MoU signed with Limpopo Connexion.

"We also have another programme which we are running with AWARD, and we are inviting young people to join the Youth Solar Business Programme to incubate SMMEs in renewable energy. The programme is funded through the European Union. This six-month programme will train 30 youth in SOLAR installation and green enterprise development," he said.