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EWSETA Provincial Offices Open
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For inputs, please email: newsletter@eseta.org.za
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Message from the CEO

Dear Valued EWSETA Stakeholders

It gives me great pleasure to introduce you to EWSETA Chronicle - our first quarterly Newsletter for 2017. The idea of an EWSETA Newsletter was one that I felt strongly about from the first day I joined EWSETA and finally it has become a reality. What I originally had in mind of course, was a short E-flyer, I had no idea that what would eventually materialise would be a 24 - page magazine.

The need for our Newsletter became more apparent over time after realising that our immense skills development and training efforts in the energy and water sector were not being promoted enough in the public domain. However, the main reason is undoubtedly based on our stakeholders, both internal and external, crying out for more communication on our work and the many opportunities that exist for stronger collaboration and partnership.

Reading the varied articles in this first issue, I am more convinced today than ever before that EWSETA and our stakeholders are making incredible strides in achieving our National Government’s mandate through education and training initiatives that are both innovative and impactful.

I am honoured that this issue introduces to our sector, our Chairperson, Mr Frans Baleni, who I am privileged to have as a leader. In just over a year, Mr Baleni has brought strengthened Governance and Strategic focus to the fore at EWSETA and I thank him for his support and direction at all times.

I am informed that due to page limitation, there were some articles that sadly did not make it into this Newsletter, but rest assured, we will use every communication platform at our disposal to continue to promote our work and that of our sector.

Enjoy the read!

Errol Gradwell

Note from the Editor

What an exciting journey it has been for the marketing team over the past few months in putting together this first EWSETA Newsletter. We have carefully selected the articles and profiles to inform, excite and inspire our stakeholders, who on a daily basis make a difference in the lives of ordinary people.

For the first quarter, we place focus on two of our dedicated leaders at EWSETA, our Chairperson and CEO. We also showcase some of the partnerships we are incredibly proud of especially for what they are intended to achieve.

Last but not least, we wish to create a platform for our stakeholders to utilise and to spread their own “good news” stories. EWSETA cannot exist without the commitment from all our stakeholders, staff members and management. So we welcome any contributions from you to our Newsletters – your news is our news and vice versa.

Candice

PS: Don’t forget to check out the Notice Board for latest updates on events and other key information worth diarising.

Acknowledgements

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Introduction to EWSETA

The Energy and Water Sector Education and Training Authority (EWSETA) is one of 21 SETAs established in terms of Section 9 of the Skills Development Act, 97 of 1998, as amended and includes the following sub-sectors: Electricity, Renewable Energy, Oil and Gas, Nuclear, Collection, Purification and Distribution of Water, Waste and Sewage Services, Refuse and Sanitation Services.

EWSETA believes that skills development and training is a collective responsibility. Together with our Board, and most importantly, our strategic partners, we are contributing towards the skills drive in the Energy and Water sector. As EWSETA, we have played a major role in upskilling the youth and eradicating the skills shortage in the country. With major projects and collaborations under our belt, we aim to bridge the gap between the learner and access to skills within the Water and Energy sector. Our aim is to anticipate, build and manage the skills development and training needs of the Energy and Water services sector through strategic skills planning within the context of the National Skills Development Strategy (NSDS III). In our first quarterly newsletter, you will get to understand what we are doing as a team to make sure we contribute to the vision of the NSDS III – that being “A skilled and capable workforce that shares in, and contributes to, the benefits and opportunities of economic expansion and an inclusive growth path.”

In the Spotlight

“In the Spotlight” is an opportunity to profile some of EWSETA’s hard-working, dedicated and passionate Board members, Employees, Branches and Departments. It is an opportunity to put faces to the names and voices that have been in the background, making sure the wheels of change in the skills development landscape are constantly turning.

For the first newsletter it is a great pleasure to place in the spotlight, the men at the helm of the EWSETA ship who are steering EWSETA towards a very bright horizon - Board Chairperson, Mr. Frans Baleni and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Errol Gradwell.

EWSETA Chairperson Mr. Frans Baleni and Chief Executive Officer Mr. Errol Gradwell, have been the game changers behind the SETA’s accomplishments and continue to have their eyes firmly set on eradicating the skills shortage in South Africa. EWSETA has done exceptionally well in bridging the gap between unemployed and employed learners and skills development opportunities within the energy and water sector, mainly as a result of these two men’s steadfast focus and commitment to ensuring job creation, poverty and unemployment are no longer threats to economic prosperity. This unwavering commitment is why the phrase “walk the talk” is now firmly entrenched in the EWSETA DNA.
Frans Baleni, previously the General Secretary of South Africa’s largest trade union - the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) - joined EWSETA as Chairperson in February 2016 with a mission to tackle the skills shortage head-on.

When interviewed by Leadership Magazine in 2016, Mr Baleni was very transparent about the obstacles EWSETA has to overcome in achieving its mandate. “On one hand, we are going through a challenge with energy, both with electricity and other forms of energy. Just look at how many skills Eskom had to import with the construction of the Medupi power station. It’s time, with what little resources we have, to start contributing with other partners, be it colleges or other higher education institutions and even at a high school level, because training and skills are very important,” said Baleni.

“On the other hand we look at the challenges with water. Let’s take a simple thing like leakage. We need more plumbers to properly handle these. When I grew up, we had an abundance of artisans in this field. Today a call out alone is very costly, and that’s just to get a plumber to my home. This tells me that there is a high demand and there is a need to ensure that the shortage of skills is attended to speedily if we really want to grow our economy and change people’s lives for the better.”

Baleni, was raised in the small Free State town Trompsburg and started his career in the mining industry in 1979. He recalls the difficulties he experienced when he first arrived on the mines including being humiliated by superiors to the language barrier he often faced while trying to communicate with his colleagues underground.

“The mines were, I think, a very testing time for me. After the health inspection, you feel so humiliated, you feel like something has been taken away from you and you can’t say a word. From there we were taken to a hostel with 8 to 10 people in one room. But, I learned a lot from there. I stayed in that hostel for nine years, in single sex rooms. It made me much wiser, it strengthened me and I realised then that human beings, depending on their attitudes, can adapt and survive in the most difficult environments,” Baleni recounts.

A year after his arrival at the mine Baleni was elected as a shop steward and, in 1988, became branch chairman at the Western Holdings Mine in Welkom. He then joined the NUM arm and held a variety of posts until his election in 2006 as general secretary, a position he held until 2015.

Baleni was also a member of the JB Marks Bursary Trust, which was established to provide for the sustainable funding to support the education of NUM members and their dependents. A member of the African National Congress and the South African Communist Party, he joined the United Democratic Front in the 1980s to fight against apartheid and served on the negotiating team at the Convention for a Democratic South Africa.

Holding positions on a number of boards, including the Development Bank of South Africa, PetroSA and the University of Johannesburg, Baleni brings with him a wealth of experience with his commercial, risk, governance and compliance skills and his expertise in health and safety, government relations, education and training, the energy sector, stakeholder management and collective bargaining processes.

“As chairperson, my role is to steer the ship. One must be able to oversee the mandate of the EWSETA to ensure compliance in terms of its constitution and that it delivers in terms of its mandate. It’s also important to engage stakeholders. We’ve got the Department of Higher Education and Training on one hand and contributors to the EWSETA, labour and beneficiaries of the SETA on the other. It’s important for me as the chairperson to relate to all stakeholders and ensure that the EWSETA delivers what it’s supposed to be delivering,” he says.

Placing a high value on education, particularly for young people looking to make a contribution to the economy, Baleni believes that EWSETA plays a crucial role in restoring dignity, empowering people and creating opportunities for meaningful employment.
Baleni believes that a strong set of ethics go a long way when it comes to good leadership. “Be ethical in whatever you do. That moment you decide to be unethical will come back to haunt you. People may not see it today, but it will eventually be discovered,” he says.

“I like to quote a man who I respect a lot – Thomas Sankara. The former president of Burkina Faso, who said ‘Power must be conquered by conscious people’. We must ensure that we are conscious about the task at hand. There must be a purpose in what we are doing and we need to see an abundance of energy in the individuals working for EWSETA. The people who serve on our boards and sub committees must distribute this energy to our beneficiaries so that we meet all of our targets and goals.”

Quick Q&A with Frans

What is your favourite book?
I have three books that I like, Thomas Sankara Speaks, Who’s Holding Your Ladder? and Revolutionary Thought in the 20th Century.

Favourite movie?
I am not too much of a movie person but prefer going to the theatre and watching plays such as Sarafina.

Favourite holiday destination?
I like wild life, so any spot the family choose with wild life becomes my favourite.

Favourite meal?
I really enjoy deboned chicken which I prepare and happy to say that the family enjoys it too.

What do you do in your spare time?
Providing social services to hospitals, CPF and watching my daughter playing hockey.

What are your hobbies?
Exercising at the gym or jogging, reading and travelling.

Likes?
My approach in life is to deliver on your purpose. We were never born to be useless creatures but to serve a purpose which is to improve the life of others, development and prosperity. I like sincere people.

Dislikes?
I dislike poor time keeping.
We know that you had the intention of capacitating Public TVET Colleges in order to provide qualifications in water and energy. How is that going?

With over 33 signed Memoranda of Understanding (MOU’s) with Public TVET Colleges and the outstanding MoU’s being fast-tracked, I believe EWSETA is doing extremely well in ensuring that we have a strong partnership with each Public TVET College that will allow both organisations to work on specific education and training interventions needed to achieve our mandates. This as we know has been a focal point for the Minister of the Department of Higher Education and Training who wants to see our Public TVET Colleges being capacitated at a far more rapid pace if we are to achieve the NDP Post-Schooling System goals and targets. However, note that EWSETA is not putting aside our higher learning institutions with just as much focus going into signing of MOU’s with a number of Universities and Universities of Technology.

A sterling example of how we are addressing this very issue, is a project we have undertaken with the Stellenbosch University Water Institute who undertook an Educational Needs Analysis of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College Lecturers in the South African Water Sector. The Phase 1 Report of this project highlighted the immense challenge we have in the sector as one of the findings was that out of a total of 485 colleges (public and private combined), only 16 colleges (3.3%) have any Water and Wastewater Treatment courses, and out of those 16 only 6 are Public Colleges with only 4 Public TVET Colleges offering Plant Operations Courses. It was evident that something drastic needed to be done to support and capacitate our Public TVET Colleges, and through the leadership of our Board, the second phase of this project is underway which will see TVET Colleges being strengthened through curriculum development. (See page 18 for an article that will further illustrates this)
Following the water shortage we are facing in the country, what can we do to conserve water?

“Be the change you wish to see in the world” – I am a firm believer in this quote from Mahatma Gandhi. So start with changing your own actions by making a conscious decision to use water wisely. Change the small things you do on a daily basis that involves using water – opt to shower and not bath and then make it a short shower. Use grey water for watering the garden, if you pass a running or dripping tap, close it. Do not leave the water running while brushing your teeth and keep an eye on your Water Boards’ website and social media feeds for their latest water restriction alerts and abide by them even if you see other’s do not. These are small actions that will go a long way to saving this precious resource.

What are your flagship projects in energy and water and how are these projects transforming the sector?

One of our flagship projects is the Rural and Township Economies Revitalisation Programme (RATERP), a partnership programme under the custodianship of DHET with the Department of Small Business Development (DSBD) as a major stakeholder and EWSETA as the implementing agent. RATERP is cross-sectorial and aimed at recruiting, training, mentoring, coaching and capacitating approximately 6,000 small and micro enterprises (SMEs) throughout the country.

As part of our involvement in RATERP, the EWSETA submitted a sector-specific proposal to the DHET to support the national roll-out of ‘Household Appliances Repairs and Maintenance’ training of 9,000 artisans to reduce energy waste, increase waste management and enhance efficiency in the energy and water sector.

Another Flagship project is undoubtedly the “War on Leaks” project. The “War on Leaks” project aims to work with municipalities and communities to report and fix water leaks. Unemployed youth are being trained on basic plumbing and other artisan skills that will enable them to assist the communities to identify and fix water leaks and conduct water conservation advocacy. It also encourages the development of small, medium-sized and micro-enterprises.

This project is a mammoth undertaking for any SETA and certainly demonstrates the confidence our National Departments have in the ability of EWSETA to ensure that this target is realised.

Quick Q&A with Errol

What is your favourite book?
The Shack by William P Young.

Favourite movie?
Fast and the Furious (All 8).

Favourite holiday destination?
Blouberg Strand in the Western Cape.

Favourite meal?
Oxtail Stew with Red Wine and Prawn Curry with White Wine.

What do you do in your spare time?
Read, listen to R&B and Gospel music and spend valuable family time with my wife and children

What are your hobbies?
Outdoor activities such as game watching and church life.

Likes?
Kind, positive, responsible and disciplined people.

Dislikes?
People who are lazy, ill disciplined, irresponsible and negative.
“In the News” highlights all the exciting developments, projects, partnerships, collaborations, success stories, events and more that has kept EWSETA busy over the past few months. As the SETA responsible for two of the most critical resources, energy and water, there is an abundance of information from EWSETA and from within the energy and water services sector as a whole to share with stakeholders. No doubt you will find the news informative, interesting and inspiring.

**Partnership with Ingen Engineering Projects demonstrates EWSETA’s commitment to supporting SMMEs in the sector**

It has been an exciting year for the EWSETA Sectoral Collaboration and Engagement Branch who are in the main responsible for ever closer partnerships and collaborations with the energy and water sector. Supporting various sector partners through events, face to face meetings and of course skills development projects, forms part of the sound foundation EWSETA is building with its stakeholders.

As part of our constant effort for a transformed sector, EWSETA takes pride in supporting companies like Ingen Engineering Projects (IEP). IEP is a small business, 100% black women-owned and managed company with the BBBEE rating of Level 1 and subscribes fully to the legal, social and moral imperatives of Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment (BBBEE). The company offers a wide range of services in water and waste water related services, project management, and environmental services.

EWSETA and IEP entered into a Collaborative Agreement in June 2016, which was followed up with a Discretionary Grant project award of R 900 000 for an internship programme to place 10 students from Universities and Universities of Technology on various programmes including Mechanical, Civil and Chemical Engineers; Bio-Technology and Bio-Chemistry. The programme is for the duration of 15 months from March 2017 to June 2018.

The purpose of the project is to promote a coherent and effective working relationship, with the purpose of supporting small businesses with all relevant skills development interventions. EWSETA is proud to be working, supporting and collaborating with players such as IEP whose vision for the sector aligns with where EWSETA and the National Development Plan (NDP) see the country moving towards.

**Quick Q&A with Basetsana**

**Tell us more about your experience and vision for IEP**

IEP was founded in 2008, as a chemical engineering professional I have gained extensive experience in the water, engineering and pharmaceutical sectors. The company was formed with one vision in mind; to be the BLACK, WOMEN professional service provider that will bring innovative, cost effective, turn-key water, wastewater, energy and environmental solutions as well as changing the regime of the education and skills development within the sector and the country at large.

**Do you and EWSETA have any more initiatives planned for the future to upskill the youth?**

Definitely, this marks the beginning of our invaluable partnership with EWSETA with this project being one of the many projects envisaged in the near future. We will only achieve this by ensuring that as a company we offer excellent quality workplace and on-the-job training that will contribute positively to the water and energy sector.
EWSETA and Necsa on a path towards growing South Africa’s energy skills pipeline

Among the many ground-breaking partnerships EWSETA has formed in the past year with critical role-players in the sector, the Collaboration Agreement signed at Pelindaba in June 2017 with The South African Nuclear Energy Corporation (Necsa) is one that is sure to have a significant impact on the energy sector, particularly the nuclear sub-sector.

The main functions of Necsa are to undertake and promote research and development in the field of nuclear energy and radiation sciences and technology; to process source material, special nuclear material and restricted material and to co-operate with persons and entities in matters falling within these functions.

The Collaboration Agreement will synergise a strategic partnership to mutually support both entities as partners, in developing a roadmap and skills pipeline that South Africa requires within the energy sector within the foreseeable future.

At the signing ceremony on 7 June 2017, Necsa CEO, Mr. Phumzile Tshelane stated that he believes this collaboration will play a critical role in developing a strong base for providing skills needed for the country’s socio-economic development. Our CEO, Mr. Errol Gradwell, expressed that the country is in dire need of scientists, engineers and artisans in the energy sector and it is imperative that we seek them out to effectively contribute to the country’s economic growth and reduce unemployment.

Necsa and EWSETA will pool their respective knowledge and technical expertise, to develop a concrete skills pipeline that will set South Africa firmly on a path towards prosperity and socio-economic success.

To find out more about Necsa, go to www.necsa.co.za
WRC and EWSETA commit to driving a coherent water skills ecosystem

Countries that have more than sufficient access to water share three common features; they have high investments in knowledge solutions, well-maintained infrastructure and they focus on nurturing talent and skills. This reality makes the Water Research Commission (WRC) and EWSETA well matched partners.

With its long-term investments in research, development and innovation and annually supporting an average of 400 students, the WRC is one of the key players supporting the development of new knowledge and solutions. It was therefore, inevitable that the WRC and EWSETA sign a Collaboration Agreement to drive a coherent water skills ecosystem and pipeline in South Africa.

EWSETA has a pivotal role to play in orienting its 353 water sector levy payers towards emerging water solutions and innovations, as well as driving investments in skills and training for the water sector, which gears new entrants towards greater workplace preparedness and supports existing employees. Addressing the skills gap in the water sector requires three key interventions; firstly, we need the many existing water skills interventions in SA to be better coordinated and connected along the skills pipeline. Secondly, there is a need to link new workplace entrants with opportunities in the water ecosystem for onsite learning and practical experience, which is crucial to developing professionals. Thirdly, the content of water sector training needs to equip employees with the ability to be resilient, flexible and prepared for the emerging challenges and solutions of the future.

To streamline the water sector skills pipeline and prepare employees with opportunities for the future, the WRC and EWSETA partnership will focus on exploring how to unlock opportunities for exposure to emerging water solutions and innovations using existing bursary, learnership and internship processes. Also, using mechanisms such as the Water Technologies Demonstration Programme, the entities hope to unlock opportunities to expose new water sector entrants to technology demonstrations and management processes. This partnership also allows for the creation of new and more relevant mechanisms that will accelerate and streamline the water skills pipeline.

In the signing ceremony, Dhesigen Naidoo the CEO of the WRC, emphasised that SA’s route to higher water security lies firmly in the arena of human capital development. The lack of sufficient skills and talent remains the number one constraint. The partnership between WRC and EWSETA seeks to catalyse human resource development initiatives. This partnership will make a collaborative effort to bridge the “Ivory Towers” of Academia and the workplace to not only develop large new cohorts of water professionals, but a cadre equipped with advanced knowledge as the mechanics of the workplace. This will be a vital pillar in ensuring the future water security of the country and its ability to get to the target of universal access to clean water and safe sanitation.

To find out more about the WRC go to www.wrc.org.za
DUT’s energyDRIVE Project takes alternative energy awareness to rural communities

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) is one of South Africa’s most distinguished institutions of higher education and training and has built an impeccable reputation for innovation and excellence. So when DUT applied for an EWSETA Discretionary Grant for their energyDRIVE Project, we knew that we would be collaborating on a project that would be making history.

The significance of that fact was apparent at the DUT Launch of the energyDRIVE in December 2016. Guests and media were introduced to a one-of-a-kind clean energy demonstration mobile unit fitted out with various Renewable Energy technology and devices, that will allow our most rural communities and youth the opportunity to interact with the technology and information in an innovative way. This will create interest in the immense potential of clean and renewable energy sources. Therefore, our rural youth can consider exciting career choices in renewable energy, community members will be exposed to the possibilities of entrepreneurship development, capacity building and skills development, environmental impact and empowerment through technology transfer and commercialization.

Mr. Errol Gradwell, our CEO, believes that the energyDRIVE Project is a vibrant manifestation of the organisation’s Strategic Partnership with the Durban University of Technology. “This partnership with DUT is critical to EWSETA in achieving many of our skills development and training objectives, but particularly our Green Skills Strategic Goals” commented Gradwell.

EWSETA has been mandated to develop green skills in the energy and water sectors in line with the National Skills Development Strategy III, with the focus mainly being on renewable energy, energy and resource efficiency. The green economy is expected to drive economic growth by generating an increased number of jobs which in turn will assist in mitigating poverty.

Partnerships with DUT and other stakeholders are therefore imperative to the success of green skills dexterity. If we are to successfully develop the needed skills and cutting edge technology in the renewable energy and environmental sectors.

The custom-built mobile truck is a first of its kind and features; a solar roof structure, a wind turbine system, a bio-digester, a battery bank TV, display cupboards, interactive energy demo models and an energy efficiency unit. The various renewable energy technologies will be demonstrated at the roadshows, which will take place at rural schools and TVET colleges of Kwa-Zulu Natal and other provinces. Through this specially modified truck, communication on the ecological and energy crisis and how we are addressing these through sustainable energy solutions like solar, wind, geothermal, bio, hydro and ocean energies to fuel cells and rainwater harvesting, can be conveyed to a range of beneficiaries.

Aside from the roadshow programme roll-out, DUT will also be offering short EWSETA accredited skills programmes such as “Installation and Maintenance of Solar Water Heaters” where the practical component of the training could be done using the mobile truck laboratory, thus, bringing the workplace to the learner.

It is clear that both EWSETA and DUT have a long-term vision to not only build research and innovation capacity for development, but to also provide career opportunities to the youth who may not have access or exposure, while simultaneously striving for a greener economy. This Project is clearly a “win-win” for all concerned, DUT, EWSETA, the energy sector as a whole, but most importantly, rural community beneficiaries.
South Africa’s water sector continues to shine

In spite of various challenges ranging from ageing infrastructure, budget misallocation, corruption and vandalism of infrastructure by communities to a lack of dedicated operation and maintenance budgets, South Africa’s water sector continues to shine.

South Africa’s Water sector can be a little hard on itself, focusing on service shortfalls rather than looking at its own success. For example, according to Stats SA, more than 13.2 million (85.9%) households have access to piped water compared to 9.4 million (79.9%) in 2005. Additionally, the number of households with access to improved sanitation (that is flush toilets or pit toilets with ventilation pipes) also rose, having increased consistently from 62.3% in 2002 to 79.5% in 2014, with the figure improving every year. Compare these to global averages, where 1.8 billion people use a source of drinking water that is faecally contaminated (about 40% of the global population), and one in three people lack access to a toilet. Overcoming service backlogs is not the only success being achieved in the local water sector. With all nine provinces being declared drought disaster areas as a result of low rainfall, South Africa’s water service providers are coming together to form effective strategies for raising awareness and educating people about water savings and the ultimate cost of leaving the taps on.

Awards and initiatives towards the end of last year, Rand Water won two International Water Association (IWA) awards in recognition of its ‘Water Wise’ campaign. The Water Wise campaigns are aimed at educating communities about the importance of water conservation and reducing water consumption during severe drought. In accepting the award, Professor Hamanth Kasan, General Manager: Scientific Services, Rand Water, said, “These awards will continue to inspire the Water Wise team to introduce more innovative ideas, especially during the critical period of severe drought in the country. The awards are an indication that Rand Water is a key player in the water sector at an international level.”

Each year, the UN’s World Water Day celebration falls on 22 March. This year, the theme is wastewater. South Africa’s National Water week coincides with this important day as a way for the local water sector to show its support for this powerful campaign for reiterating the value of water.

Further, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), through its ‘War on Leaks’ campaign has been addressing the country’s youth skills deficit of 68% by training and employing 15 000 artisans, plumbers and water agents over three years. Besides being given tangible and crucial skills and improving their employability, the candidates will be trained to become water and sanitation ambassadors. The aim is to send them into their communities to educate the general public about why and how water should be used sparingly, the cost of leaking taps, and what people should do when they have identified a leak.

While South Africa’s drinking water standards have slipped marginally, according to the 2014 Blue Drop results (the details of which were released at the start of 2017), the country’s water quality nevertheless remains word class. The Blue Drop report attributed the slight (8%) drop in national average scores recorded for the nine provinces to “limited safety planning” and “the introduction of the No Drop criteria looking at managing water losses within supply systems”. However, the all-important criteria of drinking water quality compliance showed “great improvement”, with more than 80% of the supply systems surveyed complying with microbiological standards as per SANS 241: 2006 (1 036 drinking water supply systems were surveyed for the report). Following the report’s release, Deputy Director-General Anil Singh commented: “The drinking water that we have in South Africa is among the best in the world. So there is no concern or alarm about the decline being so significant that citizens need to be concerned.” While world-class water isn’t necessarily available from every tap in every town at all times, Gauteng and Western Cape lead the pack in terms of their water quality, having achieved high scores of 92% and 89%, respectively.

As long as initiatives like the Blue Drop report continue to benchmark rates of improvement and decline, giving sector professionals new targets to work towards, there is no reason why South Africa won’t be able to achieve the UN’s SDG 6 – universal access to improved drinking water and sanitation services – by 2030.
In the News

NATIONAL WATER WEEK 2017 OVERVIEW

2.4 billion (one third) people lack access to basic sanitation services, such as toilets or latrines.

70% of the world is covered in seawater.

97% of the world’s water is seawater.

Less than 3% of the world’s water is fresh water.

Globally, between 1990 and 2016, people with an improved drinking water source increased from 70% to 71%. Water scarcity affects more than 40% of the population leaving more than 1.7 billion people without clean water.

Globally, 57% of water is used by industry. Globally, 30% of water is used for agriculture. Globally, 11% of water is used for domestic purposes.

Water saving initiatives like ‘Zero Liquid Discharge’ and Industrial Syngas programmes make a huge difference.

More than 80% of wastewater is discharged into water bodies without prior treatment.

In 2018, SA dam levels reached 50-year lows.

Provincial dam levels as of 1 February 2017:
- Western Cape: 89%
- Mpumalanga: 96%
- Free State: 93%
- North West: 91%
- Limpopo: 89%
- Gauteng: 89%

In SA, 80% of water is used by agriculture, 16% urban domestic, 4% rural, 5% mining, and the rest for power generation and industrial purposes.

Water footprint measurement is an important way of tracking real water savings in a globalised economy.

98% of SA’s available water resources are already allocated.

1 608 €/kg bread
123 €/kg coffee
4 325 €/kg chicken

Domestic (urban and rural) water use accounts for less than a quarter of SA’s water use.

The water-food-energy nexus means that rising urbanisation will cause energy demand to go up 50%, causing agriculture and the need for biofuel to rise by 35% and water demand to increase by 40% – each of these demands impact on the others, causing further demand increases.

At least 1.8 billion people globally use a source of drinking water that is faecally contaminated.

85.9% of SA households have access to piped water.
EWSETA puts skills development and training firmly on the agenda of key Energy and Water Conferences and Indabas

With our increased focus on building partnerships and creating dialogue with targeted audiences, we have been steadily over the past two years, positioning ourselves as an invaluable contributor and “thought-leader” on skills development and capacity building issues on major sector relevant event programmes.

As a result, EWSETA has participated extensively in a number of exciting Conferences, Indabas, Symposiums and Seminars with some incredibly rewarding outcomes. Here are a few worth highlighting:

**Southern African Energy Efficiency Convention (SAEEC) 2016**

The SAEEC was held at Emperors Palace Convention Centre in November 2016 and last year was the first time EWSETA participated in this event, which we did in partnership with the South African Independent Power Producers (SAIPP). Through our participation as a sponsor and exhibitor at the event, we were able to successfully increase awareness of our value proposition and service offering for stakeholders in the Renewable Energy sub-sector. The Sectoral Engagement and Stakeholder Engagement Branch hosted a number of workshops as part of the side events in the programme. Although initially planned for large groups, the workshops were turned into smaller sessions which allowed for more personal engagement with stakeholders who had specific needs and areas of interest.

It was an added honour to be presented with a Skills Development Award at the event. However, despite such an award it was evident that the critical matter of skills development and training in this sector has been severely neglected and yet this is the very sector where there is a dire lack of suitable skilled workers. Therefore, we are in discussions with the organisers towards EWSETA playing a more integral role at this year’s SAEEC, which will be taking place from 14 – 15 November 2017 at Emperors Palace, Johannesburg.

We will keep all stakeholders updated but if you would like to find out more in the interim, visit the website [www.saee.org.za](http://www.saee.org.za)

**Africa Energy Indaba 2017**

This year marked the second Africa Energy Indaba that EWSETA participated in as one of the main sponsors, which took place at the Sandton Convention Centre from 21 to 22 February 2017.

The Africa Energy Indaba, adopted by the World Energy Council (WEC) as the annual African regional event of the WEC, receives global recognition as the foremost event for energy professionals from across the globe and is rapidly gaining momentum as the premier energy business forum in Africa. Presented by the South African Energy Association (SANEA) in association with the WEC, and supported by the African Union and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, the Indaba has achieved the highest level of endorsement and support and as such is one of the leading energy events in Africa.

The event attracts a major following of African companies and governments looking for service providers, partners and investors to develop and grow African energy infrastructure. Africa is growing and demand for energy supply is high, providing opportunities for global companies to invest and partner on a host of energy projects; thus allowing an invaluable platform of EWSETA stakeholder engagement.

EWSETA has gained momentum during each Indaba with regards to building the EWSETA brand, awareness, visibility and engaging with sector stakeholders and this year’s event took our level of participation to new heights. Not only was EWSETA represented on skills development panel discussions, we also hosted a number of extremely popular workshops and leveraged off the fact that the Indaba would have a significant representation of decision-makers in the energy sector and used the platform to officially launch the DUT/EWSETA energyDRIVE Project to the sector at large. Another extremely rewarding outcome for us was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Women in Oil and Energy South Africa (WOESA), which bodes well for the future transformation of the sector.

Last but not least, we are delighted that the EWSETA stand was awarded the Runner-Up Award for the “Best Designer Stand”.

For more information on the Africa Energy Indaba 2018 event taking place from 20 – 21 February 2018 at the Sandton Convention Centre, visit [www.africaenergyindaba.com](http://www.africaenergyindaba.com)
The Power and Electricity World Africa Conference was hosted from 27 – 29 March 2017 at the Sandton Convention Centre. The event was mostly attended by Government representatives, African dignitaries, Advisors to the Presidency of South Africa, Nigeria and Congo, SOE’s, investors and business delegates. EWSETA through the Energy Sector Department hosted a pre-event workshop, side-event workshops and exhibited at the event and Ms. Tsholofelo Mokotedi was one of the speakers at the Water Conference.

The pre-event workshop was particularly valuable to us given that it was offered to EWSETA free of charge by the organisers (TERRAPINN), and allowed us to invite registered delegates as well as our own identified stakeholders such as Cooperatives, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) and business. The organisers in addition to the pre-workshop offered all EWSETA Stakeholders who attended the workshop, free conference delegate attendance. This provided an opportunity for the stakeholders to be exposed to the latest information on Power and Electricity opportunities in the African continent and to engage with investors.

Once again, as part of our exhibition stand, we took advantage of the DUT/EWSETA energyDRIVE Truck being in Gauteng over the period and displayed the mobile vehicle to a new audience, a clear demonstration of our continued commitment towards highlighting technology and innovation in the renewable energy space. As was to be expected, the energyDRIVE created quite a stir at the event and attracted delegates and experts in their numbers. We were honoured when Mr. Silas Zimu, the Energy Advisor to the President of South Africa, visited the truck and our CEO, Mr. Gradwell took the opportunity to take him on a tour of the truck impressing him thoroughly with the technology on board. He engaged the EWSETA and DUT Team and provided some valuable insights and advice on how to improve on sharing information particularly with an audience that is being exposed to renewable energy options for the first time.

Power and Electricity World Africa Conference will be taking place from 27-28 March 2018 at the Sandton Convention Centre and for more information you can visit www.terrapinn.com

EWSETA has placed a great deal of emphasis on “strategic marketing”, ensuring that when we initiate a marketing campaign or event, we align our efforts across all stakeholder touchpoints. Africa Utilities Week, which took place from 16 – 18 May 2017 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre, was a prime example of how we are striving towards achieving this objective.

As a Silver Sponsor, EWSETA was at the fore front of an event that is in its 17th year of being the premier global meeting place, conference and trade exhibition for African power and water utility professionals. African Utility Week offers a unique networking opportunity for engineers, stakeholders and solution providers alike and this year the event attracted over 7400 delegates and in excess of 250 exhibitors from across the globe.

EWSETA’s participation at the event included our CEO, Mr. Errol Gradwell being extended an exclusive invitation to the Water Utilities CEO Forum - a unique thought leadership opportunity with an outstanding branding tie-in, allowing EWSETA access to a select group of CEO’s from Local and other African water utilities. EWSETA also hosted a water workshop presentation and was on the round table discussions in the Water Track, specifically focusing on skills development and skills forecasting towards addressing the challenges within the Utilities. The Industry Awards and Gala Dinner is one of the highlights on the Conference Programme and this year we used the opportunity to invite some of our stakeholders in the Western Cape Region as guests of the CEO so as to assist his drive in growing strategic partnerships. Our exhibition stand drew fantastic attention once again, due to us bringing the energyDRIVE truck to the event which created great exposure for both EWSETA and DUT. The cherry on the cake was being awarded the Best in Show Award for “Most Innovative Stand”, a humbling accolade and one we are extremely proud of given the tough international competition at the event.

The African Utility Week 2018 takes place from 15 – 17 May 2018 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre and stakeholders are urged to register early due to the popularity of this event.

More information can be found on www.african-utility-week.com
EWSETA has been a proud sponsor of the Green Youth Indaba since the Inaugural event in 2014 and has been an integral partner in the growth and promotion of the green youth agenda at the event over the years. This year, the Green Youth Indaba took place at the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre in Newtown, Johannesburg on 28 and 29 June 2017.

The theme for this year was most apt “Young leaders creating solutions for the environment through skills development and innovations.” Without, our young leaders coming to the fore to lay the foundation for implementable strategies that will allow them access to support and funding for green innovation and the skills transfer, an inclusive economic growth which includes our youth, will continue to remain out of reach and that is something EWSETA works tirelessly to prevent.

The Green Youth Indaba is critically important to both EWSETA and the country due to the fact that South Africa is undertaking a major role in promoting and investing in a green economy. The shift to a green economy will subsequently impact the structure of current jobs, and at the same time create new direct jobs. The Energy and Water sectors are anticipated to supply the most number of green jobs required to meet South Africa’s goals regarding the move to the green economy and thus, the EWSETA’s Green Skills Strategy is focused on renewable energy, energy and resource efficiency.

Through platforms like the Green Youth Indaba, our youth are exposed to the many exciting opportunities that lie before them, whether it be new “green” occupations that are on offer or being developed. It also provides an opportunity to identify areas where young entrepreneurs can play a role in bridging the green skills gap that will assist in the transition to a green economy.

This year’s event once again had a sterling line-up of speakers and had the honour of having the Minister of Science and Technology, Naledi Pandor, the Minister of Small Business Development, Lindiwe Zulu and the Deputy Minister in the Presidency responsible for Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Youth Development, Buti Manamela, grace the event over the two days. A clear sign of the importance that is placed at National Government level on the role youth and young entrepreneurs play in the country’s radical economic growth strategies.

EWSETA presented in a number of sessions over the two days and exhibited to the schools who were invited to attend the parallel Career Guidance Programme. The Post Indaba programme includes a career guidance roll out to a number of TVET Colleges and this programme will be updated on our website in due course.

Finally, on behalf of EWSETA we wish to congratulate the winner of the Green Innovator’s Pitch, Ms. Lelo Rammitloa. A 26-year-old female from Soweto and the founder of a paper recycling company called Got Paper? (Pty) Ltd. She started her company a mere 10 months ago after attending an expo about waste management and after research she found that up to 90% of the companies in her surrounding area (Protea Glen) in Soweto does not recycle and she spotted a gap. Currently she recovers and recycles waste paper from 3 schools and 3 companies in Soweto and collects up to a ton of paper per month to sell it to buyback centers. Her company has proven to be sustainable, with the potential of growing through the employment of additional employees. Lelo was selected to be one of the participants and pitchers at the 4th Annual Green Youth Indaba 2017 where she also attended Pre-Pitch workshop in order to prepare her for the pitch. Out of 50 pitchers she won 1st prize in the Green Innovators Pitch selected by an esteemed panel and won R12 000,00 and a 1-year mentorship and business support from the Transnet Matlafatso Incubation Programme for the development of her business.

For more information on the Green Youth Indaba visit www.greenyouthindaba.co.za
EWSETA’s funded research with SUWI starts to bear fruit

From August 2013 to August 2014, the Stellenbosch University Water Institute (SUWI) undertook an Educational Needs Analysis of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College Lecturers in the South African Water Sector, funded by EWSETA. Phase 1 of the research study attempted to determine the status quo of intermediate level qualifications in the water and wastewater sector, the educational needs of TVET college lecturers and the skill requirements of industry, to determine skill gaps.

Since the official hand over of the Phase 1 Report to the Deputy Minister of Higher Education and Training, Mr. Mduduzi Manana at our Annual General Meeting Gala Dinner in November 2014, the EWSETA has in response to the Phase 1 Report findings, gone a drive to support TVET colleges across South Africa with accreditation support, developing numerous water sector qualifications, and starting to send more and more lecturers to short courses which will count towards the new qualification (NQF level 8, 9 credits).

One such short course that has been developed as a direct consequence of the Research Report is the Water Governance for Water Leaders short course and EWSETA is very proud of having supported a mix of public and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) to attend the short course which took place from 6-10 February 2017.

Three NGO representatives formed part of 23 municipal officials and educators from Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges in the Western Cape. The municipal officials from Hessequa, George, Knysna, Swellendam and the City of Cape Town attended, as well as educators and officials from Boland College, South Cape College, and Northlink College. A representative of the policy and regulation division of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) attended as an observer. The three young Non-Governmental Organisation representatives were from local and regional NGOs: Clifford Legodi of SAYPRO, Mlengisi Ntuli from Liberty NPO, and Siyabonga Myeni from Umphizo Wamanzi. The feedback from the participants was overwhelmingly positive and EWSETA is proud at having supported our stakeholders.

Prof. Schwella explained that the course connects the fields of leadership development, practices in water governance, leadership innovation in public water utilities and institutions through relevant case studies. The programme was developed specifically for municipal councillors and officials by the SPL in collaboration with several experts in the water sector. Grounded in the principles and practices of leadership, the course paid attention to relevant legislation, policies and strategies for the water sector, including Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM), the National Water Act, and National Water Resource Strategy. The main aspects that cover the course include; how leaders obtain and maintain power, the moral aspects of leadership, strategic thinking and knowledge management, and creativity and innovation as well as other water governance issues that were open for discussion.

The logic behind the short course was that in order for water to be effectively governed in South Africa, leadership ability takes a central place, particularly in terms of policy implementation, the effectiveness and quality of service delivery, and with regards to meeting the challenges and navigating the constraints at all levels of government, and within the private sector. Therefore, the governance of water is a complex matter with multiple stakeholders, and these matters were discussed in depth through class discussions.

During the short course, the officials were addressed by a number of professionals in the Water industry who shared their expertise regarding this sector. The panel included Dr. Thokozani Kanyerere, Senior Lecturer in Hydrology at the Institute for Water Studies at the University of the Western Cape (UWC), Prof. Jacqui Goldin, extra-ordinary Professor of Anthropology and Water Sciences at UWC, Ms. B.D. Hene, Director: Policy and Regulation at DWS and Mr. George Tsibane, consultant and former Chief Director at DWS.

Without a doubt this short course if the first of many as a result of our research collaboration with SUWI and we are confident and optimistic that our efforts will lead to a water sector that is rich in capacity and we remain committed to the inclusive and progressive development of all education bands.
One such institution who has consistently received a bursary grant from EWSETA is the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT). In 2015 we committed no less than R2 million towards bursaries for 40 learners over a period of 12 months in Environmental Science and Environmental Management National Diplomas. This year we more than tripled that commitment when in May 2017, our CEO handed over a cheque to the value of R 7.2 million, which will assist 123 CPUT academically achieving students in Environmental Health, Civil Engineering and Electrical Engineering. The bursary grant will cover tuition, books, accommodation and other related fees.

CPUT is not the only organisation who has been granted EWSETA bursaries. This year we have committed a total amount of R20 million towards bursaries in our sector, further demonstrating that EWSETA is serious about supporting deserving learners in their chosen studies.

In June 2017 the National Skills Authority (NSA) convened a groundbreaking meeting between principals of the 21 Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) and the 9 Provincial Skills Development Forums (PSDFs) represented by the coordinators from the offices of the Premiers. The Skills Development Act 97 of 1998 mandates the NSA to liaise with SETAs and PSDFs in the quest of fulfilling the purposes of the Act.

The purpose of the meeting was to engage with SETAs and PSDFs on the progress made in implementing the National Skills Development Strategy (NSDS). The PSDFs comprise of skills development stakeholders in each province to assist with the determination of skills needs in each province. The NSA was encouraged by the positive feedback from provinces and commended SETAs for their overwhelming support and investments they made, in implementing skills development and training in various provinces through the provision of bursaries, learnerships, internships, funding for rural development projects and promotion of small businesses.

Moving forward, the combined efforts of the SETAs and PSDFs will ensure more skills development opportunities will be provided to previously disadvantaged communities.
Although strides were made in realising the purpose of the Skills Development Act, according to the NSA, there were still a number of key issues which required improvement, and these are among others:

- Delays in the implementation of planned projects,
- Shortages of work places and accredited service providers,
- Non standardisation of stipends,
- The ineffectiveness of the SETA regional offices and
- Skills development implementation in the rural areas.

Recommendations:
- Standardisation of stipends for learning programmes across all SETAs and finalisation of the workplace based learning regulations.
- A common approach for data verification to be considered by the department.
- Best practice within SETAs on planning and monitoring and evaluation should be promoted.
- Processes for target setting should take into consideration capacity and resources of SETAs.
- The NSA will continue to highlight key skills development issues that require policy and strategic interventions to the Minister and the appropriate implementing agencies.

EWSETA Water Intern abstract selected for poster presentation at WISA Sustainability Symposium

Southern Africa is faced with increasing water resource scarcity challenges due to population growth and climate change. Turning these into opportunity requires a need for both water technology innovation and water behavioral change, in order to manage water resource scarcity in a sustainable manner.

The Water Institute of Southern Africa (WISA) held a symposium in Cape Town from 07 May to 10 May 2017 on water sustainability. EWSETA’s Water Sector Intern, Ms. Siphumle Vinqishe submitted an abstract on Skills Development and River Water Monitoring to WISA and was selected for a poster presentation.

The poster was presented in between sessions throughout the symposium and once during the sessions. As reported by the Water Sector Manager, Ms. Nora Hanke, Siphumle’s presentation was very well received and generated a great deal of interest in EWSETA, particularly from delegates interested in registering with EWSETA to become skills providers. EWSETA would like to congratulate Siphumle on a job well done and for flying the EWSETA flag high.
EWSETA Provincial Offices open for business

EWSETA’s strategy to decentralise operations is fast being realised. EWSETA is pleased to inform all our stakeholders that we have a number of provincial offices whose purpose amongst others, is to be our provincial stakeholder’s first-point-of-contact relating to EWSETA matters:

Our Provincial Coordinators are ready, willing and able to assist our stakeholders on all EWSETA matters including:

- Mandatory and Discretionary Funding advice and applications
- Provincial project implementation status updates and support
- EWSETA representation and participation on relevant provincial forums and steering committees
- Career Guidance
- Bursary advice and application support
- Project monitoring and evaluation

Please find the Provincial office contact details below:

**HEAD OFFICE (GAUTENG)**
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**FREE STATE PROVINCIAL OFFICE**
MOTHEO TVET CENTRAL OFFICE
C/O ST GEORGES AND ALIWAL STREET
BLOEMFONTEIN
9300
TEL: +27 51 406 9481/9391

**WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL OFFICE**
FALSE BAY COLLEGE WESTLAKE CAMPUS
WESTLAKE DRIVE
WESTLAKE
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7945
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**EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL OFFICE**
PORT ELIZABETH COLLEGE (RUSSELL CAMPUS)
139 RUSSELL ROAD
CENTRAL TOWN
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6200
TEL: +27 41 509 6350

**NORTH WEST PROVINCIAL OFFICE**
REITZ STREET NORTH
ORBIT TVET COLLEGE (BRITS CAMPUS)
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**NORTH WEST PROVINCIAL OFFICE**
TALETSO TVET COLLEGE
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Awards

EWSETA was handed a Certificate of Appreciation at the Launch of the energyDRIVE in December 2016 by DUT

EWSETA won the Runner Up Award for the Best Designer Stand at the Africa Energy Indaba in February 2017

EWSETA won the Best Innovative Stand Award at the African Utilities Week – beating hundreds of other exhibitors which included international companies

SAEE acknowledged EWSETA with a Skills Development Award
Notice Board

Message of Condolences

Nozipho Nzimande
1927 - 2017

The EWSETA Board, Management and all staff extend their sincerest and heartfelt condolences to their Minister of Higher Education and Training, Blade Nzimande on the passing of his mother, Mrs. Nozipho Nzimande.

Affectionately known as uGogo, Mrs. Nzimande died on the 11 June 2017 at 90 years of age. EWSETA pays tribute to Mrs. Nzimande for the role she played towards our democracy. During Apartheid, she used her home as a place of refuge to the liberation struggle activists. We convey our sympathies to the Minister and his family at large.

May her soul Rest in Peace.

Thembeka Zantsi
1972 - 2017

EWSETA would like to offer our sincerest condolences to the family of our long standing team member, Thembeka Faith Zantsi, who left us on 29 April 2017.

Faith was a Quality Assurance & Compliance Practitioner at EWSETA and was a strong, consistent leader who supported change. Faith had been with us for over 10 years and because of her enthusiastic and sociable free spirit, many considered her a good friend.

Faith is survived by one child. We continue to keep Faith and her family in our prayers.

May her soul Rest in Peace.

Eddie Majadibodu
1959 - 2017

On behalf of the EWSETA Board, Management and staff, we wish to extend the Majadibodu Family our sincerest condolences on the passing of a giant in the history of our country.

May his soul rest in peace.
YEI is an acceleration programme designed to help entrepreneurs grow their business in France and Europe. In 2016, this programme was launched in South Africa. It provides intensive training in South Africa and Paris and one week immersion in France that will allow laureates to benefit from an extensive customized business network and connections to the best resources in Europe.

For more information visit www.yeifrance-sa.com

Closing Date: 07 August 2017

We are pleased to announce that the winner of our Newsletter Naming Staff Competition is our CFO, Mpho Mookapele.

Thank you to all the EWSETA staff entrants, it was not an easy choice.

Upcoming Events

Vhumberdzi Career Day
18 August 2017 | Redeeming Grace Christian Church Limpopo

IFAT Africa 2017
12 - 14 September 2017 | Johannesburg Expo Centre, Nasrec

Industrial Efficiency Conference 2017
14 - 15 September 2017 | Century City Conference Centre | Cape Town

Nelson Mandela Career Development Festival
26 - 27 September 2017 | Kimberley

Notice Board
We value your feedback and contributions towards the next EWSETA Newsletter. Kindly send all correspondence and inputs to newsletter@eseta.org.za

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