



**Olifants Management
Model (OMM)**

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NEWSLETTER

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH WATER



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Signed MoI formalises the OMM Programme

Since the last newsletter there has been a beehive of activity! The signing of the **Memorandum of Intent (MoI) between commercial users and the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) saw the formalisation of the Olifants Management Model (OMM) Programme.**

Strong economic growth foreseen because of water infrastructure

The OMM Programme will see accelerated economic growth in the Limpopo Province through the finalisation of the Olifants River Water Resource Development Project (ORWRDP) bulk raw water infrastructure and the provision of potable water infrastructure to communities.

Public and private sectors to collaborate for advancement

The Programme has also been listed by Infrastructure South Africa (ISA) as one of the 50 priority projects - it sees the public and private sectors collaborating for the betterment of the South African economy and advancement of communities in the Limpopo Province.

OMM Programme's socio-economic benefits will be wide-ranging



Olifants Management Model (OMM)

The Programme's proposed socio-economic development solution aims to achieve the following:

- The provision of infrastructure to allow for clean water to communities, which is critical to wellbeing and socio-economic development
- The direct creation of 42 000 jobs in Limpopo Province.
- The creation of additional employment through mining and downstream beneficiation and manufacturing developments
- The acceleration of local and regional skills development given the wider skill-base requirement
- Economic expansion through accelerated bulk raw water provisioning to take advantage of the mining commodity cycle and development of other industries
- The creation of enabling infrastructure, which is essential to the industrialisation of the Bushveld Igneous Complex
- Alignment with the District Development Model

An SED Collaboration Forum will be established to ensure good governance and transparency around the planning, approval and implementation of SED projects.

Five proposed priority areas to steer socio-economic development activities



Enterprise development



Potable Water provision



Education



Sanitation & Re-use



Connectivity



Minister drives significant progress

Shortly after the MoI was signed, a Cabinet reshuffle on 5 August 2021 led to the appointment of Honorable Minister Senzo Mchunu as the new Minister of Water and Sanitation.

During the Minister's visit to the Limpopo Province in September 2021, the CEO of Lebalelo, Bertus Bierman, was provided an opportunity to present the OMM Programme.

At that meeting the Minister expressed his support for the Programme and, in collaboration with the private sector, committed to driving the following priorities:

- Access to basic services
- Economic growth
- Job creation
- Transformation

A follow up meeting was held in October 2021 with the Minister, Premier and Mayors of Sekhukhune, Mogalakwena, Polokwane and other municipalities where commitment by all parties was obtained.

Since then, significant progress has been made in moving the Programme forward.



Heads of Agreement to unlock the next phases of the Programme

A steering committee was established between government and commercial users to agree on matters pertaining to institutional arrangements, technical, funding arrangements, socio-economic development and regulatory issues.

The Heads of Agreement (HoA) was submitted to the Director General of DWS for signature. Once the HoA is signed, the Programme will enter a preparatory phase which includes the setting up of the PMU office, with pre-feasibility and feasibility studies commencing afterwards.

As part of the 6 January 2022 site visit to De Hoop dam, Minister Mchunu met with departmental officials, Lebalelo and the Mayors of the surrounding municipalities. Certain actions instructed by the Minister have been included in the HoA and will be addressed through the OMM Programme.

To speed up the delivery process, and to make an impactable difference on the lives of people, a principal decision has been taken that the development of potable water infrastructure will start in areas where there is existing raw water capacity available.



The OMM Programme is a groundbreaking initiative

The success of this Programme will pave the way for similar initiatives in other Provinces, which is crucial for the advancement of our communities, creation of opportunities for employment and economic growth.