

## Water and Sanitation in the News

### eWISA Reaches Target of 3 Million Visits

eWISA has during the week reached its latest goal of receiving 3 million site visits since its establishment in 2006. This is indeed a remarkable achievement and signifies the great interest from regional stakeholders in the water sector to participate in learning and sharing knowledge about our most precious natural resource.

eWISA is the capacity building, information and knowledge sharing 'arm' of WISA (The Water Institute of Southern Africa) – which is the **only professional organisation that represents the whole water sector in Southern Africa**.



Period: 15 July 2006 to 28 September 2016

The eWISA website was established in May 2006 to provide a sustainable long term mechanism to increase the availability of water related information in Southern Africa and in Africa. The primary objective of the website is to increase the levels of knowledge, competency and education to work towards the long term sustainable use of the water resources in Southern Africa towards the improvement of the quality of life for all Southern Africans.

The following are some of the main components/modules driving the continuing success and popularity of the site:

- ✓ **eWISA Company Members** – Where visitors can search for Companies including their Products & Services. Besides being a helpful resource to users and potential consumers on the different industry players regionally in operation, this provides a great opportunity for advertising and promotion of new products and services by listed members.
- ✓ **Water Resources**, including Surface waters of Southern Africa, such as Rivers, Wetlands, Estuaries, South African Waterfalls, and Coastal Zones; as well as legislation and policies along with guidelines and standards (e.g. Marine Water Quality Guidelines).
- ✓ **Water Infrastructure**, including lists of geographical overviews of WTW and WWTW at municipalities in South Africa. Within this water infrastructure module, further information relates to Potable Water such as guidelines, standards and effects which include: water quality guidelines, info on drinking water quality, water-related diseases. There is also a list with geographical overview/plotted map locations of South Africa's dams per province. There are also loads of information and explanatory material related to the treatment of potable water by means of providing an overview of the main water purification processes. Also part of this module are information and guidelines related to waste water and sanitation. This includes material on domestic waste water and focuses specifically on listing waste water works in SA geographically and also explaining the processes and components involved within waste water treatment.
- ✓ **Capacity Building** is also a very popular module and includes information related to career paths in the water sector, as well as on training, such as contact details of training providers and announcements of upcoming training courses.
- ✓ **Knowledge base** is one of the most important modules as it contains loads of valuable information related to South Africa's water history; but more specifically as it contains numerous **Fact Sheets** and **e-Books** with large amounts of knowledge ranging from themes such as Asset Management to Practical Hydraulics that would greatly assist users in many areas involved in water and environmental management. There are also photo galleries and literature on numerous topics of interest from Acid Mine Drainage to Zoology. In the 'Tool Box', visitors can also download useful applications such as the 'Conversion tool' and the 'Water Footprint Calculator'.

WAMTech are specialists in implementing technology systems for improved governance, focussing on Water and Public Health Information Systems

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