

## Water and Sanitation in the News

### Cape water restrictions lifted

The Department of Water and Sanitation has announced that the drought in the Ladismith-Calitzdorp district had been ended and restrictions had been lifted in some areas. Department spokesperson Sputnik Ratau said: "The winter rainfall arrived late in the Western Cape. The first good rain has increased the major dam levels by an average of 2.5%."

However, Ratau said there were currently still water restrictions in place in Clanwilliam and Vredendal. "Although the rainfall has led to a reduction in water demand, the Department of Water and Sanitation, in conjunction with the Municipalities, Water Boards and other role players are imposing maximum water restrictions within the areas affected."

Some of the dams that were being utilised for water supply and irrigation were, Theewaterskloof, Bergriver, Voëlvlei and Wemmershoek. Ratau said dams that were only utilised for irrigation were Brandvlei, Leeu-Gamka, Stompdrift as well as Floriskraal dams.

There were currently no other water restrictions in place in the Western Cape, but normal water savings measures were still applicable and encouraged, Ratau added.

Source: IOL News, 11 June 2015

During times of drought and abundant rains, the **Municipal Assistant™** system supports **service delivery through innovative technology**.

The system serves as a centralised databank that facilitates the management, administrative and operational functions of water care works and related activities. It helps to ensure that the correct water demand planning and infrastructure maintenance procedures are implemented to support sustainable supply of good quality drinking water and discharge of properly treated waste water.



The Municipal Assistant™ is continuously improved by adding modules to cater for additional functionality, as well as making modifications to keep in line with regulatory changes

within the sphere of local government, as well as the broader water sector. In this regard, WAMTechnology – as the sole supplier of the MA system – deemed it important to publish the following notification on the latest legal developments regarding the Municipal Regulations on a Standard Chart of Accounts (mSCOA):

### Municipal Assistant™ - mSCOA Compliance Notice

National Treasury is currently in the process of sponsoring and overseeing the SCOA for Municipalities Project with the aim of ensuring municipal compliance to SCOA (Municipal Regulations on a Standard Chart of Accounts) standards by 1 July 2017.

While the details of systems requirements are still being finalised, WAMTechnology is fully committed to this process and will ensure that we stay abreast of all mSCOA developments to prevent system changes from negatively impacting the operational service delivery responsibility of our municipal clients.

As each municipality has its own unique integration requirements, it is important that the necessary budgetary (e.g. from Municipal Systems Improvement Grant (MSIG)) and technical provision is made by each municipality according to its specific IT and systems setup requirements.

WAMTech will ensure committed involvement throughout this process; and will be participating in mSCOA pilot projects, workshops and training seminars to ensure system and implementation readiness for all our clients.

WAMTech will also be in contact with all its municipal clients to arrange for consultations on their specific mSCOA integration implementation strategies – as it will be unique for each municipality. Different options and integration plans will be discussed on how to best align our systems & services to municipal business processes and to match individual municipal requirements

We look forward to assisting each client in making the coming months a smooth and stress-free mSCOA transition!

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

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