

Water and Sanitation in the News

Lack of access to hygiene could endanger new Development Agenda – UNICEF

Handwashing with soap is dangerously low in many countries, UNICEF reports, despite its proven benefits to child health. The eighth Global Handwashing Day comes less than a month after the United Nations adopted the Sustainable Development Goals, including hygiene for the first time in the global agenda. One of the SDG targets is to achieve 'access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene' by 2030. UNICEF says improvements in hygiene must supplement access to water and sanitation, or children will continue to fall victim to easily preventable diseases like diarrhoea. ...Sub-Saharan Africa, the region with the highest child mortality rates globally, also has particularly low levels of handwashing. The latest report from UNICEF and WHO says that in 38 countries in the region with available data, levels are at best 50 per cent...

Source: [Unicef, 15 October 2015](#)

WAMTechnology Celebrates 20 Year Anniversary!

WAMTechnology CC is a provider of technological solutions and specialist engineering services in both the health and water sectors. WAMTechnology CC was established in 1995 and has since undertaken many small, medium and large projects for local, national and international clients. Although key focus areas are public health and water information systems, WAMTech has been involved in many projects related to other sectors as well. To show our gratitude for being able to participate in maintaining the health and environmental well-being of our country, Africa and globally over the past two decades, we organized a **Walk & Talk Day** for learners from Kylemore High School and Anna Foundation. We used the event as an opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to some of our clients, friends, employees and the community for their loyal support as we celebrate our twentieth year in business.

We celebrated the occasion by giving back to the community while we aimed to educate and spread awareness among participants and community members, particularly to the youth, about the importance of community health, education, language and water and sanitation.

The day started early on 9 October 2015 at Boschendal Estate where the learners each received a bag with a water bottle, hat, pens, pencils, books, pencil cases, notebook, memory stick,

lanyard, ruler, etc. We were pleased to welcome our first speakers for the morning session: Stellenbosch Deputy Executive Mayor (Martin Smuts), ATKV (Amanda de Stadler and Mpumamanzi Laboratories (Tony Bowers).

From there we walked 5 km to the river where the Department of Environmental Affairs (Marlé Kunneke) and WISA Western Cape Branch (Jason Mingo) presented a practical session (MiniSASS).



The final session took place at the Pniel Municipal Building with the following speakers: WISA Western Cape (Ashton Maherry and Gareth McConkey) and A.L. Abbott & Associates (Natasia van Binsbergen).

WAMTechnology CC donated R10 000 and commemorative maps of the Dwarsrivier Valley each to Anna Foundation and Kylemore High School. We also donated the maps to the Pniel Library, Dwarsrivier Tourism and Museum. The learners and participants enjoyed the day, and are looking forward to the next event!

Thank you to the sponsors, speakers and participants: Anna Foundation, Kylemore High School, WISA Western Cape Branch, Absa Franschhoek, A.L. Abbott & Associates, ATKV, Boschendal, Breërivier Groothandelaars, Department of Environmental Affairs, De Wet Vrugte & Vervoer Bk, Dwarsrivier Valley Tourism, Mpumamanzi Group, WISA National, SAGE VIP, Stellenbosch Municipality, Waltons

[View and download more than 600 photos of the event!](#)

This anniversary is an awarding moment for us as we take joy in reminiscing about the past and all our accomplishments, while we passionately look forward to great new opportunities ahead!

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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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