

Media Statement

Thursday, 25th May 2023

To: All Media

Magalies Water Officially Appointed as Implementing Agent for Developing a Water Resource

Management Plan for the Crocodile West Catchment

Pursuant to on-going engagements between the Department of Water and Sanitation and Magalies Water in respect of improving raw water quality in the crocodile west catchment upstream including the Hartbeespoort Dam, Magalies Water has been appointed by the department as an implementing agent in this respect. Magalies Water's main responsibility will be to improve the water quality of the crocodile west catchment inclusive of the Hartbeespoort dam, through its developed water resource management implementation plan.

The appointment which will be for a 36-month period has been ratified in terms of section 116 of the National Water Act. The developed plan by Magalies Water has been tailored to the specific needs and characteristics of crocodile west catchment and intends to safeguard the water source while improving water access and improved quality for all users. Further to this, Magalies Water will undertake a review process and implement the Hartbeespoort dam integrated biological remediation programme in addressing the current challenges.

The current state of the dam has had an adverse effect on the ecotourism of Madibeng Local Municipality, consequently the plan will also see the repurposing and readapting of the Metsi a Me programme to focus on the upper catchment which is contributing to the eutrophication of the dam. The programme will incorporate the Biological Control Programme managed by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE).

The scope of work during the period of appointment will include the following:

- Removal of hyacinth in the Hartbeespoort Dam and along the catchment area.
- Water quality monitoring and pollution tracking.

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- Implementation of the hyacinth and algae remediation.
- Implementation of effective and viable treatment technologies.
- To develop potential business models based on circular economy and waste valorization concepts.

End.

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