

Media Release

For immediate release

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WATER SECTOR STAKEHOLDERS AND CITIES CONVERGE IN DURBAN FOR AN INTERNATIONAL LEARNING SEMINAR ON WATER SECURITY

The South African Local Government Association (SALGA) and eThekweni Municipality in collaboration with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) are hosting and facilitating an international learning seminar on water security. The two-day seminar will take place in Durban Country Club on 11 - 12 July 2018.

Meeting Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 6 and 11 and National Development Plan (NDP) objectives will require, among others, a collaborative approach from all key stakeholders in ensuring there is water security between now and 2030. To this end, urban municipalities such as Metros and secondary cities should be recognized and acknowledged as key contributors towards the attainment of the above mentioned goals largely because of the nature of their characteristics. These include population growth experienced by Cities, investments required to ensure water security and optimal management of infrastructure worth an estimated of over R122 billion.

Discussions at the seminar will include panellists ranging from;

1. City of Cape Town sharing its approaches to drought management and water security challenges and risk mitigations strategies going forward

2. A response by National Disaster Management Center in the context of drought, climate change and floods Management experience largely by Cities
3. Impact of drought and water shortages on provincial economies and service delivery
4. National and International Cities sharing plans on mitigating water crisis in the near future
5. Financing opportunities for water projects that seeks to ensure water security is realised in the future

Guests will include US Consulate in Durban, Ms Sherry Zalika Sykes, SALGA's National Executive Member and Chairperson of Water and Sanitation Working Groups, Cllr Thami Ngubane, International guest speakers from Namibia and Kenya respectively including National Water Sector partners.

The organizers of the seminar anticipates to document and share the outcomes of the engagements with other Cities and water sector partners to prevent Cities repeating the same costly mistakes when it comes to water management, and further encourage peer learning in the spirit of sharing best practices.

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