



Olifants Management Model (OMM) Programme



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NEWSLETTER

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH WATER



PAGE
2

**Signed agreement
kicks off the next
phase of the OMM
Programme**

PAGE
3

**Minister officially
launches the OMM
Programme**

PAGE
4

**Progress made in
identifying SED
initiatives**

PAGE
4

**What to look out
for going forward**





Signed agreement kicks off the next phase of the OMM Programme

The signing of the **Heads of Terms for an OMM Framework Agreement** on 23 March 2022 by **Dr Sean Phillips, the Director-General of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)**, represents a significant milestone for the **Olifants Management Model (OMM) Programme** and paved the way for its official launch by Minister Mchunu on the 9th of May.

The signed agreement initiates the start of the next implementation phase of the Programme and confirms key areas of negotiation between institutional and commercial members, such as governance structures, programme scope, funding of CAPEX, securing of pipeline capacity, resourcing partnerships, and more.

The agreement also confirms joint responsibility for the funding of study costs (by both institutional and commercial users), and that the Programme will be implemented by a transformed Lebalelo Water User Association (LWUA).

The LWUA will be rebranding in future and is set to become a renamed entity with a new logo and corporate identity; for the time being, the name is proposed as the **Olifants Management Model Water User Association (OMM WUA)**.



Olifants Management Model (OMM) Programme

Answering the call for infrastructure-led, socio-economic recovery through public-private collaboration



Minister officially launches the OMM Programme



The OMM Programme was officially launched by the Minister of Water & Sanitation Mr. Senzo Mchunu on the 9th of May at the Cullinan Hotel in Cape Town.

The event was attended by senior officials from government, including the Executive Mayor and Municipal Manager of Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM), The Mayor of Mokgalakwena Local Municipality, the Director-General of DWS and the DWS Provincial Head in Limpopo, as well as c-level executives and officials from mining companies such as Anglo American Platinum, Cheetah Chrome, Glencore-Merafe, Implats, Ivanplats, Nkwe Platinum and more.

Speaking at the launch, LWUA CEO Mr. Bertus Bierman explained that the bee logo (used as interim branding for the Programme) symbolizes synergy, something the Lebalale Water User Association (LWUA) prides itself on: Collaborative work for the betterment of those in need.



The OMM Programme is a public-private collaboration between government and commercial users, represented by the LWUA. Mr. Bierman expressed his excitement at the partnership between the Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS) and the mining sector, which is why the official launch coincided with the 2022 Investing in African Mining Indaba.

“What we also want to do is to ensure that we help create more jobs for people,” he said.

Mr Prakashim Moodliar, LWUA Chairperson and Executive Head of Projects at Anglo American Platinum, stated that OMM Programme is a fantastic opportunity for aligning with the president’s cause to ensure that public-private partnership starts delivering on large basic infrastructure projects.



“The project is fully aligned with Anglo American Platinum’s Sustainable Mining Plan and will change the lives of thousands of people and support thriving communities surrounding our mines,” said Mr Moodliar. The Programme aims to improve socio-economic growth through the cost-effective provision of potable and bulk raw water infrastructure to defined areas in the Limpopo Province.

In his speech the Minister of Water & Sanitation Mr Senzo Mchunu said the OMM Programme is significant as it brings government and the private sector together, which is also in line with a resolution from the Water and Sanitation Summit held earlier this year.



“This is a 50:50 partnership, and we aim to deliver on our mandate from government side,” he said, further adding that the partnership enjoys trust from business and the sector.

Minister Mchunu emphasized that the implementation of the programme must be a success, not only for people to regain trust in government but, most importantly, to show that government and the private sector can indeed work together well.

Significantly, Minister Mchunu mentioned the launch of the OMM Programme in his budget speech on 12 May, confirming the fast-tracking of water delivery to communities and mines in Sekhukhune and Mogalakwena municipalities in Limpopo by 2028.



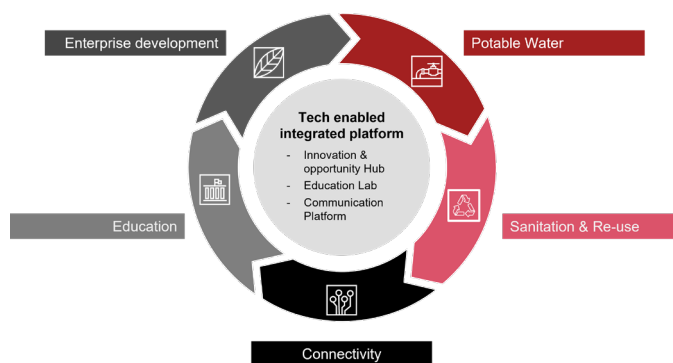
Progress made in identifying SED initiatives

The OMM Programme represents a significant opportunity for socio-economic development (SED) given the extent of the capital and operation spend.

In line with the 5 identified priority areas for SED (see diagram below), the OMM team have set up a series of 3 ideation sessions to help identify potential SED initiatives. The sessions are focused on Potable Water & Sanitation, Education and Enterprise Development with an emphasis on how technology and connectivity can be leveraged.

To date, two workshops (Potable Water & Sanitation and Education) have been held in Polokwane with good representation from local, provincial and national government departments. The ideation sessions will culminate in a funding partners workshop with a view to driving sponsorship for initiatives identified through the process.

Priority SED themes



What to look out for going forward

Looking ahead, the next key milestones for the Programme include:

- 1** The **launch** of the Olifants Management Model (OMM) Programme in Limpopo.
- 2** A **site visit** to the project area by stakeholders from government and commercial users.
- 3** The **appointment** of the main study consultants and pre-feasibility phase kick-off.
- 4** The **awarding** of three 'quick wins' potable water infrastructure projects.