

# MINISTER'S FOREWORD



**MR. GUGILE NKWINTI**  
MINISTER OF WATER  
AND SANITATION

In response to the challenges experienced with water management and services over the recent period the Department has

“Umgeni Water has contributed to job creation and transformation during this reporting period, through its successful capital infrastructure development programme and implementation of several other programmes that are developing young professionals and women employees.”

developed a Five Pillar Turnaround strategy, aspects of which will take effect in the 2019 to 2024 Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF). These Pillars are:

#### A NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES AND SERVICES AUTHORITY:

This Authority will be established to finance, develop, manage and operate national water resource infrastructure and sanitation.

#### A NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES AND SERVICES REGULATOR:

The possibility of an independent economic regulator to regulate tariffs, standards and

performance in the water services sector has been proposed and processes are underway to consult on the appropriateness of such an institution.

#### A WATER RESOURCES AND SERVICES VALUE CHAIN:

The water and sanitation sector is currently comprised of a large number of institutions with a complex suite of functions divided amongst them, which creates an overly complex value chain (currently 428 entities) which we need to streamline.

SPRING GROVE DAM

**A WATER RESOURCES A WATER RESOURCES AND SERVICES MASTER PLAN:**

A Plan which sets out prioritised actions and investments we must implement between now and 2030 to overcome challenges and ensure a water secure future supporting inclusive development across the country, and also to ensure that universal sanitation coverage protects the health of our people.

**INSTITUTIONAL RATIONALISATION AND ORGANISATIONAL ALIGNMENT:**

An early action will be to establish a business case for streamlined institutional rationalisation and organisational alignment in the water sector in accordance with the outcomes of the Presidential review of State Owned Enterprises (SOEs).

These Five Pillars are fully embedded in the National Water and Sanitation Master Plan and the more detailed implementation plans will be finalised through an intensive round of stakeholder engagements which will take place during the latter half of this year. They are further aligned to the National Development Plan (NDP), and the National Water Resources Strategy (NWRS), amongst other key national documents.

The Department and Water Boards are responsible for the delivery of bulk water services to municipalities, which in turn have been mandated by legislation to reticulate

and deliver basic services to communities. This model continued to experience challenges in the past year. The Department proposed collaborative and structured interventions in support of target municipalities with the Departments of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs.

During 2016/2017 Umgeni Water completed construction of the Lower Thukela Regional Bulk Water Scheme and successfully commissioned the scheme in 2017/2018. This scheme is funded by the Department as a key Regional Bulk Water Supply Scheme in support of water security to the coastal and inland areas of KwaDukuza Local Municipality, northern parts of Durban and will later serve Mandeni Local Municipality.

Other key water projects being implemented by Umgeni Water include: the construction of the Mshwathi Bulk Water Supply Scheme, construction of the Greater Mpofana Regional Scheme Phase 1, the design of the Impendle Bulk Water Supply Project, planning of the Maphumulo Bulk Water Supply Project Phase 3, construction of the Midmar Raw Water Pipeline Augmentation and Midmar Water Treatment Works Upgrade, as well as the raising of the Hazelmere Dam and detailed feasibility for the Upper uMkhomazi Water Project.

The devastating drought period, reported to be the worst in 100 years has fortunately been broken in KwaZulu-Natal with some good rains falling in this reporting period.

A turnaround in the capacity of major dams in the region is being observed, but levels will continue to be closely monitored in the coming years of the recovery period.

Pollution by sewage remains a big problem in our catchments countrywide. During this reporting period, Umgeni Water progressed further with the upgrade of the Darvill Wastewater Treatment Works. This will sustainably serve the Msunduzi Municipality, as part of a strategy to ensure there is sustainable bulk sanitation into the future, whilst ensuring integrity of the water value chain.

Water and sanitation serve as an important means of uniting South Africa through alleviating poverty and creating jobs. Umgeni Water has contributed to job creation and transformation during this reporting period, through its successful capital infrastructure development programme and implementation of several other programmes that are developing young professionals and women employees.

Umgeni Water is commended for the manner in which they achieved these results.



**Mr. Gugile Nkwinti**  
**Minister: Water and Sanitation**  
**19 September 2018**

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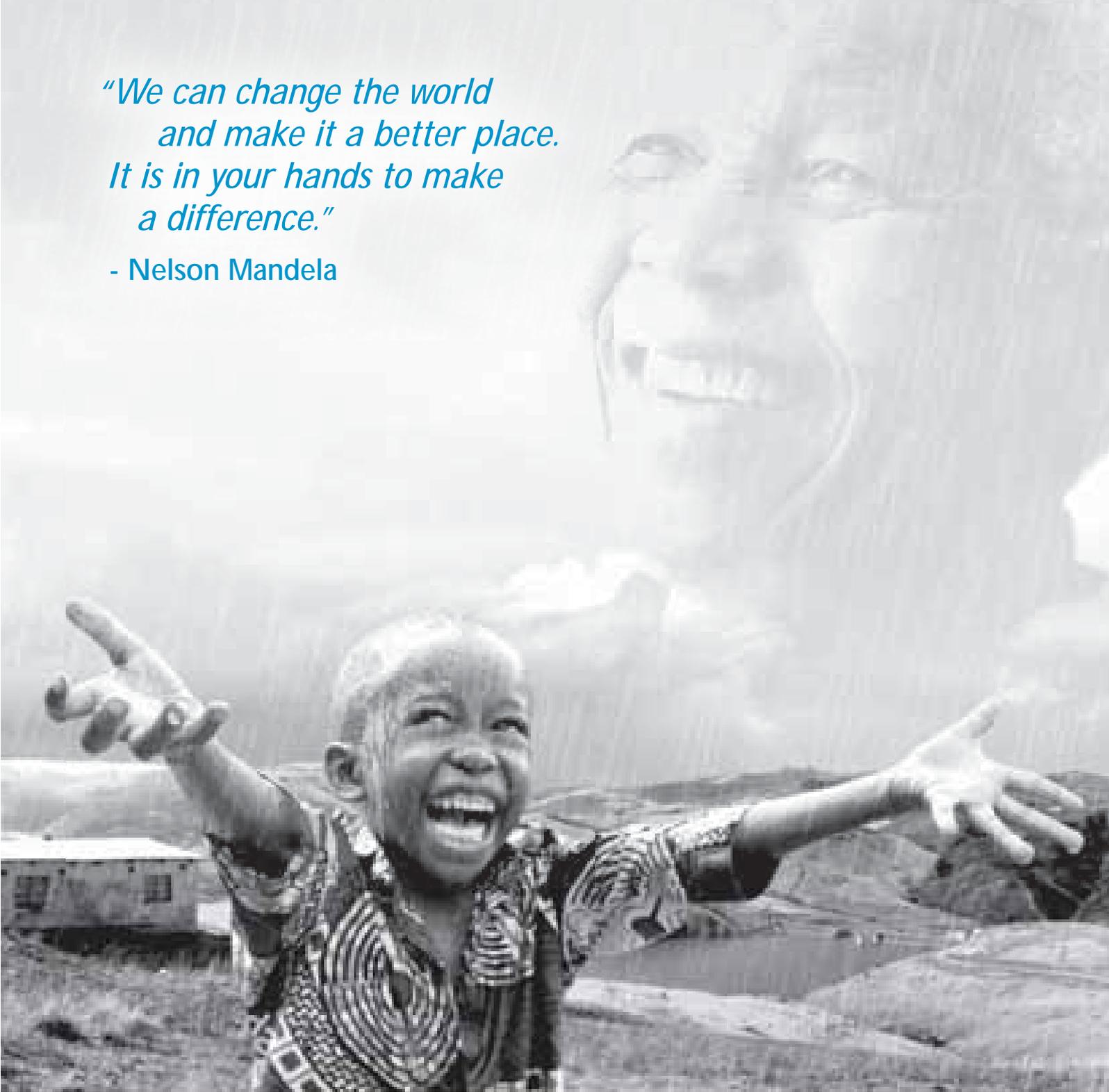


“Women are the people who are going to relieve us from all this oppression and depression. The rent boycott that is happening in Soweto now is alive because of the women. It is the women who are on the street committees educating the people to stand up and protect each other”

ALBERTINA  
SISULU  
**Centenary**  
1918 - 2018

*“We can change the world  
and make it a better place.  
It is in your hands to make  
a difference.”*

- Nelson Mandela



With a heart full of hope and determination, Nelson Mandela envisaged a better life for all.

Emulating Nelson Mandela, Umgeni Water aims to improve the lives of the people through delivery of water and sanitation services, thereby sustaining and developing communities.

Umgeni Water's benevolent intent is to be recognised as an organisation that

has legitimate leadership and cultivates accountability. Through this people-centred approach, Umgeni Water will achieve water services delivery that contributes to addressing poverty, under-development and inequality.

In celebrating 100 years of Nelson Mandela, Umgeni Water aspires to uphold Mandela's humility, compassion and dedication by improving the quality of life and enhancing sustainable economic development.

**100** Nelson Mandela  
Centenary  
2018  
Be the Legacy



*Umgeni Water aims to sustain and develop communities and improve the lives of the people through delivery of water and sanitation services.*



