

Water Shortage South Africa

Year-end message 2018



This year has been an interesting and challenging year in South Africa for many reasons, not least of all induced water scarcities due to failed, inappropriate and unimplemented water policy. A decade of decline in SA's water governance has led not only to a capital constrained economy, but also a water constrained one. It is for this reason that we have been reinventing ourselves to address the root-cause issues by providing sustainable long term solutions as these efforts will have the greatest impact in mitigating SA's water shortages. Although our humble beginnings are with the sourcing of donating drinking water for immediate alleviation of drought at point sources, we have found that this offering is very difficult to resource and fund and is well serviced by large and very well established NGO's. We delivered our last batch of fifty thousand litres of sealed potable bottled water earlier this year to the less fortunate, vulnerable and aged in the city of Cape Town with the municipality's kind assistance in managing the logistics.

We have also struck strategic alliances with eminent scientists, engineers, city planners, water resource specialists, disaster management specialists and NPC's with similar visions where we are able to leverage symbiotic synergies. We will be naming all of these key collaborators as they will be introduced on a project by project basis as we launch them.

We currently have three high impact projects and in no particular order as they are all equally important and actually compliment themselves, so in short:

1. **EduPack:** Long term water awareness is incubated at primary school level where this has a societal long term impact. So we are developing a South Africa specific Water Cycle short awareness course that will be supplied for free to schools via the internet so that ongoing updates can be easily disseminated. We are planning to launch the beta version during the course of 2019.



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- 2. Water Lions:** The lack of accountability in water governance is resulting in mega pollution of our water resources which in turn is leading to increased water treatment costs to the public and industry, a water constrained economy resulting in disinvestment and major medium to long term health issues. We have launched this project this year with the stimulation and patronage from our strategic advisor, Professor Anthony Turton, and are raising much needed funds to enable the gathering of evidence that we will hand over to the relevant authorities for prosecution of the culprits, criminally and civilly so that water governance and accountability can be reinstated for the good of all in our country.
- 3. Water Regulator:** The current set up in our water governance is not optimal as the custodian of our water is also providing bulk water through its dams and water boards and is the regulator of these. One can never regulate oneself internally, the proof of this is clear to all with a bankrupt national Department of Water and Sanitation, failed bulk water projects, failed War on Leaks project and its dire inability to regulate immense pollution of our water resources and has not produced its primary regulatory reports since 2014, the Blue and Green Drop Reports.

We have teamed up with OUTA, Organisation for Undoing of Tax Abuse, to leverage our joint capabilities to gather inputs from all water stakeholders so as to develop a regulatory framework package that will enable us to present to parliament and adopt to the benefit of all in SA. The immediate benefits will be to enforce responsible water allocations to users, maintain water quality whilst stopping the intentional pollution of water resources by municipalities, mines and industry. This will in turn render the sector investable again as without water security, financial investment in the economy will remain constrained with ongoing threats to our country's food security. SA requires upward of R870bn in water infrastructure investment to sustain our country and as the fiscus is clearly unable to oblige, third party investment is required and this will only happen when the sector is regulated effectively resulting in policy certainty and secure investments from the likes of pension funds, development funds and commercial lenders. One of the spin offs is that the multiplier effect in the economy is around 3,5 times that of the R870bn investment that will result in economic stimulation of our economy.



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Thank you very much to our supporters and dedicated volunteers this year that have enabled us to serve you as your water shortage mitigation catalyst.

A big thank you to our corporate sponsors and crowd funders that have enabled us to make progress this year and those of you that are continuing to support us financially going forward, without you we cannot deliver on our mandate.

We are a young organisation, having started only three years ago, and with our partners, volunteers and collaborators will further refine our mandate and project deliverables going forward into an exciting 2019.

Enjoy the welcome year end break, travel safely and have fun with family and friends over the festive season.

Benoit Le Roy

Chief Executive Officer

December 2018



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