

Provision of Basic Water and Sanitation Services in South Africa through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant Programme

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Abstract : Although South Africa has made good progress in providing basic water and sanitation services to its citizens, there is still a large section of the population that has no access to these services. This paper reviews the performance of the government's municipal infrastructure grant programme in providing basic water and sanitation services which are part of the constitutional requirements to the citizens. The method used to gather data and information was a desk top study which sought to review the progress made in rolling out the programme. The successes and challenges were highlighted and possible solutions were identified that can accelerate the elimination of the remaining backlogs and improve the level of service to the citizens. Currently, approximately 6.5 million citizens are without access to basic water services and approximately 10 million are without access to basic sanitation services.

Keywords : grant, municipal infrastructure, sanitation, services, water

Conference Title : ICWRCOE 2020 : International Conference on Water Resources, Coastal and Ocean Engineering

Conference Location : Cape Town, South Africa

Conference Dates : November 05-06, 2020