

## Water remains major focus at African Utility Week and POWERGEN Africa

Water is one of the major topics and discussion points at the annual African Utility Week and POWERGEN Africa in Cape Town on 14-16 May. The conference will bring together experts from public and private sectors to support municipalities as they become more responsive and efficient in their water practices.

Part of this knowledge exchange are the technical site visits taking place on 17 May, including at The Beverage Company bottling plant.

The plant reduced its waste water by more than 60 per cent, saving more than 90 million litres of municipal water since January 2017.

“Delegates will see the bottling plant and the water saving projects that were implemented which helped us reduce our waste water and save millions of litres of municipal water,” said David Putterill, a company spokesman. “They will also see our alternative water supply project that we have initiated to reduce our dependence on the municipal water supply by installing our own boreholes and reverse osmosis plant.”

African Utility Week and POWERGEN Africa’s water conference will cover the following themes: tackling the escalating drought threat/ embarking on climate change resilience; managing water conservation resources in light of the on-going drought in the Eastern Cape; water technology innovation platform in Africa – demonstrating, applying and commercialising the required technology; water metering and



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**Tackling the ongoing drought in the Eastern Cape will be one of the topics of discussion at African Utility Week and POWERGEN Africa’s conference in May.**

monitoring; water treatment advancements; water sector funding and incentives and meeting municipal demand.

“The greatest challenge facing global water security is global transformation. The world is changing as we look on and this is happening at a

very fast pace and impacting heavily on available natural resources, including fresh water,” said Paul Yillia, guest research scholar for the Water Programme, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Austria, who will be speaking again at the event.