

## **LHDA Enhances Stakeholder Engagement Through National Outreach**



As part of ongoing efforts to improve information dissemination, enhance project visibility, and deepen stakeholder engagement, the Polihali Operations Branch (POB) Manager and a representative from the Public Relations Branch conducted a nationwide outreach campaign to District Administrators' offices.

From 4 to 13 June, the team delivered comprehensive presentations on the progress of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project Phase II (LHWPII) to District Administrators, heads of government departments, NGOs, and civic organisations in Mokhotlong, Butha-Buthe, Leribe, Quthing, Mhale's Hoek, and Maseru. The outreach was temporarily halted due to snowfall in the highlands, which affected travel.

Stakeholders received detailed briefings on the background, objectives, and key components of the project, including both infrastructure developments and socio-economic initiatives.

The sessions also fostered dialogue around potential collaboration. Organisations such as Help Lesotho expressed interest in partnering with LHDA on its public health and social initiatives, which focus on HIV prevention, early pregnancy, gender inequality, and human trafficking. Mr. Gerard Mokone affirmed that these programs, implemented in collaboration with government ministries are open to partnerships that can expand their reach and amplify their impact.

The Disaster Management Authority expressed interest in LHDA's progress on emergency preparedness. In response, LHDA confirmed that consultations for the development of an Emergency Preparedness Plan will commence soon.

Stakeholders also sought clarity on business opportunities, particularly regarding labour recruitment. They requested detailed information on the processes for recruiting both skilled and unskilled national labour.

Overall, stakeholders welcomed the outreach initiative, appreciating LHDA's commitment to collaboration with government and civil society in maximising development opportunities for Basotho.

This outreach effort directly supports key recommendations from the 2025 Stakeholder Conference and the Reputation Index development process, both of which emphasise the importance of enhanced collaboration, transparency, and visible leadership across the project area and beyond.