



LHDA stakeholder Conference Fosters Collaborative Vision for Sustainable Development

Under the theme “Waves of Change: Strengthening Partnerships for Lasting Change,” the Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA) recently convened its annual stakeholder conference, building on the momentum of previous dialogues to advance accountability, transparency, and sustainable development within the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP).

Progress and Priorities: Updates from the LHDA

Over two dynamic days, the LHDA shared updates on critical areas shaping the LHWP’s trajectory. Key highlights included advancements in infrastructure development, progress on community-focused initiatives, and enhancements to governance frameworks designed to bolster accountability. Discussions also addressed challenges impacting project execution, with an emphasis on adaptive strategies to mitigate risks while maintaining timelines and quality.

A Platform for Inclusive Dialogue

The conference brought together a diverse coalition of stakeholders—government representatives, affected communities, international development partners, and private sector leaders—to contribute insights and shape the LHWP’s future. Robust debates underscored the value of inclusive engagement, particularly as the LHDA begins implementing its new 10-year strategic plan. Central themes included:



Responsible Governance: Embedding accountability and transparency in every phase of project delivery.

Community Empowerment: Addressing priorities such as fair compensation, livelihood enhancement, skills transfer, and local business participation.

Collaborative Problem-Solving: Strengthening partnerships to align the LHWP's outcomes with the needs of all stakeholders.

CEO Tente Tente: "Collaboration is Key to Shared Success"

LHDA Chief Executive Tente Tente highlighted the conference's role as a catalyst for open dialogue. "At a time of transition and strategic renewal, platforms like this are vital," he stated. "Good governance, accountability, and transparency are not just ideals—we embed them in how we engage with partners and communities. This conference reaffirms our commitment to listening, adapting, and working collectively to ensure the LHWP serves the best interests of all."

Tente emphasized the unique opportunity for stakeholders to engage in candid discussions, noting, "It is not always those responsible for implementing projects that get to have open, constructive dialogues. Collaboration is the cornerstone of ensuring sustainable benefits from this transformative project."