



## **Building marketable professionals: LHWP pushes for global standards in its workforce**

On 12 September 2025, institutions of higher learning, government departments, and professional bodies representing diverse fields—including project management, accounting, engineering, environmental science, law, construction, nursing, medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy—joined an information session with hundreds of professionals working on the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP). The session aimed to guide participants on professional registration and affiliation, a key requirement under the Project’s skills development objectives.

Speaking on behalf of LHDA management, ‘Makananelo Kumalo, Functional Manager for Social and Environmental Programmes in the LHWP II Project Management Unit, highlighted the significance of the session.



“This engagement comes at a critical time for the Project, as registration is now a requirement for those occupying key positions. We know that many professionals in the country face challenges with registration, and we are determined to provide the necessary support. This is why the Women in Construction initiative, and the Skills Development Task Team joined forces to bring professional bodies into one room to engage directly with LHWP professionals”

She added that management welcomed the opportunity for Project staff to gain clarity on requirements and learn about the support available from professional bodies.

‘MamokhethiNthane, Deputy Project Manager at Nthane Brothers—a major partner in the SUN Joint Venture, Polihali Dam Contractor—and President of the Lesotho Association of Engineers (LAE), organised the session. She urged participants to make full use of the opportunity.

“This is your chance to engage directly with professional bodies, receive step-by-step guidance on registration, and gain a deeper understanding of the benefits of professional affiliation. You will also learn about professional standards, codes of practice and conduct, and the training and support available for your ongoing professional development. Importantly, we are laying the groundwork for partnerships with South African professional bodies to enable cross-border registration and collaboration.”

Echoing the importance of professional affiliation, LHDA Chief Executive Tente Tente said the LHWP, is inherently multi-disciplinary, and while every profession is vital, professionals must invest in career development.

*“A tertiary certificate shows that you are trainable, but professional registration elevates your career to another level. It opens doors to opportunities, builds trust in your expertise, and positions you as a professional of international standing. Do not take this opportunity lightly—it is a vital step in career growth.”*

The session emphasised that affiliation with professional bodies not only enhances global opportunities but also transforms individuals into marketable professionals who are bound by high ethical and professional standards.

Professional bodies represented at the session included the Project Management Institute, Law Society of Lesotho, Lesotho Association of Engineers, Engineering Council of South Africa, Lesotho Institute of Accountants, the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions, and the Lesotho Nursing Council.

