

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RESEARCH BRIEF

Verbal Autopsy with Participatory Action Research (VAPAR)
Expanding the knowledge base through partnerships for
action on health equity
Series 1, Number 5, January 2018



'Water is life' ("mati l vutomi"):

ku thirhisana na matiko ku kuma vutivi ma yelana naku lava ku lulamisa xiphiko lexi fambelana naku pfumaleka ka mati

Ku pfumaleka ka mati yo basa swi endla leswaku kuva navu ngozi byale henhla loko swita eka rihanyu ra vanhu. Hi thirhisane na matiko yaku hambana hambana ya local ya le MRC Wits/Agincourt Health and Socio-Demographic Surveillance System (HDSS) ku endla ndzavisiso na ku hlanganisa na vutivi lebyi byi nga kumiwa eka vanhu lava ku endla swilo leswi swi nga ta lulamisa swi phiko leswi . Hi 2017, xiphiko xaku pfumaleka ka mati xivoniwe tani hi nkingha leyi kulu leyi yi nga kona. Kuve na mimbhulavurisano laha aku vuriwa hi swilo leswi swi endlaka leswaku ku va naku pfumaleka ka mati ku etlhela ku endlwa vumhoni byo vonaka mayelana na xiphiko lexi.

Water sources and shortages [laha mati ya kumekaka kona na ku pfumala ka mati]

Reasons for water shortages

- **Infrastructure:** ku ripotiwe ku pfumala ka swi tirhisiwa, ku pfumala ka switirhisiwa swo fana na mati, na ku pfumala ka milambu leyi nyikaka mati hikokwa laho kova va pfumala swi tirhisiwa leswi kotaka ku koka mati enambyeni. Ku hlwela loko swita ekaku lulamisa swilo leswi swi nga onhaka naku onhiwa ka swi tirhisiwa swi ripotiwile, Ku pfumala ka papila leri kombaka leswaku tiko rina xiphemu loko swita ta eka eka swilo leswi



Picture 1: Mobile water truck

- **Poor governance and planning:** va ngeneleri va vula leswaku xivangelo xa ku pfumala switirhisiwa na mati iti mhaka ta leswaku masipala na va ndzawulo ya mati (Department of Water Affairs) va tsandzeka ku pulana swilo swa vona.
- Kuya mahlweni, tiko ri vula leswaku va rhangeri ava switivi leswaku ku endleka yini e hansi kumbe xiyomo xa kona hi xihhi eka lava va ngale hansi.
- **Mobile tanks:** ti movha letiya to tisa mati hi tona ti endlaka leswaku va nga lavi ku faka ti mpopi. Ti movha to fambisa mati ati tshami tiri kona hikokwalaho ko pfumala petiroli, vu kungundzwana lebyi byi ngana vachayeri va n'wana, na swona mati ma ngava ma thyakile.
- **Droughts:** ku pfumala ka mati swi vangwiwa hi dyandza leswi swi endlaka leswaku mati lawa ma ngale hansi ma hela na mati ya le minabyeni ma tlakuka ma hela. Ku vuriwa leswaku milambu na yona aya ha talanga hikokwalaho ka ku pfumala ka mpfula.

Health and social impacts

- **Poverty and hunger:** ku pfumala ka mati swi ripotiwe tani hi swilo leswi yaka mahlweni na swona swi endla leswaku vanhu va khomiwa hi vusweti. Vangheneleri va vula vula leswaku kuna ndlala hikokwalaho kaku pfumaleka ka mati: va vula leswaku vava naku tikeriwa loko va lava ku lulamisa swakudya hikokwalaho ko pfumala mati, ava koti ku byala swi milana, ku tirha na swona xiyimo lexi xi endla leswaku vana va nga dyondzi kahle exikolweni. Ku ripotiwe leswaku hi xiyimo xa le henhla, mati ya xaviswiwa e tikweni hiti movha letiya ti fambisaka mati. Vanhu vo tala va tshembele ku mbe ku hanya hi mali ya mudende leyi vayi kumaka na swona vanhu vo tala ava tirhi leswi swi endla leswaku swi tika ngopfu swaku vanhu va kota ku xava mati.
- **Avoidable illness:** ku pfumaleka ka mati yo basa switisa swiphiko swaku tala eka xiyimo xa rihanyu xa vanhu. (see panel overleaf)
- **Sanitation and hygiene:** ku ripotiwe leswaku ku basa aku vi kona loko ku ngari na mati, na leswaku vanhu va hetelela va tirhisa mati ya n'we ku endla swilo swo tala.
- **Stress and conflict:** ku vuriwa leswaku vutomi bya tika loko ku ngari na laha vanhu va nga kumaka kona mati yo basa, leswi swi onha vuxaka swi tlhela swi endla leswaku kuva na ti mholovo, ku ka vanhu vanga vulavurisani na ku hambanisa vanhu. Ku rippotiwe leswaku vanhu va toyitoya leswaku vata kuma mati.



- **Educational and economic impacts:** kuve naku vulavurisana hinkarhi lowu vanhu vawu tekaka vari karhi va famba va lava mati. Eka tiko leri vana na vanhu va xisati hi vona va rhwalaka ndzwalo wo famba va lava mati.

Actions

- **Develop new partnerships led by community leadership:** tiko ri hlawule vanhu lava va faneleke ku ngenhelela loko swita ekaku lulamisa xiphigo lexi xinga kona xa mati ku tirhisiwa coordinated partnerships: Dept. of Water and Sanitation, Premier, Mayor, Municipality, councillors, community leaders (CPF, CDF, induna, chief), Rand Water, NGOs
- **Infrastructure:** ku aka ma damu naku hlulukisa thekinoloji swi voniwa tani hi swilo swa nkoka. Va ngenheleri va hlamusela leswaku timhova letiya to tisa mati swi lava ti yimisiwa ku fakiwa timpopi eka miminti yi n'wana na yi n'wana. Rihanyu ra vanhu ri tava ri hlayisekile loko vari na timpompi

emimintini ya vona, ku tirhisiwa ka mati lava ya thyakisiweke aswi laveki. Rifu naku xanisiwa hi mavabyi swa pumbeka na vanhu vata sungula ku huma eka vusweti, ndzwalo wa mavabyi wa hungeta, mindyaku yita tirhisa nkarhi lowu avawu teka va ya matini ha wona vawu tirhisa ku endla swi n'wana leswi swi ngata va ngenhisele mali leswi swita endla leswaku ku ngavi naku pfumala ka swakudya.

- **Planning:** vangheneleri lava va tshamaka eka community va kombele leswaku ku fanele ku pulaniwa kahle loko swita eka swi tirhisiwa. Vanyike mivono yo hlaya nyana leyi yi katsaka: ku lavisisa mindyangu/tiyindlu leti pfumalaka mati ejaratini kumbe e ndlwini, ku landzelerisa naku ripota swi yimo leswi ku hlanganiwaka na swona etikweni; ku tlakusa ti mali [fund raising] ku seketela ku landzelerisa, ku pulana na ku hlulukisa switirhisiwa; ku avelana swi tirhisiwa hi ndlela leyi yi faneleke; ku dyondzisana na ku dyondzisa va n'wana hi mati navu hlayisi bya mati.

MCR/Wits Agincourt HDSS Surveillance Data 2014-15

Causes of all deaths

Infection	568
Non-communicable	573
Injury	107
Children <1 month	22
Maternal	20
Unknown	234
TOTAL	1524

Deaths with possible link to water shortage

Acute respiratory, incl. pneumonia	213	**
HIV/AIDS related	185	*
TB	104	**
Diarrhoea	19	***
Other infection	8	**
Child <1 mo. sepsis	2	***
Sepsis (non-obstetric)	1	*

*May be related to water shortage **Likely to be related ***very likely to be related

1,524 deaths in the study area 2014-15
Over 500 may have been due to, or influenced by, lack of clean, safe water

Visual evidence

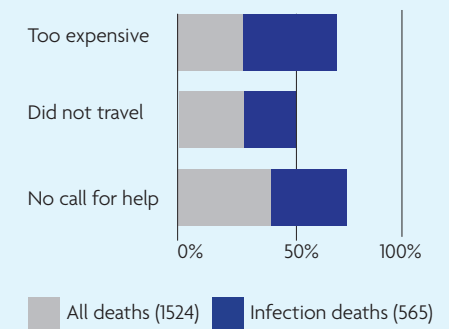


Picture 2: Empty water tank



Picture 3: Laundry done in a river

Circumstances of death



- All deaths: No call for help, not going to facility & health care too expensive 25-35% of circumstances reported
- Deaths due to infections: No call for help & health care too expensive over 30% of circumstances reported.



Queen Margaret University
EDINBURGH



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