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Got a story, phone our News Editor Mark 011 248 6295

A greener Eldos

By Maxine Becket

A programme initiated by the City of Johannesburg (COJ) and Tondanani Development Focus will educate residents on environmental awareness.

The team is targeting schools, shopping centres

and even street corners. "Anywhere we can get people's attention," said Janodean Calcutta from the group.

"When people open a tap, they expect to see water but they don't know how to save or preserve water, that is where we come in," said Cheslin Madai.

The programme is designed to feed the community with information and education on looking after their environment.

The community must realise the role that they can play in preserving resources and taking care of the earth.

The team got the attention of pupils at McBain

Charles Primary School through dance since not everybody is interested in hearing about the environment Madai said.

The team is hoping that pupils spread the information to their families at home.

The programme also aims at introducing communities to an exciting way to taking care of their environment through campaigns such as Reduce, Re-use and Recycle.

The team is working on solutions to curb illegal dumping in Eldorado Park and will get residents involved in keeping Eldos clean.

"We believe that this programme is a stepping stone to creating a greener environment," said Madai.



The team who aim to create environmental awareness.

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND BACKGROUND

In response to a call made by the City of Johannesburg Environment, Infrastructure and Services Department to service providers to implement the Eco-Guides Project in regions A, B, C, D, E, F & G.

Tondanani Development Focus understands that this project is aligned with the City's GDS 2040 vision with special attention given to community development with a strong focus on addressing youth unemployment and environmental degradation. Tondanani Development Focus also understands that the Eco-guides project will serve as a supporting structure to implement the Bontle ke Botho (BkB) campaign.

This was submitted to address the scope of work, deliverables, methodology, scheduling and costs required to achieve the objectives of the Eco-Guide project. The Eco Guide project is an initiative of the City of Johannesburg Environment through the Expanded Public Works Programme EPWP with the intention of educating people more especially Youth in our communities about the issues and factors surrounding environmental care. This will be done through various and vigorous public awareness campaign which adopts various themes per month on issues related for that month. The programme operates in broader Joburg areas such as Soweto, Midrand, Eldorado Park, Orange Farm, Cosmo City Diepsloot and Alexandre townships.

2. SCOPE OF WORK AND OBJECTIVES

Environmental Education & Awareness is crucial in the reduction of air pollution, mitigation against climate change impacts, management of waste, water management among other environmental challenges. The project is aimed at inspiring, supporting and empowering 350 unemployed youth of Johannesburg to take part in positive actions on issues related to environment and sustainable development. The main role of the Eco guides is to:

- Educate communities on how they can individually play a role in creating cleaner and healthier environment.
- Educate communities on waste management.
- Educate communities on water management and effective use of grey water and rain harvesting.
- Educate communities on climate change and its impacts on the environment.

3. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

August month theme was Waste Management: Whatever activities that were done during this month were in relation to Waste Management.

Monthly August Calendar

- Malls – 7 malls
- Busy streets – 19 busy street and corners were visited
- Parks – 9 parks
- Taxi rank
- Petrol Stations – 7 were visited
- Hostels – 3 hostels were visited

4. Activities

Community – waste management education awareness



Pikitup hands the material to promote waste management with separation at source and we gave the material to our members and have them go out to the community to educate the community about it.



Activities at School include:

Eco-guides interacting with the students of the Ekhukanyisweni Primary School. The kids were taught about Waste Management through drama, music and poetry then an interactive question and answer session with the learners came where students who answered correct got material from Pikitup and Joburg Water



Teacher Senoelo of Ikage Primary School shares his gardens with the Eco-guides before they start working with the kids. They shared ideas and methods of how to continue growing the gardens



Safety at home – waste education at houses

City of Joburg department of Social Development held a workshop to educate community members about child safety at houses and woman trafficking. The Eco-guides seized the moment to spread the waste management education awareness to the community members. Social worker and dispatch protection unit manager Mr. Maluleka educating the public about child safety and woman trafficking!



Our Eco Guide, Mr Tiro Chwabi as the MC of the day

Food gardening acitivity

The Social Development asked Shomang Eco-guide & cleaners together with CWP to plough food gardens in a land which the proceeds will be given to the setjwetla residence and community in general.



Environmental awareness, food production and capacity building programs and projects

The Eco-cleaners were doing a phenomenal job with cleaning the river. They are out in full force daily to do the job and spread wide to reach and clean the river. The water was tested.



School Programmes at EE Centres

Conservation Education for the Nation

CEN waste management was implemented in two crèches reaching 114 beneficiaries. School programs enhance curriculum learning as programs are aligned to the curriculum. The crèches that participated in the programs are:

Name of school	Venue where the program was conducted	Date	Areas school is located	Program Theme/Topic
Restoration Welfare ECD	Restoration Welfare	19/08/2013	Malvern	Waste Management
Katia Crèche and Day Care.	Katia Crèche and Day Care	20/08/2013	Malvern	Waste Management

Environmental awareness, food production and capacity building programs and projects

1283 beneficiaries were reached through awareness raising, capacity building and food production initiatives. 1654 non-IDP beneficiaries were reached through waste, biodiversity and climate change.

A food garden site has been prepared at Moroka Horse riding club .This food garden will benefit the community and club members. The project still lacks resources such as seeds and equipment, a partnership with GDARD is in the process of being formed to assist with what is lacking

Programme	Beneficiaries Reached	Regions Reached	Programme Theme	Impact
Exhibition	1248	F,E,D	Waste Management and Biodiversity	Increased environmental literacy
Capacity Building	35	F,D,E,G	Community Workshop on Waste Management and Eco-Guides training facilitation	Increased environmental literacy

			on schools.	
Non IDP	1654		Survey's and house calls on Waste Management and Litter and illegal dumping	Increased environmental literacy
Food Garden Development		F	This food garden will benefit the community and club members. The project still lacks resources such as seeds and equipment, a partnership with GDARD is in the process of being formed to assist with what is lacking	Food for the community
Total Beneficiaries	2937			

Quality and Outcome Based Projects and programmes

Site visits were conducted in schools in Region E and F and community centre in Cleveland Police Station, to monitor food gardens. Most gardens are doing well and Berea Primary School garden was revamped by the Eco-Guides with the seedlings donated by Yoeville Boys Primary School.

In Soweto, five schools were visited for facilitation, namely Hoenrly Primary School, Isaacson Primary School, Lakeview Primary School, Nonto Primary School and Igugu Primary school.

Three themes were facilitated for the schools; namely Material-3Rs, Energy and Structure of the changing earth. The programme also included fun and interactive activities both written and practical

Two Orange Farm Schools were visited, where the Eco-guides were helping with the food garden upkeep

NON IDP - House-calls

Surveys and house-calls were conducted in Ivory Park, Kanana, Kaalfontein, Diepsloot, Cosmo City, Malvern, Rhodes Park, Joubert Park, End Street Park, Attwell Garden Park, Alec Gorshell Park, a total of 1654 beneficiaries. The theme for the surveys and house calls were waste management, litter and illegal dumping, biodiversity, pollution & wetlands and climate change,.

Exhibitions

Exhibitions were conducted in various parks and malls, reaching a total of 1248 beneficiaries. The themes of the exhibitions were Waste Management and Biodiversity.

Capacity Building

A community Workshop on Waste Management was implemented at Malvern Community Centre, reaching 35 beneficiaries in Region F.

The Eco-Guides received training on how to run school programmes. The programme was aimed at capacitating Eco-Guides to be efficient with in running school programmes. All the Eco-Guides from City Parks received this essential training.

The City Parks group has through its programmes has exceeded its IDP target for this month because of the Eco-guides assisting with the implementation of environmental education programmes

CONCLUSION

This month was an interesting good month for both the Eco-Guide facilitators and Eco-Guide cleaners. With the monthly calendar and good partnerships with all departments that keeps supplying us with material we are making and breaking grounds in reaching the community because they understand what we tell them and also get to keep the flier with them to remind them of what we just talked about. If we continue in this way we will definitely achieve all set objectives every month.

This is a very exciting project that was done in a short space of time. Firstly, the recruited youth showed interest in the project that made it so interesting to be part. They also showed interest in working with the environment.



Midrand Team at Kaalfontein Primary



Cosmo City Team Performing at Cosmo Secondary



Alex Team Brainstorming session



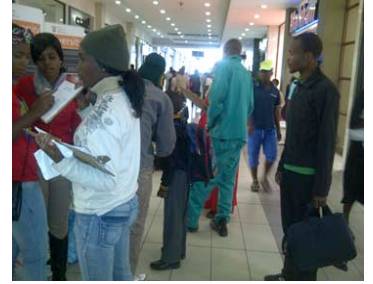
Dancing Rehearsals



School Programme Restoration Welfare and
School Programme Katia Crèche and Day Care



Exhibition on Biodiversity Pan Africa Mall



ClimateChange survey Malvern



Exhibition on Biodiversity Pan Africa Mall



Revamping of Berea Primary food garden

Food garden at Moroka
Horse Riding Club in Soweto

