



SA – Denmark UEMP: Info-sharing workshop Somerset West, 20 – 21 May 2009

Launch of the UEMP Project Reviews 2009

Presented by Sharon Lewis

sharon@sacities.net



Urban Environmental Management Programme

Why a publication on project reviews?

- To record and publicise the collective outcomes and results achieved through the UEMP by telling the stories of the projects and people that make up the programme.
- To allow project managers to reflect on implementation approaches and evaluate the relative benefits and impacts that they have achieved.
- To share these implementation lessons with other countries, institutions, programmes and practitioners.





Urban Environmental Management Programme

Presents



**UEMP
Project
Reviews**

Who put the project reviews together?

- **Project team:** Carsten Laugesen, Emmarie Otto and Sharon Lewis with support from RDE, DEAT and SACN admin teams.
- **Production team:** Jackie Cleobury (writing) and Karien van der Westhuizen (design) from The earth is round.
- **Contributors:** The many project managers and practitioners representing the UEMP project partners who made time for interviews and phone calls and reviewed the draft case studies.
- **Funding** from the Danish government.

What is in the file?

Narrative case studies on 39 projects that:

- Were selected on merit (using scope and scale of impact, availability of information and project maturity as a rough criteria set in this round);
- Are categorised in terms of the five UEMP themes with a cross-cutting capacity building category;
- Represent a spread of project types and geographic locations and scales; and
- Are presented in a consistent and accessible style with illustrative photographs and graphics.

A second set of case studies will be added to the file during 2009/10.

For example



Sustainable Energy, Sustainable Energy Africa
URBAN SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (SEED)

Objective

- The broad objective of the phased Urban SEED project is to support and build the capacities of cities to integrate sustainable energy approaches into urban development practices and activities.

Contact person
 Megan Anderson
 021 702 3422
 megan@sustainable.org.za

Time frame
 Phase 2: 5 years
 Phase 3: 2 years

Funding
 Phase 2: R6.3 million
 Phase 3: R2.3 million

Background

The Urban SEED project has been running since 1998. When the initiative began, energy was largely invisible on the city management agenda. The project's aim was to raise awareness and capacitate officials, from various city departments, to manage energy issues. Phase one of the project entailed placing SEED advisers in city government environmental departments and NGOs, with an initial focus on sustainable energy in housing. Advisers were jointly managed by SEED and organisation line managers. The project successfully capacitated both advisers and managers.

Phase two of Urban SEED focused on developing holistic, city-scale energy strategies and plans for Cape Town, Tswane and Ekurhuleni, as well as working closely with two smaller local authorities – Sol Plaatje (Kimberly) and Tlokweng (Potchefstroom). Again, the approach favoured internal capacity-building over external consultants. SEED intervention first began in the cities' environmental departments as these were more socially orientated and priority. Eventually, interactions began with engineering and electricity departments – the traditional home of energy in city management. These departments and SEED have since developed a close working relationship. In addition, a highly effective learning exchange network meets twice a year, enabling municipal and national line departments to interact and talk to each other about energy issues, policy and legislation changes.

Phase two also produced State of Energy in South African Cities 2006 – a baseline study of 15 South African cities and their energy profiles. The report looks at the economy, environment and government in relation to energy, and uses international indicators to analyse the 15 cities. Broad conclusions include:

- South African cities make-up around 40% of national energy consumption and are thus significant players in the national energy equation.

Photographs: Mark Lewis



Waste Management DEAT
REVIEW AND PERMITTING OF WASTE DISPOSAL LANDFILL SITES

Objective

- To review permitted and unpermitted waste disposal sites and implement a permitting strategy.

Contact person
 Kaleso Fitzsimps
 012 310 2920
 kfitzsimps@deat.gov.za

Timeframe
 Project: 5 years
 UEMP funding: 1 year

Funding
 UEM: R500 000
 Government: R440 000

Background

The Environmental Conservation Act of 1989 requires waste disposal sites to be permitted. Originally the responsibility lay with the Department of Water Affairs but in 2006 it shifted to the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT), which subsequently undertook a census to establish the authorisation status of all waste disposal sites.

Process

Gathering information from local municipalities, external consultants completed the study in three phases:

- An initial survey to establish the number of existing waste disposal sites, their functional status (operational or not), and their permit status.
- An assessment of unpermitted sites and prioritisation in terms of their risk to the environment.
- A draft strategy to achieve permitting of 501 unpermitted sites over the next five years.



For example



Air Quality eThekweni AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Objective

- To prepare an air quality management plan to ensure that local air quality is adequately monitored, analysed and managed.

Contact person

Sisa Chetty
031 211 3690
chetty@urban.gov.za

Time frame

1 year

Funding

R500 000

Background

The National Air Quality Act requires each municipality to develop an air quality management plan that addresses environmental health issues within the metropolitan area. eThekweni has a long history of air quality issues, mostly because it lies in a geographic basin and is close to a number of oil refineries. As a result, it has a fairly mobilised group of stakeholders, which contributed to a constructive process and an effective outcome.

Process

The project team established the city's major air quality issues with input from stakeholders and engaged the Norwegian Institute for Air Quality Research to help develop the management plan. A stakeholder seminar was held to present the plan and consult with community groups, government, business and industry. Participants included: South Durban Community Environmental Alliance, civic bodies, community-based organisations, ward representatives, Durban Chamber of commerce, Mondi, Engen, SAPREF and Tongaat-Hulett. The group's intentions were tabled to the political community, and meeting minutes were synthesized into a plan.

The plan's framework comprises several themes that address key areas such as: indoor air quality (of informal settlements), sulphur dioxide emissions, odours, industrial complexes, benzene emissions and vehicle emissions. Practical interventions are specified for sub-managing problems related to each category. Complaints management and by-law procedures are also covered. The plan undergoes minor review twice a year, alongside on-going reporting and stakeholder engagement. A major review will occur every five years.



Environmental Health Cape Town HEALTH AND HYGIENE EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

Objectives

- To pilot a collaborative approach to health and hygiene education in informal settlements.

Contact person

Armen Petersen
021 437 1295
armen.petersen@capetown.gov.za

Timeframe

4 months

Funding

R300 000

Background

Cape Town's many municipal departments all have their own approaches to health education and tend to run parallel programmes covering much of the same material. The departments of water, sanitation, housing and health may have slightly different angles to their programmes but there is much duplication, making inefficient use of human and financial resources.

From the community's point of view, it is confusing to deal with so many departments. It is also difficult for community members to organise and make themselves available (often after hours) for multiple meetings and training sessions. In light of these problems, this project aimed to develop a more collaborative and efficient approach to health and hygiene education in informal settlements.

Process

The project team started by reviewing the staff and material resources of the department most synonymous with health and hygiene. The Department of Water and Sanitation is responsible for the provision and maintenance of toilets and standpipes in informal areas. It employs and educates 36 community members to oversee the general upkeep of toilets and report related misuse or vandalism.

Using this infrastructure as the collaborative springboard, the project team set about training and redeploying the community staff. Their basic levels of competence

and training were determined, after which they received six days of tailored education covering key health topics such as: proper use of toilets, hygiene, spreading of disease, waste management (solid and other), dry sanitation toilets, grey water at standpipes, mosquito breeding, stagnant water, et cetera. An additional 13 community staff were trained, plus four environmental health practitioners (EHPs) from the health department.

The next step entailed determining where to place the 49 staff among Cape Town's 240 informal settlements, in order to maximise their effectiveness. The team developed a base-line indicator using diarrhoeal deaths and case-loads and allocated staff to the respective areas scoring highest on the index. The newly trained EHPs assisted with monitoring and supervising, while the health department supplied training materials and chart tools for use in the field. The waste and sanitation department handled the procurement of staff and administration of time sheets using its existing infrastructure, it also provided equipment, cleaning materials and protective clothing. The health department paid the salaries.

The project's educational approach emphasises sustainability through the use of health clubs. Health clubs are initiated by the community staff and operate very much like scout clubs. They have a group of members, hold regular training sessions, meet to prioritise problems, and negotiate with officials to resolve issues. The clubs often

1. Theoretical scene from a training session

How do you get a copy?

200 hard copies of the file have been printed, of which:

- Some have been reserved for the UEMP secretariat to distribute to partner organisations through the PSC members; and for the Danish Embassy to distribute for reporting and international co-operation purposes.
- A limited number of copies are available for conference participants.
- Please collect a copy and register at the table in the foyer during the tea and lunch breaks. (The registration allows us to mail you the supplementary set of case studies later this year).

You can also download electronic versions of the project reviews off the UEMP or SACN websites (www.uemp.org.za or www.sacities.net).

Feedback and suggestions

Please let Sharon Lewis (sharon@sacities.net) know if you have any corrections, comments or suggestions.

These will inform the production of the second set of case studies, and planning for a possible final set to be completed during 2010/11.

