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GENERAL MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE CONTRACT (GMAC)

Contract No: 674-C-00-01-00051-00

Ivory Park Urban Eco-Village – Naturally Better Living

Grant No. 0059-0402-G-GA9

Midrand EcoCity Trust

This report was produced for review by the USAID. It was prepared as a performance milestone under Mega-Tech, Inc.'s prime contract. The contents of this report address activities performed under USAID/South Africa's Strategic Objective No. 6: Increased Access to Shelter and Environmentally Sound Municipal Services

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Activity Summary and achievements:

The Ivory Park Urban EcoVillage is located in a township northeast of the City of Johannesburg, adjacent to Tembisa. The area is poor with 250,000 residents living mostly in shacks. Services are available for the formal, approved residential stands, but 40% of the population lives in unplanned, informal areas.

The EcoCity initiative was an award-winning program that sought to develop the local economy of the area, using sustainable development as the framework. This grant program supported by USAID was one of the programs within this greater Johannesburg EcoCity Initiative. The objective was to build an eco-village in Ivory Park in order to show that alternative planning exercises are possible and affordable, that communities will support them, and that they can make a difference to the quality of people's lives. The support received from USAID through the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism was used to assist in this process through workshopping and outreach, marketing, and some energy efficiency demonstration components. A secondary objective of the grant was to assist in showcasing the project during the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg in 2002.

The attached Grant Activity Completion Report, WSSD Report, and project newsletter present the program and its achievements in more detail.

Contents of this report:

1. Grant Activity Completion Report (August 2003)
2. WSSD Report (October 2002)
3. EcoCity Newsletter (January 2003)

Grant Activity Completion Report

| | |
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| 1. Name of Organisation | Midrand EcoCity Trust |
| 2. Grant Activity | Ivory Park Urban Eco-Village - Naturally Better Living |
| 3. Briefly describe the grant objectives achievements and impact as a result of the grant activities implemented during the grant period. | |
| <p>An extremely successful marketing campaign was undertaken to advertise the EcoVillage prior to and during the WSSD. The production of advertising material, newsletters, leaflets and directions to site etc. meant that the Eco Village became the most popular place to visit during the WSSD. Stand space was purchased at the Ubuntu Village and staff members were on hand to give out pamphlets and information. Overseas interest was particularly high, with foreign government officials expressing a keen interest in the EcoCity concept developed for the Eco Village. The media interest demonstrated was particularly exciting and we were given the opportunity, via different networks, to generate more awareness and interest. The objectives that were set to demonstrate how to achieve more thermally efficient buildings were met, leading to benefits for the community, developers and visitors to the site. The appointment of a design consultant/architect was enormously helpful and his input during this phase was both invaluable and enlightening, especially for the Eco Village workers. He readily shared his wealth of knowledge regarding design and layout with the community, who benefited from this training by learning new concepts and skills. Training also took place via workshops run by the Co-operative and Policy Alternative Centre. A co-op was set up and a committee elected by the Eco Village business community. Ongoing training with a view to establishing a completely self-sufficient business environment functioning with the guidance and support of the Eco City Co-operative has been achieved with very positive results. Training workshops are still being conducted on an ongoing basis, even though donor funds were fully utilized some time ago.</p> <p>We believe that we achieved all the grant objectives as set out and, although it has been hard work, the concept has become a reality that is working.</p> <p>The Ivory Park Community Centre at the Eco Village was completed and it demonstrated passive and active thermal design properties. It has been visited by thousands of visitors.</p> | |
| 4. Briefly discuss the implementation process, including lessons learned and recommendations | |
| <p><u>Implementation Process:</u> The programme was implemented over the WSSD period. The buildings were designed in June-July 2002 and were built in August-September. The documents were printed early in August.</p> <p><u>Lessons learned:</u> There is an enormous interest in thermal efficiency. Consultants are happy to take on board these concepts.</p> <p><u>Recommendations:</u> That more funds be allocated to such programmes, particularly in the design area.</p> | |

Grant Activity Completion Report

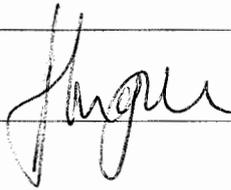
5. Public Dissemination: GMAC requires that all grant activity deliverable(s) of the grant activity (e.g., a report or survey) must be made available to the general public. Briefly discuss how the grants activities and results were made accessible to interested parties.

Many documents were produced prior to the World Summit. These included a community participation handout, a brochure entitled "EcoCity concept, a Vision in the Making", an Eco Village manual and marketing flyers, which were widely distributed during the WSSD. Information was obtainable during the whole of the WSSD at the Ubuntu Village and during this period we had to restock our stand on several occasions due to public demand. All of this material has been used on an ongoing basis for capacity building, awareness raising and training.

As explained previously, there was an enormous amount of media interest and the public was made aware of the Eco Village and the EcoCity concept via the television network, including CNN.

During the height of the WSSD a Notice Board was erected at the Eco Village site giving special thanks to all those who contributed and donated either funds, in-kind time or materials and USAID was included on our board in order for the public to understand how it was possible for the EcoCity concept to commence becoming a reality.

Signature of Grantee



Date 11 - 08 - 03

JOHANNESBURG ECOCITY INITIATIVE

IVORY PARK URBAN ECOVILLAGE NATURALLY BETTER LIVING

SUMMARY OF THE WSSD PROCESS

INTRODUCTION

The Ivory Park Urban EcoVillage is located in a township in the northeastern portion of the City of Johannesburg, adjacent to Tembisa. The area is poor with 250 000 residents living mostly in shacks. Services are available for the formal approved residents, but 40% of the population lives on unplanned, informal areas.

The Johannesburg EcoCity Initiative is an award-winning programme that seeks to develop the local economy of the area, using sustainable development as the framework on which the program rests. It is a programme that is being implemented through a joint partnership of the City of Johannesburg and an NGO, the EcoCity trust. So far it has created 14 eco-operatives which carry out business in waste recycling, paper making, bicycle refurbishment, eco-tourism, organic agriculture, eco-building, youth environmental awareness raising and eco-energy. This has already created over 150 permanent jobs and resulted in increased access for the poor to high quality food, affordable transport and energy amongst other things.

One of the programmes within the Johannesburg EcoCity Initiative is to build an eco-village in Ivory Park in order to show that alternative planning exercises are possible and affordable, that communities will support them and that they make a difference to the quality of people's lives. The support received from the USAID through the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism was used to assist in this process through workshopping and outreach, marketing and some demonstration components.

PROGRESS

For the WSSD, the EcoCity Trust and the City decided to focus on one area of the EcoVillage, the business phase. A community centre, people's energy centre, water-harvesting feature, office for the community advisory forum and a traditional village were all built. Additionally, buildings that were partially completed were finished off as well as the market and the area was paved, fenced and landscaped.

All buildings were architect designed and were of the highest environmental quality possible. Recycled materials were used where possible and some

Based on a process of consultation with local residents, the Johannesburg EcoCity Initiative has taken shape in the form of several independent, yet interrelated sustainable development projects - all with the long-term goal of creating a self-sufficient and ecologically-friendly community.

During the World Summit on Sustainable Development a number of the Johannesburg EcoCity Initiative Programmes were showcased at the EcoVillage site in Ivory Park. We also had exhibition stands at Ubuntu Village and Nasrec. At these stands there was generally a lot of information about the EcoVillage and this was in the form of pamphlets, a huge banner, posters and a short documentary video. In addition to all this, at Ubuntu we also displayed some of the products made from recycled paper from as well as the recycled paper from Iteke/Twanano Paper-making. A smokeless umbhawula was also on display and the concept behind it, as well as how it operates explained. The idea at these stands was to sell the EcoVillage idea to the public and excite them enough to ensure they booked a tour to the site. To enable this the stands were manned at all times by staff that could give detailed and thorough information about the site.

A list of the Johannesburg EcoCity Initiative programs follows, with a short description of each – these all form part of the EcoVillage.

EcoVillage: A two-hectare self-sustainable community located in Ivory Park that integrates the many programmes of the Johannesburg EcoCity Initiative. The village features a public market area, permaculture plots, earth houses, a zero-energy community centre (with an unusual design

The Agricultural Co-op has a nursery in the EcoVillage and a market space is available to them so they can sell their produce to the community.

EcoBanking: The aim of EcoBanking is to create a local economy in which money is kept circulating within Midrand, rather than sitting idle in a bank contributing to the wealth of the already rich. EcoCo-operative banks will help to finance further sustainable and ecologically balanced development projects and will provide credit to the poor. This is one program that is still to be implemented, but this is in the works.

YEP/Youth Environment Co-operative: A group of young people have formed their own co-operative to run a program of raising awareness about the importance of protecting the environment. Some of the issues they have dealt with are depletion of natural resources, tree planting, waste recycling, elimination of alien trees and food security. These youth have been trained in tourism and conducted educational tours of the Johannesburg EcoCity Initiative during the WSSD.

- Awareness campaigns have been taken to local schools and to on-the-street approaches in and around Midrand. Meetings are held on the EcoVillage site.

Shova Lula Cycle Co-operative: The bike co-operative refurbishes second hand bicycles, sells and maintains bicycles in order to promote low-cost, non-polluting transport. This program plays a key role as a means through which the community can achieve higher levels of mobility to aid in overcoming poverty and pollution. Used bicycles are donated from the UK to be used by the co-operative.

Wilderocke Ecological Training Centre: Located on the banks of the Jukskei River at Midrand, this training facility is providing small group training in sustainable living for both local and international students for over 10 years. Students are trained in permaculture design, organic agriculture and ecological water management.

Winner of an Impumelelo
Poverty Innovation Award

EcoVillage attracts international leaders

There has been a massive public response to the Ivory Park Urban EcoVillage with over 1 200 international delegates visiting the demonstration site during the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).

A wide range of senior government representatives from across the globe were among those who came to Ivory Park, Midrand. The EcoVillage was one of a limited number of practical demonstration projects to be seen at

WSSD. Representatives from government included Prime Ministers, Ministers, Mayors from major cities from around the



Rhodri Morgan, Welsh Prime Minister, with local Councillor Big Joe Mhlanga (on left) and Councillor Parks Tau, member of the City of Johannesburg Mayoral Committee.

world and other dignitaries from large organisations. The EcoVillage project not only attracted visitors, but in the run-up to the WSSD there was an outpouring of contributions for the construction of the EcoVillage by a number of organisations. (See acknowledgements, Page 4).

EcoVillage is a 21st century village in a modern African township. It incorporates in its design factors which make it financially, environmentally and socially sustainable. It includes a market, organic gardens, ecobuildings,

stormwater recycling, a people's energy centre and a light industrial area.

Renewable energy for the people

The People's Energy Centre — called Amandla Co-operative — will be one of the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs' seven countrywide renewable energy pilot centres. It is located at the Ivory Park Urban EcoVillage and was on show during the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

Access to lower-cost energy is important in a low-income area as residents spend up to 25% of their earnings on energy thus reducing their ability to put funds into other activities such as education. Johannesburg has already made a name for itself with the development of the smokeless Umbhawula for more efficiently burning coal fires. EcoCity is actively looking for partners to help in the marketing of the Umbhawula.

The People's Energy Centre recognises that a great deal of energy is wasted because of the use of old and inefficient equipment and poor building design. The centre will be a living

demonstration site where members of the community can learn how to reduce their energy consumption and at the same time save money and the environment from degradation.

While the focus of the People's Energy Centre will be on converting residents to using renewable energy such as solar panels, the centre recognises that many will still be using coal and paraffin for their needs. Awareness raising of and training in how these energy sources can best be used will also be conducted at the centre.

Newsletter sponsored by



EcoCity greens the Summit

EcoCity was selected as a prime example of ecological practise by two leading international organisations and the City of Johannesburg in the run-up to the WSSD. Johannesburg Mayor Amos Masondo said that EcoCity was a unique example of sustainable development.

"It's pioneering among the poorest of the poor. The City has taken on board all the EcoCity ideas and concepts in its policy development," he said

The "Greening the Summit" initiative chose EcoCity as one of the best examples of sustainable development in South Africa. This gave EcoCity extensive exposure during the WSSD.

ICLEI (the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives) selected EcoCity as its best practise case study for Africa and led a delegation of mayors and senior government officials to the EcoVillage at Ivory Park, Midrand.

Iteke Recycling Expands

Ivory Park's Iteke Waste Recycling Co-operative has expanded by opening two mini waste receiving depots, while a third site in the Midrand central business district is actively being sought.

The two new sites are situated at Rabie Ridge and Mayibuye. The main depot in Luthuli Section will continue to receive materials for recycling from waste collectors.

"We have opened the mini waste recycling depots to make it easier for collectors to trade-in their collected waste thereby avoiding the cost of having to transport their materials across Ivory Park," said chairperson Robert Malele.

Malele said some consideration was also being given to a mini collection depot at Ebony Park.

The Iteke Waste Recycling main depot can be contacted on (011) 261 8097.

Youth guides wow visitors to EcoVillage

Ten formerly unemployed youth from Ivory Park who are undergoing tour guide training played a vital role in managing the visits of thousands of people to the Ivory Park EcoVillage during the WSSD.

The eco tour guides' training during the past year was funded by the Swiss government (through the Swiss South Africa Co-operation Initiative) in preparation for the Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development. The guides will be using the EcoVillage as the base for their future guiding activities.

The tour guides have successfully obtained tour guide training certificates and were able to practise their newfound skills on the visitors to the EcoVillage. Seven of the students will undertake a one-year training course at a technicon next year which will teach them everything from business administration to project management. Three of the students will complete their matric during the same period.

Eco tour guide mentor Greg Jacobs said the students had proved to be "very committed" to the task during the past year.

"They have chosen a significant challenge in opening up a market for eco tourism in an urban environment and particularly with the focus on exposing tourists to an urban township environment. So far they have met the challenge. Visitors to the WSSD who came to see the EcoVillage were particularly impressed with what the youth were able to tell them," he said.

To visit the Ivory Park EcoVillage contact Dorcas at EcoCity on (011) 407 6726.

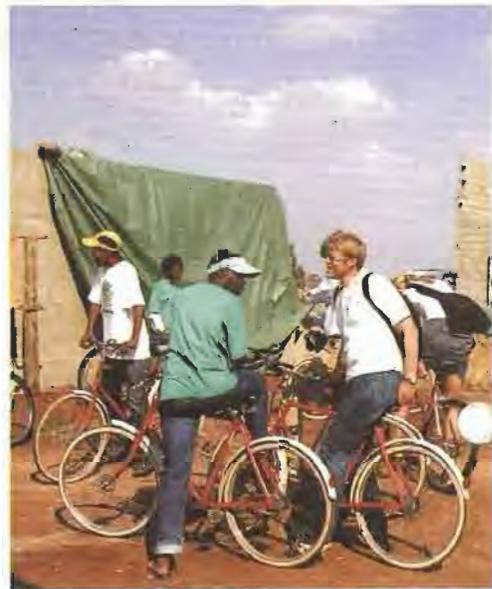
Bikes for Africa

Green transport has been given a major boost at Ivory Park, Midrand with the donation of over 1 000 bicycles.

The bikes were received by the Shova Lula Cycle Co-operative which repairs and resells second hand bicycles at a low cost to the community.

The donation of 1 000 bikes came from Bike Link (Ireland), with Velo Mondial footing the bill for the freighting costs. ICLEI (the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives) donated a further 40 high-tech bikes through Councillor Parks Tau, member of the Mayor's Executive Committee for the City of Johannesburg.

Cycling is being promoted by the co-operative as a means of healthy living and a cheap and easy means of transport. A low-cost transport being vital to economic development, the bike offers the new entrepreneur the right kind of tool to be successful.



Delegates discovering the Ivory Park environment through the EcoCity bicycle tour.

Shova Lula was boosted recently through the development of a number of new partnerships. One of these is the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives which has provided mentoring and assistance in the importation of used bikes from Europe.

A further partnership has been struck with the Anglo-American's Young Managers Group for the training of worker-owners.

Afribike, a national NGO which imports bikes from Europe and the United States, has played an important mentoring and support role for the co-operative over the past few years.

Private sector helps fight poverty

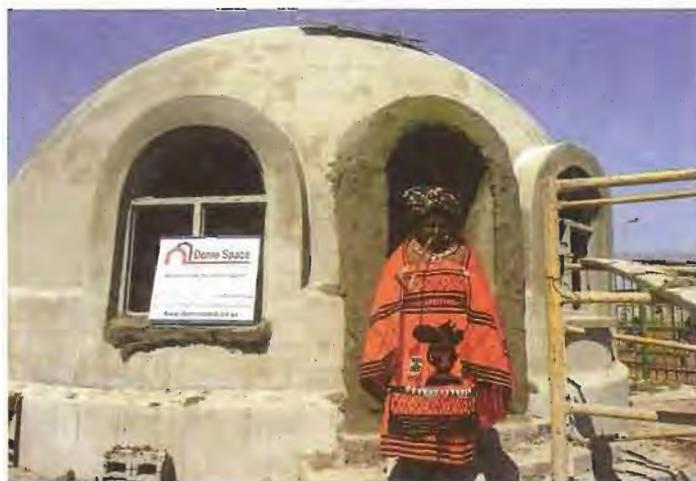
"The Ivory Park EcoVillage, while holding high the banner for the environment, teaches equally as well that we should urgently attend to the social costs inherent in poor planning present in our low income areas," observed Adrian Campbell, an associate at Arup, which donated its engineering services to the EcoVillage site.

Arup was one of a number of private sector companies co-ordinated through the WWF SA that either worked at cost or gave their services to the project as a contribution to sustainability and the poor. WWF SA see this work as part of their ongoing contribution towards projects in disadvantaged areas and it is part of their global urban renewal programme.

Campbell said it had been an interesting challenge working on the EcoVillage project and it had given his organisation greater insight into low-income housing.

"The box house approach is pretty soulless. We cannot cost housing in the way we have in the past. The social cost of design in terms of crime, health and social will have to be factored into our calculations if we are to have more human community areas," he said. "The simple technology embodied in the design of the EcoVillage offers overall energy savings with the resulting increase in disposable income for the residents of those homes."

Campbell appealed to building professionals to adopt the principles embodied in the solutions. This was achieved in the Ivory Park EcoVillage through a team of professional architects, engineers and other service suppliers. Ken Stucke, from ERA



Councillor Ma Glory outside the creche, donated by the Rupert Family Foundation, Peace Parks Foundation and WWF SA.

architects, managed to assist unskilled labour from Ivory Park in building the technically designed buildings. "Unskilled labour can be trained over the time period of the building as long as professionals take this aspect seriously," says Stucke. "It is more challenging, but in this way we are developing a range of skills in the local area which can take SMME development and the people's housing processes further".

Some of the bigger private sector contributions made to the EcoVillage were from Lafarge Cement, Kaytech Engineering and Global Forest Products who provided material at no cost. Global Forest Products is a certified forestry company intent on providing wood in a sustainable manner. See Page 4 for full acknowledgements.

Recycled Ivory Park paper goes national

Workers in the poverty relief paper making project at Ivory Park, Midrand, are now marketing their products throughout South Africa.

In a major breakthrough for the Twanano Papermaking Project, part of the Iteke Waste Recycling Co-operative, The Body Shop in South Africa has placed an order for gift boxes made out of recycled paper by Twanano for use in their stores nationwide

A spokesperson for The Body Shop said the first order had been placed and with the 12 Body Shop stores in South Africa scheduled to grow to 20 by the end of next year, the opportunity for business is expected to grow.

A wide range of products are available including photo frames, writing paper, conference folders, greeting cards as well as books and diaries. There is also a range of gift boxes and packaging for presentation wines.

The biological materials used in the papermaking depends on the type of locally available waste. For example, in KwaZulu-Natal the project uses sugar cane waste, while in the Western Cape bio mass from invasive alien plants is used. In Limpopo, Gauteng and the Free State provinces, resources include banana trees, maize husks and recycled paper.

BedZED twins with EcoCity

EcoCity at Ivory Park, Johannesburg, has twinned with BedZED eco-village in London developed by Bioregional. The aim of the twinning was to exchange knowledge and to support the construction of an Ivory Park eco-community centre and terrace



EcoVillage in Ivory Park.

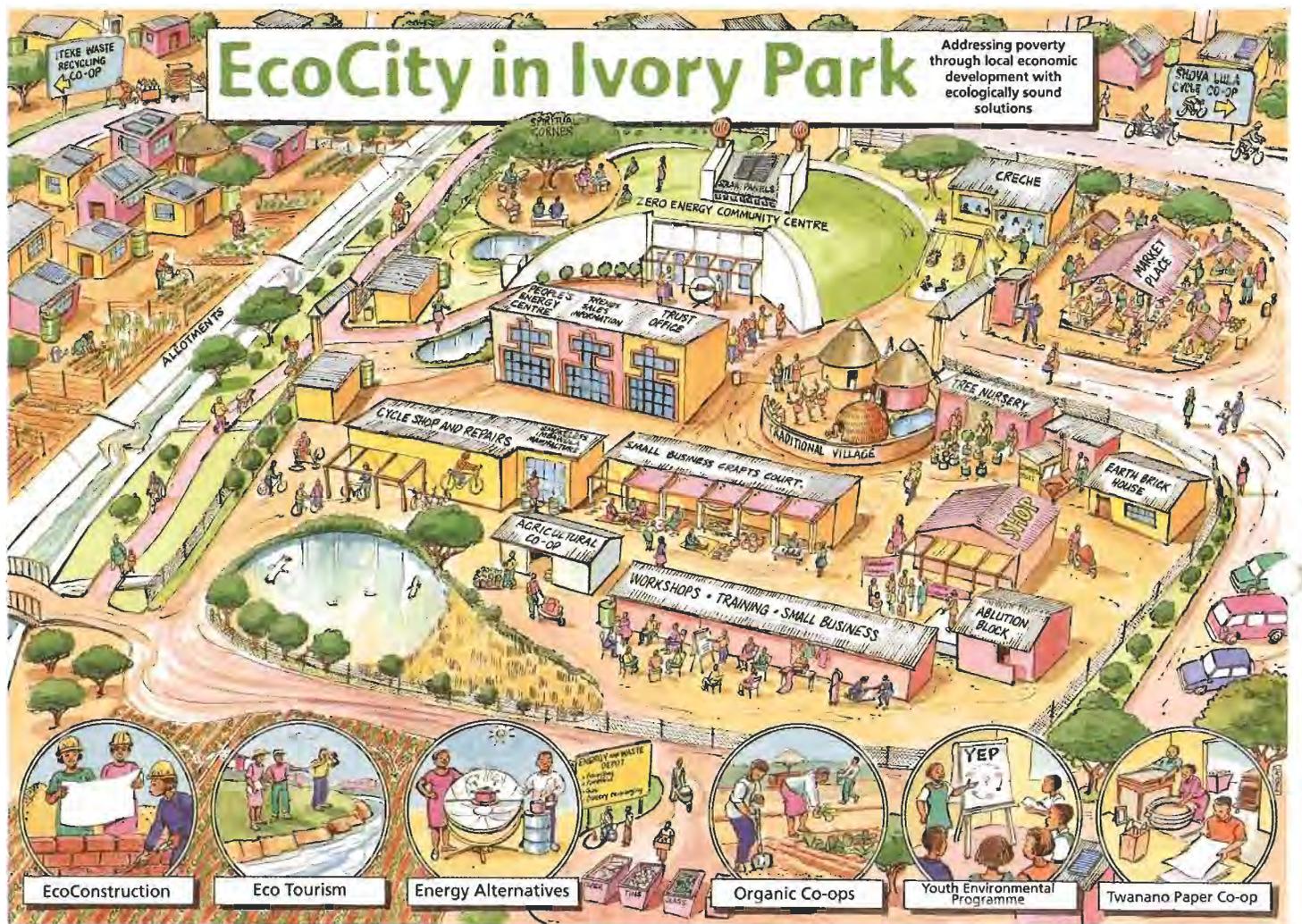
of homes, using the demonstration buildings to promote the concept of eco-villages at the WSSD.

Both sides of the twinning process learned greatly from the experience. South Africa and the UK are at different stages in terms of the acceptance and promotion of eco-housing. The Ivory Park buildings represent some of the first few modern eco-buildings in Johannesburg. Taking into account that African traditional rural buildings are sustainable in many ways, the Johannesburg EcoCity Initiative

represents the first steps in the process of starting to raise environmental awareness in the urban context.

EcoCity in Ivory Park

Addressing poverty through local economic development with ecologically sound solutions



Acknowledgements

It takes many people to satisfy the needs of a community. The EcoCity Trust and the City of Johannesburg would like to thank the following supporters for their continued commitment and contributions to the Johannesburg Initiative and its ongoing programme of providing ecologically and economically sound solutions to the problems of the developing world.

Afribike
 Anglo American Young Managers Fund
 ARUP Engineering
 Ballstraathoss
 Bioregional UK
 Breathcote Paints
 Canada Fund for Local Initiatives
 City of Johannesburg departments and utilities
 COPAC (Co-operatives and Policy and Alternative Centre)
 Danced/Danida
 DBSA (Development Bank of South Africa)
 Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT)
 Department of Transport
 Department of Welfare
 DFID (Department for International Development)
 Dome Space

Earthcote Paints
 EarthLife Africa
 ERA Architects
 ESKOM
 Food and Trees for Africa
 Global Forest Products
 Green Inc
 Greenhouse Project
 IIEC (International Institute of Energy Conservation)
 Ivory Park Co-operatives
 Johannesburg Development Agency
 Johannesburg Property Company
 Kaytech Engineered Fabrics
 Lafarge Cement
 Landbank
 MSolar
 Recycle UK

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