

Making Sustainable Development A Reality

www.thegreenconnection.org.za



Operational Report 2012-2013

P O Box 24308

Lansdowne 7700

Tel: 021 696 8266

Fax: 086 645 1147

info@thegreenconnection.org.za

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080-620-NPO

PBO no: 930036889

Board Members: Yachika Reddy, Penny Hlakula, Glyn Williams, Liz McDaid, Basier Dramat

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OUR MISSION

We believe that empowering people to participate in their environment is the only way that truly sustainable development can take place. Our environmental resources are limited and not ours to squander but to protect for future generations.

We believe that economic growth and development, improvement of socio-economic status and conservation of natural resources can only take place within a commonly understood framework of sustainable development. Our organisation aims to provide practical support to both the government and non-government sector as an integral part of sustainable development.

PROFILE

The Green Connection was established in 2000 and registered as a Non-profit organisation in 2010. The organisation comprises of 66.67% women and 83.3% PDI and prides itself on its relevance to the new South Africa. The organisation's Public Benefit Organisation (PBO) status was approved in 2011.

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PROJECTS:

Climate Change Materials

The Green Connection contracted with the DEADP to produce a suite of climate change awareness materials for a provincial climate change awareness roll out. The materials produced included:

- One DVD containing basic climate science, vulnerability and opportunities, in a PowerPoint format with a number of short film clips applicable to different circumstances. This will be updated from existing Green Connection and other material.
- One pamphlet /comic book providing basic climate change science and vulnerability and stories of successful adaptation.
- One audio clip based on the comic book and suitable for playing on community radio-stations.
- Info-graphic mind maps for various topics, for example, Climate vulnerability for the Western Cape, Resource efficiency (electricity and water) in the home, office, schools
- A series of ten electricity and water saving stickers using creative messaging, suitable for appliances.

Responsible Fisheries course and materials development

The Green Connection and WWF, designed and implemented the responsible fisheries programme, from the course design, materials design, and implementation of the programme. This programme was initially rolled out for officers on commercial fishing vessels, and later, the materials were adapted for crew. WWF and Green connection are now working with vulnerable coastal subsistence and artisanal communities to design and produce training materials and to then provide training workshops.



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Electricity Governance Initiative (EGI)

The Green Connection as part of EGI, produced a review report on progress in the government's renewable energy independent power producer programme process (REI4P).

The review report was produced as part of the World Resources Institute (WRI) Electricity governance programme which looks at electricity governance issues across 11 countries.



IES student abroad study programme

The Green Connection works with the IES study abroad programme, based at UCT. We deliver a semester course on eco-justice for American students visiting South Africa. The course includes topics ranging from baboon human conflicts, to small scale fisheries, energy and climate change as well as developmental pressures on natural resources.

We have successfully completed a further semester course for IES students for 2014 and are about to start a second semester course for IES which will run until the end of the year.



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Berg River Facilitation

The Green Connection facilitated a multi-stakeholder seminar over two days for the DEADP in March this year. The seminar provided an opportunity for stakeholders to share the various initiatives that are taking place along the Berg River, and to provide some critique and recommendations on the way forward.

REPORTS:

Air Pollution health impacts of Eskom

The Green Connection produced a research report that examined the health impacts of Eskom coal fired power station in the Highveld Priority Area (HPA). The report was produced as part of Groundwork's campaign against Eskom's application to be exempt from anti pollution measures.



EGI 2014

The Green Connection produced an updated 2014 review report on progress in the government's renewable energy independent power producer programme process (REI4P).

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Plans for 2014/2015

Two Rivers Urban Park (TRUP)

The Green Connection is part of the TRUP advisory committee, Liz is currently the chairperson. TRUP needs a manager and the proposal is for Green Connection to explore with TRUP, the possibility of taking over the function of managing the TRUP for the city of Cape Town. TRUP is an established park under the management of the city of Cape Town.



Sustainable Development/ Eco-justice course

Given the willingness and demand for a course on eco-justice, Green Connection will advertise and run one condensed course over 5 days for students and the general public interested in such issues. This will be the start of an income generating educational course

Stove Project

In 2007, the Green Connection piloted the idea of fuel efficient stoves as part of their climate change capacity building project for Conservation International. This project was then shelved due to a lack of resources and capacity within GC to run it as a viable project. The proposal for 2014/2015 is to reinvigorate this project drawing in Candice Pelzner who has expressed a willingness to work with GC, focused on small business and social entrepreneurship.

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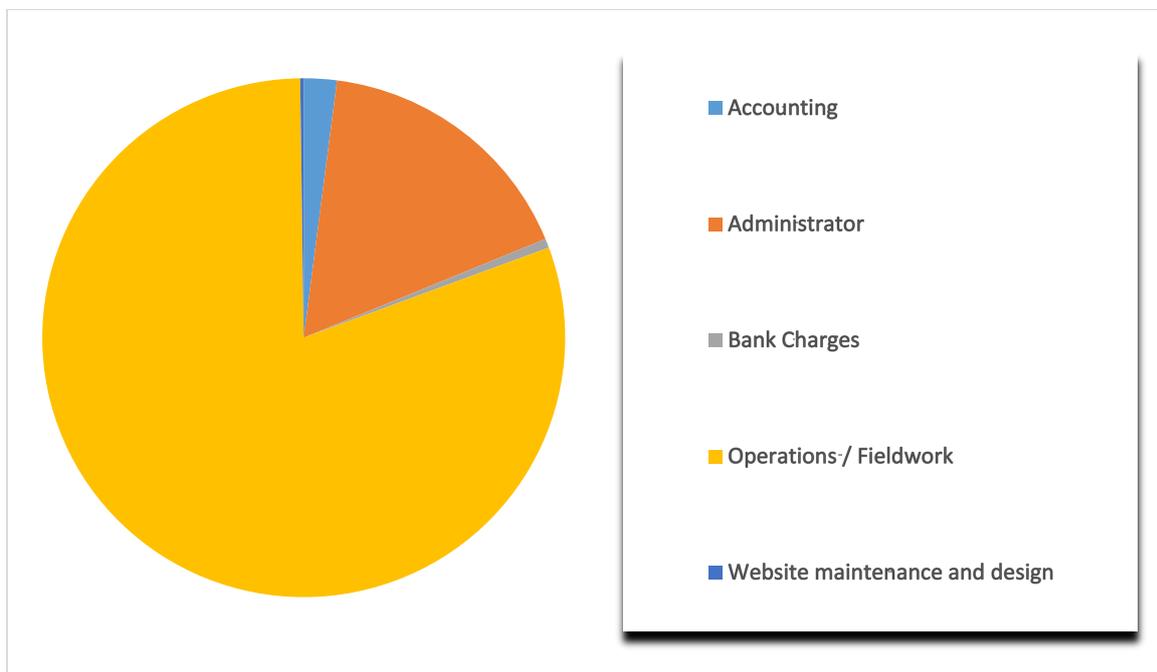
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Financials

The Green Connection Board meeting is held annually.

A new accounting firm has been appointed. We thank the Da Silva accounting company for offering their pro-bono service to GC. The Audited Financial Statements is available on request.



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