

*Making Sustainable Development A Reality*

[www.thegreenconnection.org.za](http://www.thegreenconnection.org.za)



## **Operations Report 2018**

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

### **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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### 2018 Operations

The Green Connection activities were reduced for this year, as GC associates were involved in non-GC activities. In an organisation with few overheads, such a time of reduced activity allows us time for reflection.

The Green Connection was very proud that our Liz McDaid, together with Makoma Lekalakala from Earthlife, won the international Goldman Environmental Prize, an equivalent of the Nobel prize for environmentalist activists for their work on the corrupt Nuclear deal with SAFCEI.

### Energy Governance

The city of Cape Town asked the Green Connection to present to its energy team at the City's strategic planning session. The presentation focused on avoiding a utility death spiral and encouraging a decentralised approach where local households could help ensure energy security rather than simply being consumers. The presentation was appreciated by the city team.

Green Connection continues to be part of the civil society energy governance initiative, EG-SA, and we continue to be a South African partner of the World Resource Institute's Electricity Governance Initiative (EGI).

### Fisheries training

Since 2008, the Green Connection has been involved with WWF in working together to support the training of fishers, as well as advising them on their restaurant programme.

In 2015, the Green connection was contracted to update the training manuals and to conduct training workshops on the training for new and existing trainers. During the project, it was discovered the few existing trainers understood the methodology and so an additional workshop was held to train the existing trainers. This was successful.

The materials have been updated but the process of having them approved and rolled out has been slow, as it involves gaining inputs from not only WWF but the Responsible Fisheries Alliance.

### Going forward into 2019.

The Green connection had a quiet 2018 and is looking forward to a renewed 2019. The donation received will be put towards the initiation of the legacy project – aimed to build advocacy skills of young South African environmental justice activists.