



## Resentse Sinqobile Trust T/A Zondi Buy Back Centre : South Africa

Shifting the paradigm in waste management

### Project description

The non-profit initiative Resentse Sinqobile Trust (Zondi Buy Back Centre) was initiated in 2004 by the City of Johannesburg through financial support from the Danish government to educate the community about waste management. The initiative contributes to environmental and climate protection by reusing recyclable materials from waste and offers income to unemployed citizens.



### Business model

The Zondi Buy Back Centre buys recyclable materials for a reasonable fee from more than 500 waste pickers who gather the recyclables from household waste and landfills. Plastic material is then granulated and compressed in the centre and then sold to manufacturing companies.



### Scaling up activities in 2011

- Install a mini recycling plant to process polypropylene and low density polypropylene.
- Create employment opportunities for another 50 personnel.
- Open branches in other provinces.
- Increasingly contribute to the reduction of stored waste.

### Immediate needs

- Develop an organisational institution for the initiative.
- Enhancing the financial sustainability of the organisation.
- Create a larger pool of clients.
- Skills development for employees.



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### Partnership

- **Recovery Action Group (RAG)** provides training and identifies role players in industry and capacity building.
- **PIKITUP** a City of Johannesburg waste management company.
- **City of Johannesburg** established the project and lobbies on behalf of the initiative.
- **Department of Environmental Affairs** provides financial and capacity-building support.



### Social, environmental and economic impacts

**Social impact:** Positive social impact is achieved by educating citizens about sound waste management and its benefits.

**Environmental impact:** Reducing solid waste within the City of Johannesburg contributes to environmental and climate protection through education and collection.

**Economic impact:** The centre employs 30 people and indirectly provides earning capabilities for an additional 500 people. It has the potential to increase by a further 50 employees in 2011.

### Contact

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### SEED Partners

SEED is hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Other current partners are the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature); and the governments of Germany, India, the Netherlands, Norway, South Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.



### About the SEED Initiative

The SEED Initiative identifies and supports promising small scale social and environmental entrepreneurs around the globe, entrepreneurs that while working towards a greener economy also tackle poverty, marginalisation and social exclusion.

SEED provides these social entrepreneurs with know how and networks, taking the lessons learnt at local level up to decision-makers to promote evidence-based policy making.

More information: [www.seedinit.org](http://www.seedinit.org)

### SEED Secretariat

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