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**SOUTH AFRICA
WINNER 2015**

P.E.A.C.E.-Thinana Recycling Cooperative engages with local communities in the implementation of a waste recycling network in Senwabarwana, Limpopo Province. The enterprise trains waste collectors and has established a purchasing scheme and collection point network for waste collected in the semi-urban community and its rural environment.



P.E.A.C.E.-Thinana Recycling Cooperative, South Africa

BUSINESS MODEL

The enterprise trains staff and community members on waste collection and recycling. Through its purchasing scheme, it pays fulltime, contracted collectors and casual community collectors for waste collected from dumpsites and shopping centres. From its collection points, the waste is transported to its purchasing centre where it is sorted, weighed and baled for sale.

To meet the challenge of generating adequate waste volumes in rural recycling, the enterprise's waste collectors use non-motorised trolleys and donkey carts, with animal care training provided to donkey owners.

ENTERPRISE FAST FACTS:

Location	Limpopo Province, South Africa
Year founded	2014
Sector	Waste & Sanitation
Product/Service	Collection and sale of recyclables

Contact

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Social impacts:

- Generating sustainable income for cooperative members and staff through permanent employment, and additional income for community members who collect and sell waste on an ad-hoc basis.
- Promoting women's leadership and entrepreneurship, as women occupy 70 % of the jobs at the centre.

Environmental impacts:

- Promoting waste reduction through recycling, discouraging waste burning and illegal dumping.
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from common waste disposal by reducing landfill, and utilising non-motorised trolleys and donkey carts.
- Fostering environmental understanding of students through recycling education programs and a fresh-produce permaculture training centre.

Economic impacts:

- Establishing an effective and profitable waste management network for the local municipality, economically empowering community members.
- Increasing the value of donkeys by improving their health and expanding their contribution to generating income.

” P.E.A.C.E.-Thinana Recycling Cooperative showcases a model for rural and semi-urban waste recycling that can be scaled and replicated throughout other local Municipalities.

Scaling up activities:

- Invest in extensive media campaigns, brochure distribution and/or school workshops to encourage local schools to start selling waste to the centre – either as individual pupils, as classes or as institutions.
- Expand the geographic sphere of waste collection beyond Senwabarwana village, and incorporate other nodal points within the municipality including mobilising waste collectors in the neighbouring small towns of Alldays, Mogkadi, Manthata and Eldorado settlements.
- Provide collectors from surrounding smaller villages with bulk collection bags and storage containers, mobilise more donkey owners to get involved in waste collection, and acquire more waste trolleys to expand the collection network.
- Negotiate municipal contracts as part of the Municipality's Integrated Development Plan, and work to replicate the model in other surrounding municipal regions, potentially covering the entire Capricorn District.



” Attaching an economic value to waste and donkeys helps to attain rural development and sustain livelihoods from local resources.



Partnership

- **Planning, Education, Agriculture, Cooperatives and Environment (P.E.A.C.E.) Foundation Trust** initiated the project under its Environment sector, while also fundraising and supporting monitoring and evaluation.
- **Thinana Waste Management and Recycling Cooperative** is responsible for running the day-to-day business of the enterprise.
- **Blouberg Local Municipality** supports the enterprise and provides waste transport services.
- **PET Recycling Company of South Africa (PETCO)** has conducted training at the enterprise, and has assisted in opening up of markets to sell the waste.



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The 2015 SEED Awards in 2 South African provinces are supported by the Government of Flanders, which is active in Southern Africa.

About SEED

SEED identifies and supports promising small scale social and environmental enterprises around the globe, enterprises who while working towards a greener economy also tackle poverty, marginalisation and social exclusion. SEED provides these enterprises with know-how and networks, taking the lessons learnt at local level up to decision-makers to promote evidence-based policy making. For more information please write to info@seed.uno or visit:

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