

community Commitment Advocacy

Partnerships



Siyakhana Growth and Development NPO

Siyakhana means Building Each Other

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-Brief-



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Executive Summary

The Siyakhana Growth and Development NPO (SGD) is a reputable change agent with vast experience and expertise working across the entire spectrum of the South Africa.

Our aims are to:

- Address food and nutrition security
- Promote public and environmental health
- Enhance entrepreneurship
- Support and enable sustainable small holder enterprises.

Our work also furthers the following skills and activities:

- Knowledge & skills transfer and building capacity especially amongst black women and youth.
- Job creation
- Stimulation of local economies
- Building future leadership across the spectrum of the food value chain
- Relevant research which informs policy and strategic interventions

We have established many food gardens in several settings promoting dietary diversity. This is a direct and effective way to enhance food availability, accessibility and affordability while maintaining environmental sensitivity.

The SGD and Siyakhana Organic Food Garden (SOFG) are recipients of prestigious awards:

- The SGD was awarded the most innovative and promising locally led eco-inclusive enterprises in developing and emerging economies prize from the SEED AWARD 2019.
- The SOFG was awarded the best innovative project and community-based project prize by the Gauteng Department of Agriculture in 2011.

The support we receive will go towards:

- Infrastructural development
- Training and Capacity building
- Leadership development

The reinvestment practice we plan to apply will use profits from the sale of produce, processed products and any other form of revenue to purchase additional equipment and infrastructure, as well as seeing to operational costs, in order to increase productivity and general income for the gardens.

About Siyakhana

The SGD functions as a change agent to bring communities, organisations and institutions in Joburg City, Gauteng and other areas in South Africa to:

Address food and nutrition security

- Promote public and environmental health
- Enhance entrepreneurship
- Support and develop sustainable small holder enterprises

This is achieved through building capacity via training programmes at both academic and grassroots levels, carrying out pioneering trans-disciplinary research and making a significant contribution to civil society. Siyakhana also offers consulting services in the area of food security, food gardens, promoting health and nutrition, urban regeneration and economic development.

The SGD has a good track record of achievements. It has a Board of Directors and leaderships of high calibre, while also being a registered Public Benefit Organisation (PBO) in good financial and legal standing. Additionally, it can issue an 18A certificate and improve companies' BBBEE ratings.

Siyakhana offers a multi-pronged and systematic approach to addressing food and nutrition insecurity, while creating sustainable livelihoods.

Siyakhana's primary value propositions include:

- Accessibility to nutritious organic food by a self-help approach to food production;
- Training to develop capacity among emerging farmers and leaders in sustainable livelihoods;
- Providing innovative solutions in the areas of the food, energy and water nexus;
- Promoting health and environmental stewardship;
- Relevant action-research that is influencing policy and strategic interventions
- Engaging in advocacy, networking and building partnerships.

Our Approach

Our business model is based on proven agro-ecology production approaches which design and management of an agricultural enterprise and provides multiple revenue streams for the garden, while maintaining environmental and social consciousness (IPES-Food, 2016; Frison, 2016).

The model is made up of primary production points and auxiliary production points. Primary production points are directly linked to food production. The auxiliary production points are secondary revenue streams not directly linked to actual food production. The underlining principle is risk aversion and viable financial support for urban and peri-urban food garden projects.

Economic	Establishment of	(a)Vegetable production	(a)Packaging
development	multiple agro-	(b)Compost and seedling centres	(b) Selling
development	enterprises	(c)Mushroom production	(c)Processing &value
	circi prises	(c)Mashirooni production	additions
	Value chain addition	(a)Processing of agriculture	dadicions
		products	
		P. C. W. C. C.	
	Eco-tourism	(b)Sustainable/ecotourism	
Human Capital	Training and capacity	Agri SETA accredited training	(a)NQF Levels 1-5
Development	development	Including Plant Production,	
		Horticulture, Farming and	
		Alternative Agriculture and	
		technical Systems	
		Work Integrated Learning	
		programme for agricultural	Diploma in Agriculture
		students	
		Short professional courses	(a)Food security
			(b)Health promotion
			(c)Entrepreneurship and
			business
		On-site capacity development	
		Relevant and practical research	
Environmental	Conservation agriculture	(a)Bez Park Run	
Stewardship and	and agro-ecology	(b)Tree planting	
Public Health	Rehabilitative	(c)Riparian restoration	
	agriculture and agro-	(d)Mini wetland	
	forestry		

Our Profile

We have a 15-year track record in establishing urban food gardens and we have successfully implemented the following projects, among others:

Project	Description
Siyakhana Organic Food Garden (SOFG) 2005 to current Bezuidenhout Park, which is situated in the Region F, City of Johannesburg	SOFG is our flagship project and is regarded as one of the most successful urban food gardens in the wider Johannesburg metropole, as well as a hallmark of inter-sectoral collaboration. SOFG's operating prototype until recently was a social development model which has been dependent on donor funding for capital and operational costs. 10 Full-time employees, including farmers, managers, trainers, as well as 7 seasonal labourers.
Eastern Cape Schools Support Programme 2018 to current Mqanduli is a rural area in OR Tambo District Municipality in the Eastern Cape province.	SGD has successfully implemented the Eastern Cape School Support Programme in three schools: Gwebinkundla, Bijolo JSS, and Mqanduli JSS, located in the Mqanduli district. The programme is supported by Zenzele Itereleng NPC through the Anglo-American Platinum Community Empowerment scheme. We have established three organic food gardens at each of the schools, renovated toilets, improved water systems and introduced ICT programmes. The direct beneficiaries include 900 pupils, 50 educators and support staff, 350 community members, and 20 trainees. The indirect beneficiaries include parents or guardians and the wider community.

University Food Security Programme (UFSP) 2017 to current	In the past three years we have effectively implemented the University Food Security Support Programme at five universities across South Africa supported by Tigerbrands group. The universities are North West, Nelson Mandela, Free State, Wits and Johannesburg. We have set up organic food gardens which complement the Tiger brand's Food Parcel Scheme, providing food to thousands of students. We have also initiated cross-disciplinary research and an approach to food security, as well as appropriate training.
Boys&Girls Club, Bertrams, Joburg After School Programme Club with 350 pupils, 5 educators and support staff 2019 to current	SGD has successfully established an educational and productive organic food gardens at the Boys and Girls Club in Bertrams. The garden is a platform for learning for children attending the after-school programmes and volunteers and community members. The objective of the gardens is to promote health, nutrition and behaviour change in amongst the participants a. The project is funded by Nandos South Africa.
Siyakhana Training Academy (STA) Trained a total of 400 community members, students and smallholder farmers 2019 to current	The SGD also manages the Siyakhana Training Academy (STA) which currently offers Agri SETA accredited courses at NQF levels 1 - 5. The courses include Plant Production, Horticulture, Farming Alternative Agriculture Systems. STA also provides non-accredited courses and modules in Food Security, Health Promotion and Entrepreneurship Development. STA and collaborates with the Centre of Ecological Intelligence at the University of Johannesburg, corporates and governments, academics and volunteers.

Projects Sites

Overview

We have selected two sites and three projects: Bezuidenhout Park, in the Inner City of Johannesburg where the Siyakhana Organic Food garden is located and Orange Farm; a poor peri-urban region in Johannesburg Metropole which includes the Arekopaneng Centre and Stretford Health Clinic managed by Afrika Tikkun and City of Johannesburg respectively. The selection of these sites was based on a needs-based assessment which considers vulnerability and the potential of the projects to be upscaled, expanded and to become sustainable.

Siyakhana Organic Food Garden (SOFG)

The SOFG has a total size of 2.4ha and is situated in a 54ha Bezuidenhout Park, most of which is neglected. Siyakhana is currently negotiating with the City of Johannesburg regarding extending and expanding the project. The garden grows a wide range of vegetables, herbs, grains, nut and fruit trees, and edible shrubs. The revenue streams at the garden include the sale of a wide range of vegetables, seedlings, fruit and nuts, compost, and worm tea and income from school visits; mushroom production and agro-processing will be implemented in 2021.

The SOFG aims to demonstrate a viable model of sustainable small-scale urban farming. This model could be replicated in several urban and peri-urban sites which is a local, provincial, and national government priority. Our goal is to demonstrate a commercially viable enterprise, whilst retaining the important social development component.

IDC's support for infrastructure and other capital inputs will contribute significantly to the realisation of this objective as well as the expansion and extension of the project. Siyakhana and co funders will contribute to capacity building and skills transfer will greatly assist in transforming SOFG into a commercially viable project while simultaneously addressing socio-economic and environmental issues, thus contributing to poverty and hunger reduction while creating sustainable livelihoods for marginalised urban communities. Leveraging Siyakhana Training Academy, SOFG is an important site for training, teaching, mentoring and establishing supportive systems and environments which we encourage the communities with which we work with to adopt, apply and integrate using new skills, knowledge and behaviour change in their agro-ecological practice.

The SOFG is situated on a 2.4 ha of land, currently on a 5-year lease from City of Johannesburg. We are currently negotiating a long-term lease. The following is the current infrastructure on site:

- 10,000litre water tank
- Biodigestor
- Worm farm 100 litre capacity
- Two x 12mx30m steel framework tunnels
- Palisade fence
- Solar lights x4
- Main garden office
- Wendy house
- Seedling tunnels x 2

Current Markets and Other Revenue Streams

Our current marketing system uses different marketing channels which includes:

- Farmgate product is sold directly to the farm walk-in customers
- We are linked to several digital marketing platforms to promote our work
- Specialised Veggie Box Scheme for clients who require delivery of fresh produce.
- We will be targeting new customers which include schools, restaurants, and convenience stores.
- Our other revenue streams include school visits, international group visits and Agri SETA Work Integrated Learning Programme
- Social media, such as Facebook and Twitter and website to keep customers updated and interested in the organisation.

Reinvestment

Our reinvestment practice is based on using profits from the sale of produce, processed products or any other form of income earned to purchase additional equipment, and infrastructure so as to increase productivity and general income for the garden.

Benefits to the Project and Funders

- Increased sales and revenue ensuring commercial viability and project sustainability.
- Maximisation of the land available through specialised design and planning

- Building HR capacity in terms of agricultural, management, entrepreneurship, and leadership skills
- Creation of sustainable jobs
- Strengthen and enhance partnerships and collaboration with key stakeholders
- Development of a comprehensive urban enterprise and practical hub which demonstrates a comprehensive range of entrepreneurial, agricultural and general environmental health best practices
- Projects can be replicated at other sites either in its completeness or in parts.
- Contributions to the community health through good nutrition and dietary diversity which is enhanced by training in food preparation
- Demonstrate high standards of seedling security and become a custodian of seeds and seedlings. These sections will also contribute immensely to the garden sustainability.
- Demonstrate soil fertility as an essential aspect in conservation and agro-ecology
- Show and teach people how to make rich compost which helps promote agro-ecology in the garden.
- Expose and stimulate urban agro-ecology as an important source of healthy food, as well
 as an entry point to interact with local, and international visitors showcasing indigenous
 systems
- Application of state of the art agricultural and 4IR technology to ensure efficiency of operations
- Carry out relevant, appropriate and practical research
- Promote eco-tourism

Co-funding from Partners

Siyakhana works in close collaboration with other agencies and foundations which will contribute to infrastructure and technical support. The following organisations will co fund the project:

Co-funding from Partners		
City of Johannesburg -United Nation Environmental Programme 250,000		
Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	150,000.00	
Ford Foundation	157,000.00	
Rand Water	40,000.00	
AgriSETA	460,000.00	
Afrika Tikkun	250,000.00	
Total Co-funding from Partners	1,307,000.00	

The SGD will also provide additional expertise and labour to ensure the success of the project.

Impact

The following is SGD's quadruple bottom line impact:

Social impact	Social targets include employment, fair wages, opportunities to grow and develop, training and education, health promotion and social capital, networking with government and corporates. These socioeconomic, educational and health targets contribute significantly to impoverished and underserved communities, with a focus on women, youth and the unemployed.
Environmental impact	Siyakhana projects ensure that land usage, infrastructure and spacial design are applied in an environmentally responsible manner. SGD products/services address climate change mitigation using solar power and biodigesters, supplying sustainable energy and effective waste management interventions. The biodigester uses organic waste, producing organic fertiliser for food gardens reducing water pollution.
Economic impact	Income generation from primary and auxillary streams has huge potential to stimulate the local economy and create jobs. Outcomes from current projects show positive and encouraging results. Responses and enquiries from corporates, government and NGOS show much interest in our model and our approach of creating multiple revenue streams and sustainable small enterprises.
Social media information, edutainment, publicity	Information and publicity through social media disseminates important information about organic food gardens, nutrition, health and sustainable systems, creating greater awareness and interest in our work which builds partnerships and future opportunities for growth.

Awards

As of recently, the SGD was awarded under the category of Entrepreneurship in Sustainable Development as amongst the most innovative and promising locally led eco-inclusive enterprises in developing and emerging economies at the SEED Awards 2019. The Siyakhana Organic Food Garden also has been awarded the best innovative project and community-based project and best presentation prizes at the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD) Conference on Conservation Agriculture 2011.