



EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR INNOVATION IN COMMUNITIES **(EPIC) – AFRICA TRAINING WORKSHOP**

Programme

Durban Botanic Gardens, Durban, South Africa

3 – 6th February 2020



Trainers:

Sean O'Donoghue
 Gilbert Siame
 Edna Odhiambo

EThekweni Municipality/ University of KwaZulu-Natal
 University of Zambia
 University of Nairobi

Mentors:

Marc Schlossberg
 Jessica Barlow
 Courtney Griesel

EPIC-N University Mentor, University of Oregon
 EPIC-N University Mentor, San Diego State University
 EPIC-N Community Mentor, Springfield Oregon

About EPIC-N, EPIC Africa and the training workshop:

Though it originated in the US a decade ago, the EPIC model is proving to be well suited for implementation in Africa, with evidence coming to the fore of its cost efficiency and flexibility, and in particular, its ability to harness and direct the creativity and innovative spirit embodied in many young students in Africa. Since the first regional EPIC training event which took place in Cape Town, South Africa in November 2017, the core EPIC Africa Regional Network has established a dynamic web presence that serves to share experiences and knowledge and document progress among African cities currently implementing the EPIC model.

The EPIC Africa Regional Network, through the support of START International and the global EPIC Network (EPIC-N) secretariat, will convene a second regional African training event in Durban South Africa from 3 – 6th February 2020. This will be the first African-led EPIC training event ever conducted in Africa. The intention is to grow the number of cities and universities implementing the EPIC model partnership into a satellite of decentralized but connected self-led regional EPIC African Networks throughout the African continent.



EPIC Durban Pilot site visit information: Palmiet Nature Reserve, Edgecliff Rd, Dawncrest, Westville

PALMIET CATCHMENT REHABILITATION PROJECT

Cities and communities face serious challenges related to poverty, waste management, environmental sustainability, water quality, health, loss of biodiversity, and many more. While these are real challenges, a lack of knowledge on how to address these is often not a barrier, but rather putting knowledge into practice is. Cities often lack the time, capacity and knowledge to address these pressing challenges, those of which local universities possess to address these challenges. ***Matching cities and universities to take advantage of the others' needs and capacities has been challenging but through Educational Partnerships for Innovative Communities Network (EPIC-N)*** such barriers are now starting to be addressed in Durban. EPIC-N is an award winning university-community partnership program that works at a large scale to advance the needs of communities while training the next generational workforce and leadership. ***Last year (2019), eThekweni Municipality, through the Climate Protection Branch, completed an EPIC pilot together with the University of KwaZulu-Natal.***

The Durban EPIC pilot approach was adapted from the ***EPIC-N model to suit local institutional conditions through the teaching of two bespoke UKZN modules that were trialled between 2018 and 2019.*** The Durban EPIC-A pilot, under the leadership of Dr Cathy Sutherland at UKZN, focused on the Quarry Road West Informal Settlement. The aim is for the implementation of a full-scale EPIC partnership between eThekweni Municipality and the University of KwaZulu-Natal, within two years of successful completion of the pilot. ***The Durban EPIC pilot has addressed key research needs which have been identified by the Palmiet Community of Innovators/ Practice (interested stakeholders within the Palmiet catchment) as part of the Palmiet Action Plan, as well as research needs in coastal governance and water and sanitation (eThekweni Water and Sanitation Unit).***

The Palmiet Catchment Rehabilitation Project focuses on conservation, rehabilitation and restoration of natural systems within the Palmiet catchment to improve community resilience to climate change impacts. One of its objectives is to develop a model that could be used to link future engineering infrastructure projects and the rehabilitation and management of water resources. In the process, principles of community-based adaptation to climate change are applied. A second objective is to restore ecological infrastructure within informal settlements exposed to flooding in order to reduce that risk. ***The EPIC model has been tested on this project through the Durban EPIC pilot last year, and it yielded positive results, which will be presented at the site visit. Plans for a full scale EPIC implementation, incorporating Durban's KZN Climate Change Compact partners will be developed during the EPIC training workshop.***



EPIC Africa wishes to **thank and acknowledge** the following:

- START International: For funding the event, logistics and (hopefully) future collaboration with EPIC-N.
- US Consulate General: Ms Sherry Sykes for hosting our reception and Ms Nombuso Ndumo for support in securing and planning the event.
- EPIC-N: For supporting the African network, mentoring the trainers, and a massive thank you to Marshall Curry
- Dr Tony Socci (USEPA): For supporting EPIC-N and EPIC-A strategic discussions
- UKZN: For taking a risk on our EPIC Pilot
- Climate Protection Branch: particularly Smiso Bhengu for driving our EPIC pilot and organizing our site visit today, and Lindeka James for her support.
- Our political leaders for their support

Programme overview:

Mon 3rd: Introductions and Focus, Site Visit, US Consulate General Reception
 Tue/ Wed 4 – 5th: EPIC Training and ‘Just Start’, Training Workshop Close
 Thursday 6th: EPIC-N and EPIC-A strategic discussions

Detailed Programme:

- Monday 3rd:
 - 08h00: Pick up participants from Blue Waters Hotel and transfer to venue: Durban Botanic Gardens (Entrance Durban Botanical Gardens close, 9A John Zikhali Rd, Berea, Durban, 4001).
 - Morning session:
 - 09h00: Welcome and introductions
 - 09h20: Introduction to the concept
 - 10h00: EPIC Africa Journey
 - 10h40: Initial Questions
 - 11h00: Tea
 - Midday session:
 - 11h30 EPIC basics
 - 13h00 Lunch
 - 13h30 Transport to site visit and group photo
 - Afternoon session:
 - 14h30 EPIC Durban Pilot site visit
 - 16h30 Transport to Reception
 - 19h00 Day close and transport to hotel
- Tuesday 4th:
 - 08h00: Pick up participants from Blue Waters Hotel and transfer to venue
 - 09h00: ‘Just Start’ training commences - welcome
 - 09h10: Gontse Molekwa
 - 10h00: Tea
 - 10h30: ‘Just Start’ presentation and working exercises
 - 12h30: Lunch



- 13h00: ‘Just Start’ training continues
- 15h00: Tea
- 15h30 wrap up
- 16h00 Close and transport to hotel
- 13h30 Lunch
- Wednesday 5th:
 - 08h00: Pick up participants from Blue Waters Hotel and transfer to venue
 - 09h00: ‘Just Start’ training recap and reflections
 - 09h10: ‘Just Start’ training exercises continue
 - 10h00: Tea
 - 10h30: ‘Just Start’ training exercises continue
 - 12h30: Lunch
 - 13h00: ‘Just Start’ training – participants finalise programmes
 - 13h30: Programme presentations
 - 14h30: Working Tea
 - 15h00: Wrap up and way forward
 - 16h00 Workshop close and transport to hotel
- Thursday 6th: EPIC-N and EPIC Africa strategic discussion
 - 08h00: Pick up participants from Blue Waters Hotel and transfer to venue
 - 09h00: Strategic Discussion
 - 10h00: Tea
 - 12h30: Close and lunch
 - 13h00: Transfer back to hotel
- Wednesday 5th - Thursday 6th: Transfers to airport

Contact info:

- Lead: Sean O’Donoghue: +27 79 511 2631; Sean.O’Donoghue@durban.gov.za
- Logistics: Lindeka James: +27 73 165 0369; Lindeka.James@durban.gov.za
- Lead: Gilbert Siame: +26 97 945 7414
- Lead and logistics: Mzime Murisa: +263 772 516 365
- Caterer: Gravy Bowl: +27 83 650 5544