

Meet the team

Social responsibility prefects: Amanda Mapemba and Hannah Liwimbi

Researchers and planners: Shekinah Kadumbo, Daniel Nwosu and Eric Namboya

Organisers: Shekinah Banda, Konnemi Pinnifolo and Thea Tredinnick



Our recycling system

We needed to begin collecting plastics to give to our Charity, The Mudi River project. But not just any kind of plastic-we needed HDPE plastic. This meant that there needed to be a clear separation between the plastic we wanted and the other waste. To do this, we set up bins with different labels showing what was to be thrown in them. A green label for general waste, a blue one for plastic bottles, and a red label for the HDPE plastic.



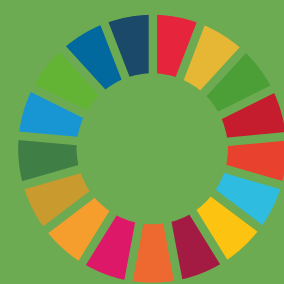
Waste to Education Ndirande Project

DUCE RE USE CYCLE

Our aims

Our aim is to promote recycling of plastics such as HDPE that can be turned into the desks for use in primary schools.

This is done through raising awareness of the ways we can recycle (for example, posters and recycled art) and the channels we can use to make more of an impact with our reused plastics.



THE GLOBAL GOALS

Our main focus for global goals is sdg number 14, however this also links to numbers 4, 12, 13, and 15. By trying to improve life below water through reducing pollution, we can simultaneously improve life on land and take steps towards climate action. The reuse of plastics prevents them from being burnt or ending up in a landfill, which promotes responsible consumption and production. As the plastic is used to make desks, this then encourages quality education.



What Knowledge and Skills did we learn?

Some of the knowledge we gained from this project includes learning more about the Global Goals. Over the course of the project as we did research we learned more about clean water and sanitation, quality education, conserving the environment, and the global goals as a whole. At first it was challenging to come up with ideas, but amidst the chaos our team found ourselves putting our heads together, researching topics, learning how to evaluate ideas, thinking of costs and considering external factors throughout the process. Before the project, some of us were oblivious to the struggle of the people who use the Mudi river domestically, and just how life threatening the water was, we also believed not much could be done with that waste and that it was up to the City Council to deal with that. But through the project we realised we too can make a significant impact in keeping the Mudi River clean and on the lives of others. Our social media team learned how to advertise being green, and Hannah and Amanda as Social Responsibility Prefects learned key leadership skills as they over saw all the events happening throughout the course of the project.





Impacts

The initiative aimed to educate the school about recycling and the impact of Mudi River pollution. It sparked discussions and motivated some students to take an interest in helping. Many students participated in recycling HDPE plastic, but collecting plastic bottles was less successful. There were challenges with reinforcing proper waste disposal practices, particularly with bin usage. The Jeopardy game and art competition aimed to promote discussion and creativity around environmental issues, though the game's success was limited. The art competition, which waived participation fees, successfully encouraged creative and sustainable recycling practices.



Funds and in-kind donations

The team did not receive any monetary donations, however, we did get a lot of support from other members of Ndirande. For the bake sale, we wanted to spend as little money as possible so we asked the other house members to bring in food to sell. The turnout was incredible, as we received a large amount of cakes, cookies and much more. We were also able to get graphics done for the bin signage for free.

Highlights

The social responsibility prefects led a successful assembly during Charity Week, informing and encouraging students. We enjoyed filming skits for the presentation and utilised recycled materials for posters. A bake sale fundraiser was highly successful, selling out at both stations that were set up. Younger team members promoted Charity Week with posters made from recycled materials such as newspapers and old card. A highlight was visiting an HDPE recycling plant, witnessing the process and its impact firsthand, inspiring the team to work even harder for the cause.

What were the outcomes?

Our accomplishments to date have exceeded our original goal of gathering fifty kilograms of plastic debris. We have successfully collected an impressive 223 kg of plastic thanks to the coordinated efforts of the Ndirande community, which makes a substantial contribution to environmental sustainability. Now, a revolutionary purpose will guide the repurposing of this significant amount of plastic. This gathered plastic will be cl recycled into 11 robust desks, each of which will serve as a symbol of our commitment to environmental preservation and community improvement.