

## PRODUCTIVE CITIES SEMINAR ON GREEN EMPLOYMENT

COMMITTEE ROOM 2, 6<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, PODIUM BLOCK, CIVIC CENTRE, CAPE TOWN

8 OCTOBER 2009

### Background to the Meeting

A green economy provides for both current and future generations. Expanding green industries can help South African cities reinforce a weakening economy by creating new jobs while also protecting the planet from the impending climate crisis. Green jobs are just like traditional, blue-collar jobs provided that the employee is producing something green. In essence, any job that helps protect the ecosystem and biodiversity, reduces water, energy, and material consumption, reduces carbon emissions, and minimizes waste generation can be considered a green-collar job.

While programmes and principles promoting green industries have become commonplace throughout more developed countries, it remains an unfamiliar idea in developing countries. As a leader in Africa, it is essential that South African cities promote ideas of sustainability. Luckily, sustainability generates jobs. Any and all green economic programmes adopted by South African cities would be incredibly innovative and laudable. In particular, cities should encourage job growth in the following sectors: agriculture, building and construction, energy, industry and manufacturing, transport, waste management and recycling.

### Objectives for the Seminar

- To illustrate the job growth potential of climate change solutions and green industries;
- To focus on the policies, public investments, and funding mechanisms needed to accelerate the growth of the green economy;
- To explore small actions cities can introduce to create green jobs; and
- To demonstrate opportunities for cities to introduce city-wide recycling programmes.

### Agenda

REGISTRATION AND TEA 09:30 –10:00		
10:00	Welcome and Introductions	Sithole Mbanga, <i>SACN</i>
10:15	Job Growth Potential in a Sustainable City	Guy Preston, <i>Working for Energy</i>
11:00	Policies of the Green Economy	Alexis Scholtz, <i>African Carbon Trust</i>
11:45	Tea	
12:00	Greening the City with Green Jobs	Errol Douwes, <i>eThekweni Municipality Environmental Management Department</i>
12:45	Introducing City-Wide Recycling	Mabule Mokhine, <i>Greenhouse Project</i>
13:30	Summary and Closure	Sithole Mbanga, <i>SACN</i>
LUNCH (14:00 – 15:00)		