



SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS THROUGH **SOCIAL EMPLOYMENT**

Case Study Report

AUGUST 2023 - MAY 2024



Table of Contents

Page 3: SEF project in pictures.

Page 4: Introduction

Page 5: Strategic Implementing Partners

Page 6: Social Employment Impact

Page 7: The Recruitment Process

Page 8: Social Employment Themes

Page 9: Number of participants breakdown

Page 10: Number of Participants per Site

Page 11: Progress Report per month.

Page 12: Settlement Profiles.

Page 13: Settlement Profiles.

Page 14: Settlement Profiles.

Page 15: Way Forward.

Page 16: Contact Details



SEF THEMES IN PICTURES



Introduction

Planact focuses on sustainable livelihood initiatives as one of its primary programmes. This initiative aims to connect marginalised communities with local economic opportunities, integrating them into government development schemes and private and public ventures to foster fair distribution of resources and opportunities.

The primary objective of the Social Employment Fund (SEF) project is to combat unemployment, especially among the youth, enhance skills, and effect positive community transformation through developmental interventions. The SEF project also aims to create work readiness and build experience for non-skilled workers.

Between August 2023 and May 2024, Planact, in collaboration with the Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa through the SEF, has facilitated the creation of 1000 job opportunities.

By partnering with key implementing organizations like 1 to 1 Agency of Engagement and the Community Organisation Resource Centre (CORC), Planact empowers residents to secure income while providing essential services tailored to local community requirements.

The SEF initiative aligns with the government's broader economic recovery strategy as part of the Presidential Employment Stimulus, utilizing public investment to bolster employment, mitigate Covid-19-induced job losses, and sustain livelihoods.





Strategic Implementing Partners: (from left) Hlengiwe Mbambo - Planact; Lucia Tjovitjo Participant; George Owira - CORC; Khashifa Chilwan - CORC; Mike Makwela - Planact; Jacqueline Cuyler - 1 to 1 Agency of Engagement.

Strategic Implementing Partners (SIPs) are candidates applying to the Social Employment Fund to execute projects within the social economy that contribute to social value and employment generation. Individuals engaged in these projects are employees recruited by SIPs.

Planact collaborates with SIPs like 1 to 1 Agency of Engagement and the Community Organisation Resource Centre (CORC) to offer residents opportunities for income generation through tailored essential services that cater to the specific needs of the local community. These partnerships enable Planact to extend its reach beyond its current partner communities, fostering sustainable solutions that positively impact the well-being and prosperity of residents.

By collaborating with 1to1 Agency of Engagement and CORC, Planact ensures that the target of a minimum of 1000 participants is reached within the quarter of implementation.



1to1 – Agency of Engagement is a non-profit social-enterprise that supports the forces that are positively & systemically shaping the way that Southern African cities are seen, made & managed towards a spatially just future.
<https://1to1.org.za/>



The Community Organisation Resource Centre (CORC) is an NPO that supports the social, strategic and administrative practices of FEDUP and ISN.
<https://sasdialliance.org.za/about-us/the-alliance/corc/>

The Social Employment Impact



Keep up the great work!

5 School Patrollers hired



Five participants have been permanently hired by the schools they working in as part of the safety and security theme in Wattville.

WATTVILLE
SAFETY AND
SECURITY

100%

of participants say this social employment project has improved their lives and skills.



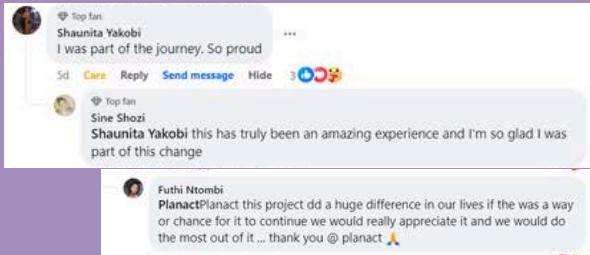
90%

of participants are **volunteering in community projects**

1 Participant Hired Permanently & Outstanding Audit for Mental Health Institution

Gauteng Central Mental Health Society (Gordonia Services) in Betrams has received outstanding audits since the SEF community wellness participants started.

The **safety and security** team together with the digital addressing team are now **partnering with the SAPS** to keep the community of Jampas informal settlement safe.



Sea Romeo Mabulana
The program did a lot of difference in our community. And the chance of being employed. Program's like this this we wish could be a permanent opportunity, thanks to Planact and all the best for the future to all of you.



Moleboheng Lindiwe Masiu
Honestly projects like this makes a huge impact into our communities and we are really grateful that it changed and helped many of our community members who were having problems(Gender Based Violence)ND managed to get help through this project we thank you 🙏🙏🙏

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100%

OF PARTICIPANTS WHO ALSO USE SOCIAL MEDIA WISH FOR THE SEF PROJECT TO CONTINUE.

The Recruitment Process



Several community volunteers who have collaborated with Planact for years are among the 1000 participants benefiting from the fund. The 1 to 1 Agency of Engagement and the Community Organisation Resource Centre, our partners in this initiative, are uniting to generate local opportunities. Participants are selected from established community connections through recruitment led by community leaders.

In some localities, participants were onboarded from our Asivikelane initiative which gives a voice to informal settlement residents in South Africa's major cities who face severe basic service shortages.

These participants are not only benefiting from the fund but also gaining invaluable skills and experiences that will empower them to make a positive impact within their communities. The collaboration between Planact, the 1 to 1 Agency of Engagement, and the Community Organisation Resource Centre is creating a ripple effect of positive change, as local opportunities are being generated and nurtured.

By involving community leaders in the recruitment process, we ensure that those selected are truly representative of the community and are passionate about driving meaningful change. The dedication and commitment of these volunteers is truly inspiring, and we are excited to see the long-lasting impact they will have on their communities.

Social Employment Project Themes

1 Food Security



- Urban farming (Vegetable gardening).
- The teams nurture the gardens.
- Harvest the vegetables.
- Distribute a portion to the underprivileged household & commercialise a portion of the harvest.

2 Enumeration



Participants compile data on settlements which includes:

- Number of households
- Community Facilities
- Schools and daycares
- Tarvens
- Shops

3 Community Safety and Gender Based Violence



- Work closely with police station and Community Policing Forums.
- Community Patrol.
- Manning school gates
- Support and information to GBV victims.
- Intervene in "mob justice" cases.

4 Community Wellness



Participants are caretakers for residents of a mental health institution, and home for elderly people.

5 Operations; Maintenance, Environmental Health



Maintaining community infrastructure including trees, dump sites, roads, toilets, taps and leaking water pipes.

6 Settlement Profiling



Settlement profiling participants capture the history and central point of settlements such as chemical toilets, pit toilets, Jojo Tanks, spazas, churches, schools, and dumping sites. They have profiled 3 settlements in the last 10 months.

7 Digital Addressing



Participants will be installing Google's Plus Codes digital addresses for each household. This theme aims to promote responsive living environments in informal settlements.

Number of Participants in Each Theme



Quick Fact

1000 jobs were created in **28** partner communities.

out of 1000

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS PER SITE

CITY OF JOHANNESBURG

*Unskilled
Participants
553

*Skilled
Participants
59

612
Participants

CITY OF EKURHULENI

331
Participants

Unskilled
Participants
301

Skilled
Participants
30

MIDVAAL

Unskilled
Participants
46

Skilled
Participants
3

49
Participants

* Unskilled participants are general participants in the SEF programme.

* Skilled participants are participants in the SEF programme with prior work experience in the theme . This group includes supervisors and team leaders.

- supervisors are skilled in the specific thematic area.
- team leaders are skilled in the administrative aspect of the work at locality level.

Progress Report per month

THE SEF PROJECT STARTED ON THE 1ST OF SEPTEMBER 2023



OCTOBER 2023 PARTICIPANT ONBOARDING

- All sites are operational but so not with all themes.
- Capturing of participants details and site visits at 97% completion.
- 884 participants paid on the payroll for the month of October.



DECEMBER 2023 PROJECT FULLY OPERATIONAL

- All sites and themes are fully operational.
- Some participants are finding other types of employment, this results in replacements.
- Supplying sites with PPE and working tools.
- Challenge in raising funds to get other food gardening fenced to prevent vandalism and theft of crops.



FEBRUARY 2024 TRAINING AND SUPPORT FOR DIFFERENT THEMES

- Community safety theme received training.
- We secured training for food security theme.
- We are establishing a working relationship with Rand Water to assist with water wise gardening.
- All our sites and themes are fully operational.



APRIL 2024 SITES AND THEMES FULLY OPERATIONAL

- 81 participants were trained for Digital addressing
- Communities are working hand in hand with the GBV and security teams to report matters to the police.
- 18 households in Wattville have established door-sized food gardens.
- About 11sqm new gardening space cleared in Wattville and Tjovitjo.
- Over 5347 households benefitted from the service done by the Ops and maintenance teams in different sites.



NOV 2023 PROJECT TAKING OFF

- 974 /1000 participants onboarded on the Kwantu system.
- All sites are operational but still not so with all themes.
- Almost all the sites received their working tools and PPE.
- Conflict resolution among participants.
- Finding replacements for participants who have found another type of employment



JANUARY 2024 SITE VISIT AND PROJECT EVALUATION

- Site visits to evaluate the project.
- Visits to City of Johannesburg localities completed.
- Currently managing 963 participants with 89,02% on biometrics.
- Training for community safety themes for February secured
- Consent granted for visuals taken on sites.
- Still looking for an additional donor to boost the project.

MARCH 2024 RECORDING SUCCESS



- We attained 93.38% for biometrics.
- Two (2) participants secured permanent jobs.
- Food gardening theme received training.
- All sites are still and themes are still fully operational.
- Administration challenges and participant replacements are dealt with on a case by case basis.

MAY 2024 PROJECT SUPPORT COMPLETION

- Participants are preparing to use other sustainability strategies to continue working as the SEF project supports comes to an end.

Settlement Profiles

Planact / ItoI / CORC

THEMBELIHLE, JOHANNESBURG

Thembelihle, an informal settlement founded in the early 1980s, is located in Lenasia, south of Johannesburg, with an estimated population of 10,000 residents.

Through a collaboration with Planact, the Social Employment Fund (SEF) project has provided employment for 189 individuals from the community. The SEF project in Thembelihle focuses on three main themes: Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Community Safety, and Operations and Maintenance.

The Gender-Based Violence (GBV) component of the SEF project in Thembelihle includes workshops and awareness campaigns aimed at educating the community about the importance of gender equality and respect for all individuals.

Community Safety initiatives in Thembelihle entail training community members on handling crime, missing persons, abuse and negligence cases. They collaborate closely with police stations and CPFs to address cases beyond their scope and intervene in instances of mob justice and conflict resolution. By equipping residents with these essential skills, the project aims to enhance the overall safety and well-being of the community and curbing crime.

The Operations and Maintenance focus area of the SEF project in Thembelihle involves training local residents in basic infrastructure maintenance and management. By developing a team of skilled individuals within the community, the project not only ensures the sustainability of its initiatives but also creates job opportunities and promotes economic empowerment among residents.

TJOVITJO, JOHANNESBURG

Tjovitjo, an informal settlement founded in 2017, situated in Orange Farm, South of Johannesburg.

Through a collaboration between the Social Employment Fund (SEF) and Planact, 81 participants from the community have been employed. The SEF initiative in Tjovitjo focuses on three key themes: Food Security, Community Safety, and Operations and Maintenance.

The employment of these 81 individuals marks a significant step towards empowering the community of Tjovitjo. The SEF's dedication to enhancing Food Security ensures that families have access to nutritious meals, promoting overall well-being. Community Safety measures implemented through this initiative create a secure environment for all residents, fostering a sense of unity and peace. Additionally, the Operations and Maintenance aspect highlights the sustainability of the project, ensuring its long-term success and benefits for the community.

SLOVO PARK, JOHANNESBURG

Slovo Park, an informal settlement situated west of the Johannesburg CBD, was founded in 1991 and is home to over 10,000 residents. Through a collaboration with Planact, the Social Employment Fund (SEF) project has employed and trained twenty-one individuals from the community to conduct Settlement Profiling and Solid Waste Management.

These individuals play a crucial role in understanding the needs and challenges within Slovo Park. By conducting Settlement Profiling, they gather valuable data on housing conditions, access to basic services, and infrastructure requirements. This information is essential for developing effective community development plans and advocating for necessary improvements.

Solid Waste Management practices they educate residents on proper waste disposal techniques, promote recycling initiatives, and work towards creating a cleaner and healthier environment for everyone in Slovo Park. This collaboration between Planact and the residents of Slovo Park not only empowers the participants with valuable skills but also fosters a sense of ownership and pride in their neighbourhood.

PROTEA SOUTH, JOHANNESBURG

Protea South, a township situated west of Johannesburg in Soweto, is home to a population of 50,000 residents. Under the Social Employment Fund project (SEF) in collaboration with Planact, Protea South has implemented one initiative.

This project has provided training and employment opportunities for five individuals from the community to conduct Settlement Profiling in the neighbouring informal settlements.

The team of five individuals trained in Settlement Profiling have been carefully gathering data on housing conditions, infrastructure, and community needs in the informal settlements nearby.

Settlement Profiles

Planact / ItoI / CORC

LAKEVIEW, JOHANNESBURG

Lakeview, an informal settlement situated in Lawley to the south of Johannesburg, is home to a population of 25,000 residents. Through the Social Employment Fund project in collaboration with Planact, five individuals have been trained and hired to conduct Settlement Profiling within their community and neighbouring informal settlements.

The team of five individuals trained through the Social Employment Fund initiative embarked on their mission to conduct Settlement Profiling in Lakeview and the surrounding informal settlements. Equipped with knowledge, skills, and a passion to make a difference, they set out to engage with the community members and document vital information about the living conditions, infrastructure, and challenges faced by the residents.

KLIPTOWN, JOHANNESBURG

Established in 1903, Kliptown is the oldest urban settlement in the Johannesburg area that was created to be inclusive of all races, with a population of around 19,216 residents. Through Planact's support, the Social Employment Fund project successfully hired 21 community members to join the Solid Waste and Settlement Profiling team.

These new team members quickly integrated into the project, bringing fresh perspectives and energy to their roles. Their dedication and hard work helped improve waste management practices in Kliptown, making a positive impact on the community's environment and overall well-being. As they collaborated with existing team members, they also exchanged ideas and experiences, fostering a sense of unity and camaraderie among the group.

The success of the Social Employment Fund project in Kliptown serves as a shining example of how grassroots initiatives can create meaningful change and empower local communities for a brighter, more sustainable future.

MOERA PARK, JOHANNESBURG

With an estimated population of 1000 residence, Moera Park is an informal settlement located in the south of Johannesburg.

The Social Employment Fund in partnership with Planact has employed thirty-four participants from the community to be part of the two themes which are Enumeration and Solid Waste.

These community members play a crucial role in improving living conditions within Moera Park informal settlement. Through the Enumeration project, they are working to accurately document and map out the settlement, which will help in identifying key areas for development and resource allocation. This information is vital for urban planning and ensuring that residents have access to basic services and infrastructure.

In addition, the Solid Waste management team is focused on implementing sustainable waste management practices within the settlement. By raising awareness about the importance of proper waste disposal and recycling, they are helping to create a cleaner and healthier environment for all residents. Through their efforts, they are not only addressing immediate environmental concerns but also promoting a sense of community pride and responsibility.

IVORY PARK, JOHANNESBURG

Ivory Park informal settlement is one of the 48 informal settlements in Ivory Park, with a population of 22,400 since its establishment. Through the Social Employment Fund (SEF) in collaboration with Planact, twenty-four individuals from the community have been employed in two focus areas: Community Safety and Operations and Maintenance.

The employment of individuals from the Ivory Park informal settlement in the Community Safety and Operations and Maintenance sectors is a positive step towards improving the livelihoods of the community members. These initiatives not only provide much-needed employment opportunities but also contribute to enhancing the overall well-being of the residents.

By collaborating with organizations like Planact, the community can work towards creating a safer and more sustainable environment for all its inhabitants. It is heartening to see the efforts being made to uplift and empower the residents of Ivory Park, and with continued support and initiatives, the future looks brighter for this vibrant community.

Settlement Profiles

Planact / Ito1 / CORC

BARCELONA, CITY OF EKURHULENI

Barcelona, a town located in the northeast of Johannesburg near the Dayvito Township, has a population of 4000. With the joint efforts of Planact and the Social Employment Fund, five community members have been chosen to join the profiling team. These five individuals, coming from diverse backgrounds, bring a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to the profiling team. Each member is dedicated to making a positive impact on the Barcelona community, aiming to improve the quality of life for all residents.

Through their partnership with Planact and the Social Employment Fund, they strive to implement sustainable solutions that address the town's population needs and aspirations. Together, they embody unity and progress, working together to build a better future for Barcelona and its occupants.

BERTRAMS, INNER CITY JOHANNESBURG

Bertrams is one of the oldest suburbs in Johannesburg. Its origins trace back to one of the original farms on the Witwatersrand, where a portion of land was separated from the Doornfontein farm. On 16 August 1889, it was officially established as a suburb under the name Bertramstown after being bought by real estate developer Robertson Fuller Bertrams.

Around the 1930s, Bertrams was home to a racially diverse working-class community. It is during this period that black residents from Bertrams were among the first group to be relocated to Orlando.

Present day Bertrams has an estimated population of 3000 and is under the ownership of the City of Johannesburg.

Unemployment is particularly high in this area, but with the efforts of the Social Employment Fund (SEF) in collaboration with Planact, 76x residents have been employed as participants in the following themes; Food security, Health and Education, Operations and Maintenance and Recycling.

The Food security program focuses on establishing community gardens and teaching sustainable farming techniques to ensure a stable food supply for residents.

The Operations and Maintenance team is dedicated to carrying out various tasks such as repairing infrastructure, maintaining green spaces, and responding to maintenance requests.

The recycling theme is promotes eco-friendly practices within the neighbourhood and they reduce pollution and promote environmental sustainability.

GOOD HOPE, CITY OF EKURHULENI

Good Hope Informal Settlement is one of the informal settlements within the mining belt group. Located in Germiston, Good Hope has an approximate population of 7500. Thanks to the joint initiatives of the Social Employment Fund and Planact, five individuals have been hired in the Settlement Profiling team.

Together, these five individuals are working diligently to conduct thorough research and profiling of the Good Hope Informal Settlement. Their efforts aim to gather valuable data on the community's needs, challenges, and strong points. Through this initiative, they hope to empower the residents of Good Hope by providing accurate information that can lead to targeted development projects and improved living conditions.

As they continue their work, the Settlement Profiling team make every effort to create a comprehensive profile that captures the essence of Good Hope.

JUMPERS, INNER CITY JOHANNESBURG

Jumpers is an informal settlement located in between industrial buildings in Cleveland Johannesburg, towards the east of the CBD. The settlement is named after the Jumpers Deep Gold Mine, which was established in 1898 and operated until 1913, and is the location of the settlement.

The settlement has an estimated population of 5000. The collaboration between the Social Employment Fund and Planact has not only provided employment opportunities but has also empowered individuals to contribute to the betterment of their neighbourhood. Through the various themes of Community Safety, Operations and Maintenance, and Digital mapping, twenty people have been employed from the community.

Community Safety initiatives are fostering a sense of security among residents, promoting unity and vigilance. Operations and Maintenance projects are ensuring that the settlement's infrastructure is well-maintained, creating a more liveable environment for all. The innovative use of Digital mapping is not only aiding in urban planning but also enabling the community to harness technology for their benefit.

MORE PARTNER COMMUNITIES WILL BE PROFILED IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THIS CASE STUDY

WAY FORWARD



Planact continues to partner with 1 to 1 Agency of Engagement and the Community Organisation Resource Centre in preparation for the next round of the Social Employment Funding.

Together, these organisations aim to develop comprehensive strategies that will maximise community benefits and address pressing socio-economic challenges.

By pooling their resources and expertise, these organisations are committed to fostering sustainable employment opportunities and enhancing the quality of life for local residents.

Their collaborative efforts include training programs, capacity-building workshops, and innovative projects that empower individuals and strengthen community resilience. Planact and its partners remain dedicated to creating an inclusive and supportive environment where everyone has the chance to thrive.



Planact aims to collaborate with additional organisations to enhance the program's sustainability and longevity beyond the social employment fund period.

By forming strategic partnerships, Planact envisions creating a robust support network that not only provides immediate aid but also fosters long-term community development. These collaborations will focus on diversifying funding sources, sharing best practices, and integrating innovative solutions to address the unique challenges faced by the communities they serve.

Furthermore, Planact is committed to continuous learning and adaptation. Regular feedback loops with beneficiaries and partners will ensure the program remains responsive and effective.

Workshops, training sessions, and knowledge exchange forums will be established to empower local leaders and participants, equipping them with the skills and resources needed to maintain and expand the program's impact.

As Planact moves forward, the emphasis will be on building resilient communities that can thrive independently, with a strong foundation of support and shared goals. The ultimate aim is to create a sustainable model that can be replicated and scaled, bringing lasting positive change to even more partner communities.



CONTACT US

Email:

info@planact.org.za

Social media:

[@planact_ngo](https://www.instagram.com/planact_ngo)

Call us:

011 403 6291

071 938 0577