

DURBAN SINGS

RECORDING AND REMIXING ORAL HISTORY
FOR A GLOBAL AUDIENCE



2011 First Quarter Narrative Report of the: Durban Sings! Project:
From Jo'burg to the Globe: Consolidating an Online Archive & Joining Alternative
Community Media Networks- a reflection.

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Overall Project Objectives:

Conceptually:

Durban Sings! Oral History and Audio Media project is a creative community-orientated re-assessment of audio radio tools and methods of broadcasting in/for the 'information society' spread across eight communities in Durban KZN; with an interest in evaluating the following concerns: how do post-colonial histories and stories sediment into everyday language? How do they shape or mark communication desires needs and practices of various forms and types of communities?

- The project has the following aims:

- bridging ICT gap between North and South, lack of IT resources, training and access
- bringing together divided and isolated communities in SA due to Apartheid legacy
- revealing peripheral oral histories and memories of ordinary South Africans
- contributing to the growing sources of indigenous knowledge systems and methods
- initiating new outlets and networks in support of creative endeavors and youth initiatives in disadvantaged communities
- finding and reinforcing opportunities for a creative use of media and ICTs at community level by developing links between local and global activist networks

Practically: Durban Sings! Is a mobile radio 'street' research and broadcasting training based on the NGZ project's audio tools and strategies for circles of participants intended to link in networks of active listeners (i.e. 'radio communities' and alternative media producers) which would expand also geographically in the outlined trajectory of the project:

- a. In and around Durban townships and communities (initially with community groups loosely linked to the Centre for Civil Society at the University of KwaZulu Natal).
- b. In and around Johannesburg and Soweto (with the RASAFm collective, the Keleketla Library & affiliated groups and interested community media and cultural entities around Gauteng province).
- c. In between 'active listeners' in Durban, Johannesburg, Soweto, new listeners of the on-line, on-air and off-line broadcasts and across the channels and networks of 'radio communities' already established by RASAFm and the NGZ project via the open call for contributions: "Remixing African Oral History for a Global Audience"
- d. On the way across hemispheres and on-air from the WDR studio in Cologne (initially with groups of participating listeners in the studio from local community groups) as the celebratory launch of a "listening bridge".

Overall:

A study of collective ('public') radio projects in Southern Africa; their interactive practices, activist and activating possibilities for civil society, locally, across African countries, and globally; towards identifying and developing suitable channels and platforms of productive exchange between radio initiatives; towards a "listening bridge" between productive listeners and audio activists across the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.

At this stage our audio media activist initiative will require the creative collaboration with software designers and web-developers to identify and develop in correspondence with the producers a suitable peer-to-peer exchange on-line platform for its future journey.

Team: The team grows and continues to take form with the current and future development of the project's activities from inception to its present and future forms, which will be shaped by all its diverse contributors:

Durban community of producers includes:

www.durbansings.wordpress.com

Clermont: Ubuntu Babasha: Theminkosi Daemane, Malaodi Sekake, Mpumelelo Kwini, Zandile Ngidi, Sibusiso Mazibuko <http://www.ubuntubabasha.wordpress.com>

Folweni Township: Imizebenzi Yentsha: Thulile Zama, Ayanda Mthembu, Zinhle Ndaba, Malusi Mkhwanazi, Sanele Langa, Nkosi Zama, Phumelele Dhlomo
<http://www.imisebenziyentsha.wordpress.com>

Marianridge: Marian Coordinating Committee: Jenny Boyce, Beverly Webster, Linda Dupreez, Kathy Boyce, Charleen Bridger, Lucy Kok
<http://www.mariannridge.wordpress.com>

Mzinyathi: Malungisa Youth Development: Bongisipho Phewa, Mthokozisi Ngcobo, Zine Ngcobo, Sphelele Phewa <http://www.malungisa.wordpress.com>

Inanda Newtown A: Youth in Action: Nhlanhla Mkhonza, Nkosinathi Buwa, Ndumiso Sondezi, Maswazi Mkhonza, Bomgani Mzaka, Nqobile Kunene, Vukani Mahiaba
<http://www.inanda.wordpress.com>

Inanda Newtown A: Abasha: Phindilie Xulu, Nokulunga Mthethwa, Ayanda Sokele, Nosipho Maphumulo, Nkosinathi Xulu <http://www.abasha2009.wordpress.com>

Inner City: UKZN Refugee Council: Mambo Mukambilwa, Oliver Babingwa, Mustafa, Faustin, Stephen, Jean Claude <http://www.communitymediadesk.wordpress.com>

Umlazi (G section): Umlazi Youth Organisation: Cyril Linda Vezi, Sandile Desmond Sekeleni, Nokubonga ka Seme <http://www.youthumlazi.wordpress.com>

Centre for Civil Society:

Dennis Brutus, Faith Ka Manzi, Mavuso Dingane, John Devenish, Claudia Wegener (radio continental drift) and Molefi Mafereka Ndlovu (motho), Philisa Zibi (bhungane). www.ukzn.ac.za/ccs

Betsie Greyling: eThekweni Municipality's Ulwazi Indigenous Knowledge Project.

Johannesburg community of producers approached by Durban Sings includes:

The initial consultation meeting with future Johannesburg collaborators and contributors took place on the 17th October 2008 in Mbabane in Swaziland

occasioned by the Southern African Social Forum. Planning and collaboration has continued since then core reference group includes:

Rasa FM: Thapelo Mokoto, Nompumelelo Magwaza, Gab, China, Ayanda, ManHlokes, Trevor Ngwane and Thabo Martiens

Imbaula Trust: Sibongile Khumalo,

Indymedia (Jhb): Silumko Radebe & Prishani Niadoo, Ahmed Virieva & Nicholas Dielteins

Fire on the Mountain: Sputla & Tolo

Landless People's Movement: Comrade Zulu

Anti-Privatisation Forum (Gauteng): Comrade Windy

Social Movements Indaba: (Cape Town).

Further collaborating and potential contributing Johannesburg organisations and institutions Include:

The MarketPhotoWorkshop: John Fleetwood

Digital Arts at Wits University: Professor Christo Doherty

Keleketla Library/ Drill Hall: Rangoato Hlasane

Hector Perteson Memorial/ Johannesburg Art Gallery: Khwezi Gule

Rosa Luxemburg Foundation: Jos Martens

Foundation for Human Rights: Andile Mxijama

Goethe Institute: South Africa: Frl Ulla Wester

Khanya College: Nicholas Dielteins

University of Johannesburg: Trevor Hudson Memorial Centre: Frl- Katrina Fink.

Detailed list of RLS-sponsored activities scheduled for 2011;

Period	Activity	Projected Outcomes	Output	Items
Indicator:	Publication-of Outputs			
Dec. 2010 January 2011	Prepare manuscript outlining content of "Media Activist Handbook" & detailing-key findings of the Durban Sings! Oral History Project	To analyze & compare data archives, draw out key findings & evaluate key lessons learned. - To prepare final draft manuscript, prepare for publication & approach publishers. - To represent the content, tools and methodology developed in the project in a public viewing activity and through an accessible hands-on text - To complement the on-line/ off-line relation of media and cultural activist practice developed in the project	-Final-draft manuscript; "Media Activist Handbook" "Media Activist Handbook" (ed.of1000)plus -free-download on-line	Data analysis and off-line editorial and organizing-the DURBANSING S audio archive Printing manuscript Final-editorial-and development-DURBAN-SINGS! text publication Design of Handbook Reproduction (1 st edition of

<p>March- June 2011</p>	<p>e& writing as a user-friendly text-based medium.</p> <p>editorial and- post- production off-line audiences to copy the tools and methodology of "Media-Activist Handbook" of DURBAN SINGS for community and media development.</p> <hr/> <p>Connecting Producer Networks Durban-JHB-Globe.</p> <p>One-week performative -audio media-&oral-history workshop. With 5 members of DURBAN SINGS!-editorial-collectives and poet/activists of theFanPal Project hosted by at Keleketla Library in the inner city of Joburg involving also the JAG -Artbus' (tbc)</p>	<p>as a user-friendly text-based medium.</p> <p>- to encourage and equip off-line audiences to copy the tools and methodology of DURBAN SINGS for community and media development.</p> <hr/> <p>To extend & strengthen networks of producers which the project has already initiated in a direct and productive workshop and participatory training format. To include members of the DURBAN SINGS! Collectives in an immediate form of publishing the work and passing-on their experience to other media initiatives in other parts of the country and the global village.</p> <p>To launch and distribute the hard-copy DVD publication DURBANSINGS! Remixing African Oral History for a global audience. Vol: 1.</p> <p>The Public-Launch of the walk-in-installation-of- "Media-Activist Handbook" & entire DS! Archive for public listening & viewing in JHB(JAG/ Drill-Hal-Gallery/GOETHEON MAIN) Durban :(UKZN/DurbanArtGallery) (tbc)</p>	<p>500)</p> <hr/> <p>Participatory Workshop, presentation and walk-in-audio media environment based-resources& methods developed through DURBANSIN GS! Project</p> <hr/> <p>Travel-Durban/Joburg-Stipend Accommodation Car hire KeleketlaLibrary (service bills) Material/documentation Equipment hire Hospitality Coordination& facilitation-of DURBANSIN GS! Presence-JHB- Durban events.</p>
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launch of
DURBAN
SINGS
publication
in special
Wolpe
Lecture
event.

	Project Conclusion			
July- Dec 2011-	Project conclusion & financial reconciliation and final-funding narrative-reporting, seminar presentations, conference participation. Hand-over' process-project resources-to participant groups.	Align-institutional and organizational-reporting-&-review processes. To-offer-practical options for moving the work forward.	Financial statements, account settling & filed-project narrative-reports & summaries.	Contingencies UKZN Administrative overheads surcharge @ 10%

Track IV: 2011. Durban Sings & RASAFm lives! - From Joburg to the Globe:

Objectives and indicators related to output

Building listening bridges: consolidating online content and building offline tools.

The project has reached critical phase where the various outcomes and outputs of the project activities are being concluded and aligned in order to conclude the Durban Sings! Project. The phase involves a process of tailor-making the media and communication tools and methods in a manner that will allow maximum access to the shared products of this

participatory research concerns for individual groups as well the broad collective and the supportive public whose energy has brought life to the initiative.

We undertake this individual by assessment, reflections and evaluation of current facilities, particular needs and desires of participating groups. There is general awareness that a workable balance has to be reached in order to link online and offline tools and products so as to fine-tune these to given local circumstances, while at once also opening a view on the horizon of other additional means and options for future developments.

There are four main ways the project seeks to do this; to be discussed in deeper detail in reflection section below:

1. Finalize and distribute the *DURBANSINGS! Remixing African Oral History for a global audience. Vol: 1* DVD publication with audio outputs and interactive presentation of the project activities.
2. Host a public discussion and presentation of project activities and methods to a wider circuit of audiences and producers in order to raise the levels of public engagement and debate on the prospects of the participatory media approaches adopted in project activities.
3. Strengthening and building on the active grassroots media networks that have been created through out the project activities. Pursuing alternative community media initiatives that would put to action the skills and resources generated during the Durban Sings! Initiative in the day to day organizing activities of participating groups.
4. Reaching out to new potentials and partnerships in other community groups as well as institutional partners in the area of community history and archive depositories development.

Project Indicators December 2010- June 2011

Indicator 1: Production and Distribution:

Currently, project activities are focused on small-scale production and local distribution of DVD publication, reviewing and evaluating participant groups' efforts in the use and maintenance of their dedicated web blog which was used to host local archives of uploaded audio files, to ascertain whether this tool is of any use for the continued local organizing and community building activities of individual participant groups.

The common blog for Durban Sings: <http://www.durbansings.wordpress.com> has been updated, to date we have received 12,103 hits from interested readers and those searching for public archives of local histories of Durban; we are in the process of archiving all data on this site and a new blog inter-phase has been applied in order to better organize the presentation of the content and allow for easier navigation; the blog still functions as a 'switchboard' to the different parts of the archive for on-line listeners and facilitates communication between all the participants towards a shared creative goal of producing the interactive DVD publication.

The healthy levels of interest have the effect of increasing the distribution of project outputs to wider audiences and listener communities.

Secondary effects:

*An important secondary effect that has emerged since the commencement of the Durban Sings! Project is the **Qwasha! Portal & Online Archive for Community Digital Content.***

An online public archive of community media productions, stories and activities. This initiative is addressing the need to increase the use of Information technology tools (ICT's) and related social media platforms to facilitate and amplify citizen voices and grassroots exchange, dialogue, and collaboration at local, regional, continental and global scale in all spheres of public life. The hope is that; by putting effort into a more organized public action archiving practice in community based development initiatives within the eThekweni Metropolitan Area (EMA), presenting and archiving community based initiatives and communication among members of one community and between other communities in EMA; this will create more opportunities for shared action to improve the lives of all

The Qwasha initiative has a regional, continental and global orientation, however, the initial situation and area of operation of the proposed project will be on the eThekweni Metropolitan Area (EMA) and various communities who are geographically located within its boundaries.

The project is anticipated to begin operations from September 2011- September 2012 and will be a partnership between the Centre for Civil Society and the Goethe Institute (a German Cultural Foundation-with offices in Johannesburg)

Indicator 2: Editorial Collectives:

Another opportunity for a listening exchange across the diverse groups involved will also be provided by the contextual framework of Durban Sings as a local exchange of songs and story-telling. The common blog <http://www.durbansings.wordpress.com> has served as a shared and public archive for a wider 'global' audience and for the communities themselves. It has helped collect, develop and produce the final Durban Sings DVD, which is a presentation of a selection of songs and stories in off-line format and as visible product. Such a common and communal production process has provided the opportunity for exchange and sharing between the different groups: each community/group had production teams of their local audio archive would send a representative with a pre-selected play-list of local audio production to a joint editing meeting where the selection of tracks for the DVD would be finalized. On-line and off-line presentations could - in a long term perspective - develop the form of a journal-like appearance with periodical publications and via the individual audio collections of local radio DJs.

Secondary effects:

DURBAN SINGS! Audio reports, songs and stories for the Johannesburg producers

A one-week workshop aimed at sharing, exploring and providing participants with tools, methods, background material and information to become active in the fields of audio radio/ community media and oral history archiving procedures. We wanted to practice, discuss and develop together and for your various groups and areas how they can actively adopt the methods and applications developed by the **DURBAN SINGS** project; and through this process develop a working audio media collective for Johannesburg.

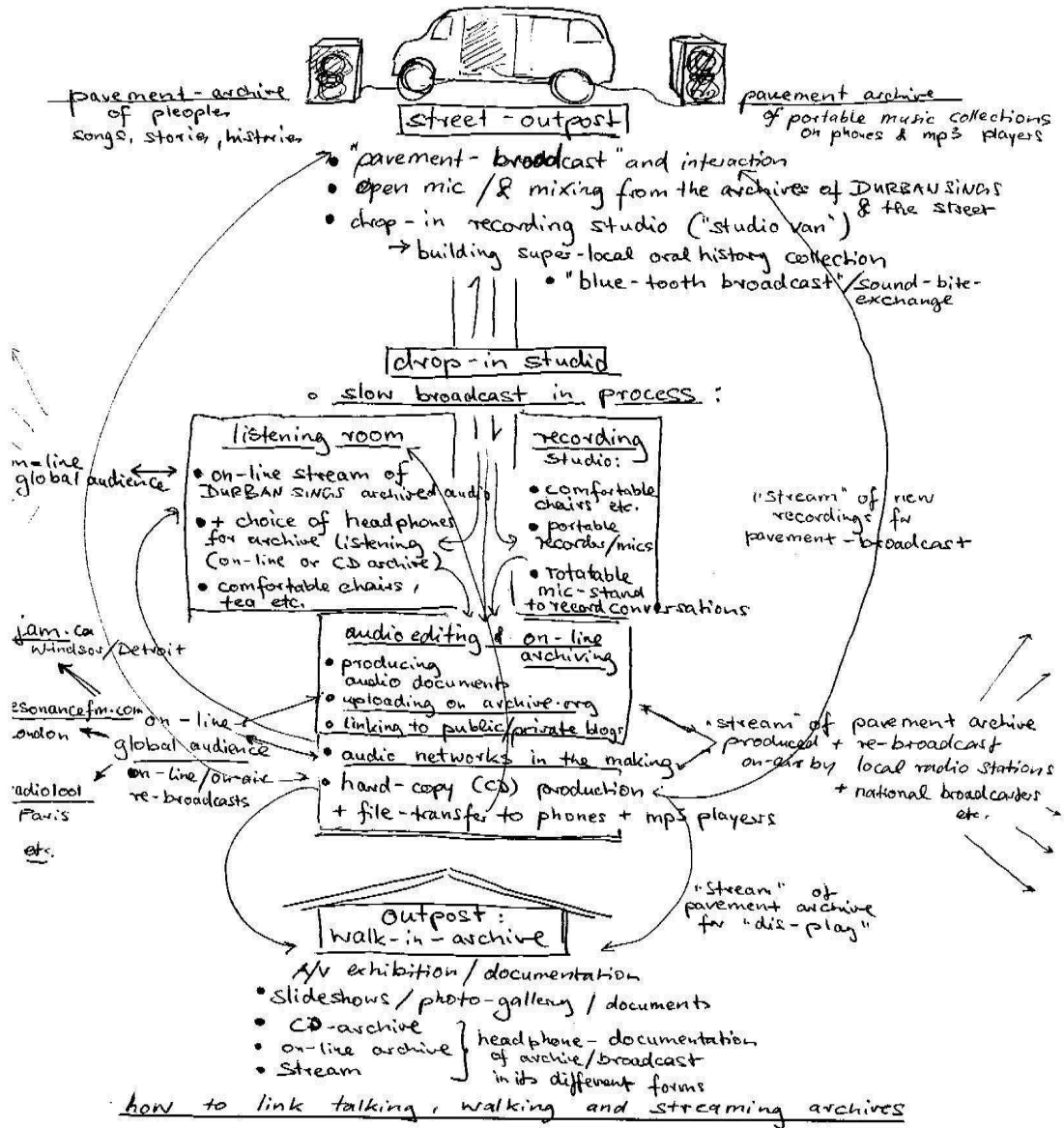
The activity will take the form of a dramatic walk-in audio media and oral history environment traveling with its producers from Durban to Johannesburg to extend and strengthen the network of producers the project has initiated.

A participatory audio media and oral history environment including:

- ✓ **listening room and exhibition (documentation of 'slow broadcast' and oral history tools in process)**
- ✓ **All parts of the environment facilitated by DURBAN SINGS producers (Bongisipho Phewa, Sandile Sekeleni, Molefi Ndlovu, Phndile Xulu & Molaudi Sekake.)**
- ✓ **on-line broadcast involving international participants and stations**
- ✓ **"pavement-broadcast"**

DURBAN SINGS

a dramatic walk-in installation of its tools and methods



Trajectory of the project:

- (audio) portray the diversity of people and communities active in cultural production and music through a variety of songs, views, issues, stories and audio reports
- Making another 'image/sound' of Johannesburg to be heard ("a living counter history") via an open on-line audio archive and a DVD publication collectively produced and edited by all the participants.

Aiming at:

- Developing and articulating particular take on audio media productions that allow for citizen based productions and archiving activity within the interested members of forum and participant groups.
- To initiate an audio production team and editing collective that could be based in Johannesburg and surrounding areas. (A preliminary group drawing from activists from Keleketla library, RASAFm, So-fire Town Collective, Imbaula Trust, Khanya College and JHB- Indymedia have expressed an interest in taking this work forward)
- Making use of the procedures of the DURBAN SINGS project to develop ways to organise and maintain media collectives in a horizontal and participatory manner in / for a group of producers.
- Developing links and networks with other alternative media initiatives within Johannesburg, Durban, Cape Town, the continent and the globe to facilitate cultural exchange and dialogue.
- Additionally to the on-line and off-line audio publications, we also want to gather the experiences of community media production gained through this process in the release of an audio media activist DVD application, to which all participants are also invite to contribute below is a prospective outline for the week's activities:

This is in line with the project aim of building on-going links to community media initiatives and groups in Johannesburg, around South Africa and throughout Africa and the globe including collectives in Arusha, Tanzania (United African Alliance Community Center), Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Kenya (WAPI, Ghetto Radio, Oukoo Fulani Mau Mau) , Malawi, Uganda (Center for Basic Research), Ethiopia (Tigray Youth Association) Rwanda, Lesotho (The National University of Lesotho), Swaziland (Frontline Artists of Swaziland), Sierra Leon, Brazil, USA (Indymedia New York, Scribe, Malcom X Grassroots Movement, Germany(WDR), Canada(University of Windsor), and South Korea (Korea Democracy Foundation).

Indicator 3: Connecting Producer Networks: Durban-JHB-Globe.

This part of the project moves from organizational development for local micro-media hubs, on-line distribution and network development through global 'call-for-response' ("Remixing African Oral History for a Global Audience") to a public audio media/ oral history and street theatre workshop in Johannesburg (Keleketla Library) launching the final hard-cover publication and preparing for a global audio media intervention to tour across the geographic North to contribute to the process of launching an on-line global platform for on-going peer-to-peer media activist exchange and mutual collaboration.

This objective is realized through a ***One-week performative-audio media hub installation and oral-history training workshop***. With up to 5 members of DURBAN SINGS!-editorial-collective members and poets/ activists of theFanPal Project hosted by at Keleketla Library in the inner city of Joburg involving also the Trevor Huddleson Museum based in Sophia Town

To-extend-&strengthen networks of producers which the project has already initiated in a direct and productive workshop format.& to include members of the DURBAN SINGS collectives in an immediate form of publishing the work and passing on their experience.

The Public-Launch of the walk-in-installation-of- "**Media-Activist Handbook**" and the entire online and offline **DS! Archive** for public listening & viewing in creative collaboration with artists and media producers from JHB through the Johannesburg Art Gallery (JAG)/ Drill-Hall-Gallery, Durban :(UKZN)

In coming online links and networks July 2010-June 2011 include the following:

- **DURBAN SINGS! Remixing African Oral History for a global audience. Vol: 1. DVD publication.** (Final edition to be released August 18 2011)
- A short video clip consisting of a/v remix from the Durban Sings! archive was produced on this youtube page:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtU5t2kUM8g>
- **Durban sings! Workshop with Jozi Producers** program can be accessed on this link:
<http://ccs.ukzn.ac.za/default.asp?11,62> photo slides of the event are also posted here:
<http://www.facebook.com/media/set/fbx/?set=a.191863864183279.34811.175816109121388>
- **A Call for response** was publicized widely in the IMC Africa initiative a link to the site can be found here: <http://imc-africa.mayfirst.org/aggregator/sources/4>
- **Durban Sings!** Producers were invited to present at the KZN Music Imbizo planned for August 2011 in Durban a feature of the project was publicized here:
http://kzn-musicimbizo.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=53%3Adurban-sings-radio-mix-&catid=1%3Alatest-news&lang=en
- An exciting new collaboration with newly launched radio Durban is underway, a feature of the Durban Sings! Project can be found on this link:
<http://radiodurban.com/>
- A positive review of the Durban Sings! project was featured by Julie Drizin for The Association of Independents in Radio, Inc, (AIR), public radio's vibrant social and professional network of reporters, producers, and sound artists blogs here about Makers Quest 2.0 (MQ2) and other inventive projects and producers that are driving the evolution of public media, new journalism, and fresh approaches to craft read more here: <http://www.mq2.org/durban-sings-africa-remixed>
- A Yahoo! Music page has been created for the Durban Sings project for easier navigation and listening to the archive that is online, it can be accessed here:
<http://new.music.yahoo.com/durban-sings/>
- Durban Sings! Helping ordinary people find their voices. Innovations in Local Sustainability: Good Practice from EThekweni. Published by the Corporate Policy Unit; Written by: Fezile Njokweni and Amanda Dray. EThekweni Municipality, Durban, South Africa; First Edition, Copyright © eThekweni Municipality 2010.
- DURBAN SINGS rough radio mix (13:33) <http://www.gruenrekorder.de>
- AFRICA; SOUTH AFRICA; DURBAN SINGS! Volume 38, No 1 (2010), Issue 1: "POWER AND PROTEST", **Oral History Journal**, **Oral History**, and Oral History Society. **The British Library, London.**

Through its wide-spread on-line presence, its local Editorial Collectives, multiple producers and collective approach, through national and international re-broadcasts and contributions, DURBAN SINGS continues to spread a message that 'grass-roots media' is alive, achievable and can thrive in former disadvantaged communities in SA and around the world. www.durbansings.wordpress.com

Key Lessons learned:

An important critical observation of the first phase (Pilot) is that the timeframe was tight and the pressure on local producers and facilitators was very high. There was little time to review and consolidate the learning on all sides. For a solid foundation of the local audio media and oral history work to be established, it proved to be necessary to move on slower than predicted so that the local media-hubs are still to be considered in their 'infancy' as far as media production and output are concerned; distribution and networking are still 'close-range' and 'patchy'.

For example a workable balance and linking of on-line and off-line tools and products needs to be fine-tuned to given local circumstances, while at once also opening a view on the horizon of other additional means and options for future developments.

A reflection of output distribution and a practical understanding of 'broadcast research' remains to be addressed together with and for each of the editorial collectives involved. Preliminary efforts aimed at, linking the project and its activities beyond the local is gradually taking place, through contacts such as with the Ulwazi Indigenous Knowledge Project hosted by Ethekewini library services; Keleketla Library in Johannesburg or Cjam radio in Canada and the Sinomlando Oral History Centre based in Pietermaritzburg; these contacts continue to be fruitful and productive. The local IT situation in the communities remains extremely minimal, needs maintenance and updates.

As the project moves forward to Phase 2 (Incubator phase). A thorough analysis and aggregation of data archives and other sound outputs of the entire Durban Sings oral interview archive of the project that was generated in the pilot stages will be undertaken. This will involve a process of tailor-making the media and communication tools and methods jointly with the individual groups by assessing and reflecting their current facilities, particular needs and desires.

Moving forward beyond a facilitated stage of the project, the above described online platform for direct peer-to-peer exchange will require close creative collaboration with software- and web-developers to identify and establish a suitable framework. Such contributors still need to be found.

Achievements thus far:

- pioneering audio media and oral history methods in community development
- pioneering collective 'slow broadcast' methods as a challenging alternative to existing media standards based on audiences that can make their own media
- Training and equipping young people of 'under-resourced' communities through a collective production inspiring them to make advances by relying on their own creativity

- creatively engineering platforms of exchange and communication systems through which communities 'at the peripheries' can network and organize themselves and make their voices heard
- Promoting and practicing resource and knowledge sharing between community organizations and wider academia.
- promoting and amplifying another, more open and participatory media through a collective work with multiple producers and international contributors based on creative commons, share alike and open source understanding of ICT use

Evaluation of project findings.

As Durban Sings! Project cycle comes to an end; active efforts have been made to link the Durban producer network with alternative media platforms such as the Independent Media Center: Indymedia was dedicated to providing "real-time" information to readers as part of a larger anti-capitalist movement had several major consequences regarding its relationship to traditional journalism, the relaying of specific information from "newsworthy" events immediately brought Indymedia into a closer relationship with journalistic activity. Second, Indymedia was grounded in a radical critique of the corporate press. IMC journalism is more directly linkable to the tradition of "alternative media" and "alt. journalism" that has existed for hundreds of years, ever since the start of journalism itself.

The Durban Sings! Project sent three representatives to participate in the alternative media activities at the World Social Forum in Dakar Senegal from the 2nd to 15th February 2011. We were representing the South Africa collective of the IMC convergence Centre aimed at building an Africa wide platform for alternative media and citizen based media production. The Independent Media Center is a network of collectively run media outlets for the creation of radical, accurate, and passionate revealing of marginal critical voices of truth and justice:

<http://www.indymedia.org/en/static/about.shtml>.

IMC-Africa is a working group of Media Activists from Africa and the rest of the world, engaged since 2003 in the promotion of independent media in Africa. Projects of IMC Africa involved a conference in Dakar, Senegal to the theme of media in Africa, the promotion and assistance of various African IMC's and two further events where IMCA facilitated the creation of Independent Media Centres at the WSF in Bamako, Mali, 2006 and in Nairobi, Kenya 2007. Following from the recent success of the IMC-Africa convergence center which was organized; activists and practitioners agreed that there was a need to further consolidate the work achieved and create a shared vision about how the network will relate hence-forth. The occasion of the UN Conference of Parties 17 on Climate change planned for Nov 28- Dec 09 2011 in Durban South Africa, offers the opportunity for such an Africa wide consolidation to occur.

The local IT situation in the communities remains extremely minimal, needs maintenance and updates. The project has moved forward to Phase 2 (Incubator phase). In this stage of project activities; focus has been directed at making a thorough analysis and aggregation of data archives and other audio visual outputs of the entire Durban Sings oral interview archive that was generated in the pilot stages. This has involved a process of tailor-making the media and communication tools and methods jointly with the individual groups by assessing and reflecting their current facilities, particular needs and desires. The extensive archive of recordings which has been generated which roughly consist of interviews with at

least three representatives (3) of local development practitioners/ organizations in the specific site, two (2) representatives from local authorities such as a local councillor, five (5) respondents who are considered local experts on the history of the particular community, three (3) respondents from Churches or religious societies from each site and seven (7) respondents who would represent a sample of the demographic content of each site e.g. gender, age, literacy level, size, and race. A Total of twenty (20) semi- formal interviews in each of the sites have been collected by this project in total one hundred and eighty (180) audio interviews have been generated at the end of the project.

On August 14 2011, a final Wolpe Lecture event is being planned in order to present, reflect and distribute the hard-copy DVD publication: **DURBAN SINGS! Remixing African Oral History for a global audience. Vol: 1.** to an audience of up to 300 community members including especially those who agreed to be interviewed for the audio media archive.

A reflection of output distribution and a practical understanding of 'broadcast research' remains to be addressed together with and for each of the editorial collectives involved. Preliminary efforts aimed at, linking the project and its activities beyond the local is gradually taking place, through contacts such as the Goethe Institute supporting a dedicated server and online digital media archive to cover a wider array of themes and communities across the Ethekewini Municipal Area (EMA) anticipated to run from September 2011- September 2012.

Word of thanks:

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the **ROSA LUXEMBURG FOUNDATION**, for the financial support for the Durban Sings Project. For the loving support and humane interest they have provided throughout this long journey. Particular mention goes to the fantastic Johannesburg office: Dr. Armin Osmanovic, Mr. Jos Martins, Ms. Rose Khumalo, Mrs Esther Bango, Mrs. Babara Hime and the rest of the staff at RLF; Siyabonga.

The project is also grateful for the institutional support and leadership shown by the University of KwaZulu Natal; Prof. J. J. Meyerowits (Registrar); Prof Vishnu Padayachee (Past Head of School: SODS), Prof. Patrick Bond (Director: CCS) and the rest of our colleagues and visitors at the Centre for Civil Society, without your guidance and support the project could not have reached the highs it has.

Final gratitude go to the Ethekewini Municipality, all the contributors, participants, teachers, parents, Amakhosi of Ethekewini area, members of editorial collectives who were the life and soul of the project; may your days be many.

Finances:

Please see financial report on separate page.