

CCS Presentation – February 2012



SOUTH DURBAN
COMMUNITY
ENVIRONMENTAL
ALLIANCE

Who is the SDCEA?

The SDCEA is a non-governmental coalition of 16 community and environmental organisations concerned with environmental justice and sustainable development in south Durban and eThekweni (the broader Durban municipal area). The SDCEA was launched in 1995 to unite members in a common struggle for a healthy living environment and environmentally sustainable and socially just development in south Durban.

South Durban is home to approximately half a million people and is also the location of South Africa's largest chemical industry cluster including 2 major oil refineries Engen and Sapref, 2 big paper mills such as Mondi and Sappi Saicorr as well as the transport infrastructure associated with Africa's largest port.

WHAT DOES SDCEA DO FOR THE COMMUNITIES

- ▶ ***INFORMATION DISSEMINATION THROUGH:***
- ▶ GIS Mapping of South Durban
- ▶ Community newsletters
- ▶ Books & reports about Industry and the effects they have on people
- ▶ Health study publication
- ▶ Distribution of posters & pamphlets
- ▶ Environmental educational material
- ▶ Talks at educational institutions

WHAT DOES SDCEA DO FOR SOUTH DURBAN ?

- ▶ **Community Empowerment through :**
- ▶ Regular workshops to create awareness
- ▶ Petitions ,protests & marches
- ▶ Beach clean-ups and other projects
- ▶ School projects engaging youth
- ▶ Toxic tours to teach people about the situation in South Durban
- ▶ Bucket brigade monitoring air quality with community members

HOLDING CORPORATES ACCOUNTABLE

- ▶ *Independent Watch through :*
- ▶ *Mitigation of unresolved issues*
- ▶ *Legal action on selected cases*
- ▶ *Press release to media*
- ▶ *Analysis of information released by industry and data produced by Government*
- ▶ *Hot spot surveys and public questionnaires*
- ▶ *Follow- up on industry statements*

HOLDING GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE

- ▶ *Civil consultant through :*
- ▶ Medium for government & consultants to communicate with communities
- ▶ Advice offered to members of the public who are suffering
- ▶ International solidarity and sharing of knowledge
- ▶ Fight for Human Rights

ENGEN - FCCU



FIRE AT ENGEN REFINERY – NOVEMBER 2007



SAPREF PLANT ON THE 28/10/2006



ISLAND VIEW STORAGE – 18/09/2007



ISLAND VIEW STORAGE – 18/09/2007



Fire at Engen – 10/10/2011



AGONY OF THE CHILDREN OF SOUTH DURBAN



JODACHE NAIDOO: 4, has stomach cancer.



LYNSEY DE BEER: 18, died of leukaemia in 1995



NATHANAEL BEDESSY: 3, died last year from leukaemia.



RAVESHNI GOVENDER: 11, died of cancer in 1997.



SADÉ SCHWARTZ: 13, being treated for brain cancer



TASLEEM OMAR: 3, sick with leukaemia.

MORE SUFFERING IN SOUTH DURBAN...



**“When we breathe
the air of freedom we do not wish
to choke on hidden fumes”**

Judge Albie Sachs

MONITORING OF AIR QUALITY USING SCIENCE

THE BUCKET BRIGADE METHODOLOGY



Taking samples with buckets can get your community valuable information about what's in the air that you're breathing. But how do you know what the levels of chemicals in your air mean to your health?

One way of interpreting monitoring results--from either bucket samples or monitoring done by agencies--is to compare them to what we call "levels of concern"

SOUTH DURBAN COMMUNITY SUPPORTS PROTESTS TO ADDRESS POLLUTION



SDCEA's involvement in climate change advocacy

Climate change book launch – February 2009

Climate change and poverty hearing – August 2009

Build up to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, COP 15 in Denmark

7th Dec 09 – Video screening (The story of stuff and carbon trading)

9th Dec 09 – Picket outside Sapref, Engen and Mondi refineries

12th Dec 09 – Global day of action Youth Rally

12th Dec 09 – Candlelight vigil outside Engen refinery

14th Dec 09 – Press briefing – The World Bank and Eskom: Banking on climate destruction

Attending COP 15 in Copenhagen – December 2009

Copenhagen review workshop – February 2010

Mobilising for COP 17 in Durban

Kids painted banners and t-shirts with messages to President Jacob Zuma

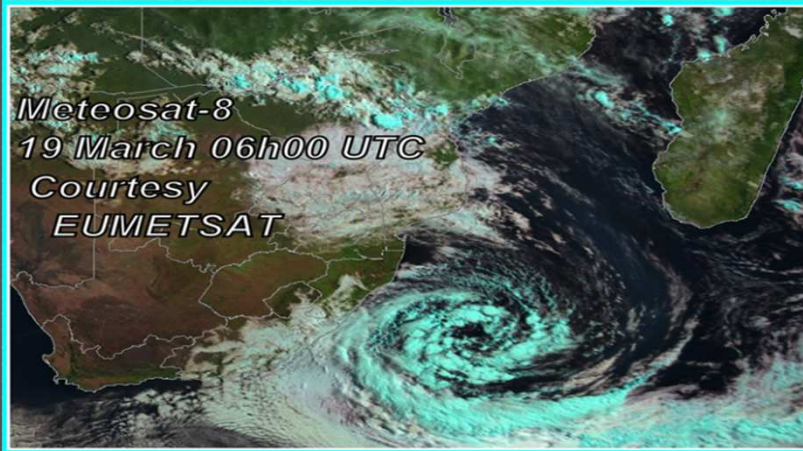


Protest outside Mondi paper mill



Global day of action,
Youth Rally

MARCH 2007



NOVEMBER 2008



Stories from South Durban



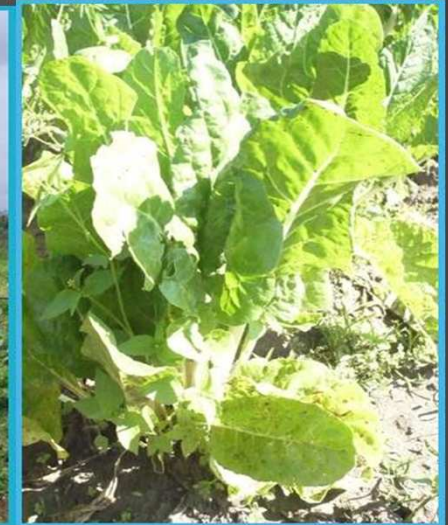
Nonhlanhla Mthembu has serious asthma



Patience Green has a son and grandson with chronic breathing problems

FARMERS

- Farmed near Durban Airport since 1976
- March 2007, March & June 2008 faced financial ruin
- Water resource is compromised. In May 2010, water from the canal had dried up because of warmer conditions experienced leading to farmers having to dig up bore holes. Usually the bore hole water resource is used in September.
- Water scarcity leads to farmers planting crops that require less water like parsley, thyme, spinach and coriander
- Flooding has led to loss of newly planted crops



FISHERMAN

- Fishing off the harbour since
Move to different areas along the
harbour due to scarcity of species
Time of day has also been moved,
from mornings to the evenings
Strong winds influence movement
of the fish

Warmer ocean current – usual
catch of fish does not take place
Fishermen's involvement with
government

Draft policy for the
development of viable
(resilient) small scale fisheries
sector in SA
Interim relief measure granted
in the Cape and parts of KZN



Climate change is a global problem, yet each one of us has the power to make a difference



WE CAN'T CHANGE THE WORLD
UNLESS WE CHANGE OURSELVES

THANK YOU