



A partnership between the NPO, Bioregional and the eThekweni Municipality has resulted in 2 food gardens being established on municipal land – Sisonke Durban Garden, and a food garden in Davenport Park. A permaculture mentor is employed one day a week on each site, to provide training and guidance to the five people the gardens currently support. In May and June 2023, between them, the gardens earned over R10K and R8 respectively, for the people working there from sales of fresh produce to local restaurants and retailers. All money earned is profit share for the workers.

The Sisonke Garden also has a circular economy project established, started by Bioregional, in the form of Southern Sun's Elangeni Hotel giving the garden 1 ton of Bokashi treated food waste per month, which is composted on site by combining it with organic garden waste from street trees and parks waste from Hoy Park sports complex. This results in diversion of at least 4 tons of waste combined that would ordinarily have gone to landfill. On a weekly basis, the hotel buys back herbs from the garden which they use in their kitchens, so the waste they produce is used to grow the food they consume.

Some of the restaurants are now providing the team with their coffee grounds on a weekly basis, when their vegetable is delivered. This is added to the compost being made at the Sisonke Garden. Approximately 80kgs of food waste and coffee grounds was diverted during the Tourism Indaba.

With the aim being zero waste gardens, vegetable is delivered in reusable crates where possible. Where plastic bags are unavoidable e.g. loose leaf rocket, clients keep the bags for collection on the next delivery day, so they are returned to be reused. Alternatively, when delivering to the restaurants they immediately transfer the produce to their fridges and give back the plastic bags / reusable containers. One restaurant now even keeps its elastic bands for the team to use on bunched vegetable.

This project contributes to achieving the following Sustainable Development Goals:



The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and

education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

SDG 1 aims at ending poverty in all its forms everywhere; SDG 2 seeks sustainable solutions to end hunger in all its forms by 2030 and to achieve food security. The aim is to ensure that everyone everywhere has enough good-quality food to lead a healthy life. SDG 11 targets making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; and SDG 17 seeks to strengthen global partnerships to support and achieve the ambitious targets of the 2030 Agenda, bringing together national governments, the international community, civil society, the private sector and other actors.

For further information about the SDGs, please visit <https://strathub.durban.gov.za/pages/sdgs> or email Nevana.Srikissoon@durban.gov.za