

SOSNPO launches 'Pitstop!' EradicaTOUR to extinguish dangerous Pit Latrines.

In the heart of South African communities, Save Our Schools (SOSNPO) stands at the forefront of a crucial transformation. Our initiative, the PITSTOP! EradicaTOUR, launched on UN World Water Day 22nd of March, is a testament to our commitment to eradicating the life-threatening conditions of illegal pit latrines. This mission, underscored by the global sanitation crisis, demands a collective resolve to foster sustainable, long-term change. Together, we face a stark reality: Almost 2 billion people of the global population lack access to safe sanitation, leading to preventable deaths and diseases.

Educational Foundation for Action: From March through June 2024, our awareness campaign sets the stage for the EradicaTOUR, aiming to illuminate the critical importance of safe sanitation. This foundational phase is crucial for mobilizing support and fostering a shared understanding of the challenges and solutions to fight the sanitation crisis.

The Journey Begins: Between June and July, the EradicaTOUR will journey from Cape Town to a Johannesburg informal settlement, engaging with a minimum of eight different communities along the planned route. This endeavour is more than a mere traversal; it is a mission to enlighten, empower, and enact change, culminating in the implementation of a sustainable sanitation and circular economy model. Each community will have unique needs and considerations.

Comprehensive Media Engagement: Our initiative will be accompanied by extensive media and scientific community coverage and a focused documentary to capture the journey, the people, and the transformative impact of our work. This approach ensures ongoing awareness and engagement, shining a light on the collaborative effort to improve sanitation conditions.

Creating a Sustainable Future: At the core of the PITSTOP! initiative is the establishment of a circular economy that transcends immediate sanitation needs. By fostering community ownership and environmental stewardship, we aim to instil a model of sustainability that echoes beyond the confines of our project. From the implementation of bio-compostable toilets and biodigesters to the development of standalone wastewater treatment solutions, our approach is holistic, ensuring the viability and longevity of sanitation infrastructure.

Harnessing the Power of Data: In our commitment to ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) principles, a cornerstone of the PITSTOP! initiative is the meticulous collection, monitoring, and analysis of data throughout the project. This information is crucial, not only for measuring our immediate impact but also for laying the groundwork for future replication and scaling of our efforts. Through real-time data gathering and sophisticated analytics, we aim to continuously refine our strategies, ensure accountability, and demonstrate the effectiveness of our interventions. This data-driven approach will enable us to share valuable insights with partners, stakeholders, and communities, thereby enhancing the global body of knowledge on effective sanitation solutions.

The Pilot: Our pilot project in the Johannesburg Informal Settlement serves as a blueprint for the impact we strive to achieve across South Africa. Facing a dire lack of basic services, the community is emblematic of the broader challenges we aim to address. Through the construction of safe toilet facilities, handwashing stations, and educational initiatives, we are not just transforming spaces; we're enriching lives.

The Launch and Beyond: Kicking off on UN World Water Day on March 22, 2024, the PITSTOP initiative is poised to catalyse a nationwide movement towards improved sanitation. Leveraging the theme of UN World Water Day, "Leveraging Water for Peace," our project underlines the intrinsic link between sanitation, hygiene, and societal harmony.

Collaboration Is Key: The path to addressing these challenges is one we cannot walk alone. We extend our heartfelt invitation to potential partners and express our deepest gratitude to our established allies, whose support has been instrumental in turning our vision into action. This project is not merely about confronting the present problem; it's about laying the groundwork for enduring solutions that ensure safety, dignity, and well-being for generations to come.

In confronting the global sanitation crisis, SOSNPO is more than an organization; we are a catalyst for change. Committed to enhancing Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) infrastructure, we strive to deliver solutions that resonate with hope, dignity, and empowerment. We invite you to join us in this vital endeavour, to not only address a pressing issue but to pave the way for a future where every individual has access to the basic right of safe sanitation.

For more information or to join this transformative journey, please reach out to Candice, our resolute representative.

Shelley Humphreys - CEO
shelley@soscpt.org
+27 (0)65 864 4053

