As the first World Congress on Architecture to be held in sub-Saharan Africa, UIA 2014 Durban will be an ideal platform for establishing a Legacy Programme that will give the event more impact and significance in its outcomes.
Urban Regeneration Projects in Durban

2014 is an eventful year for South Africa – 20 years of democracy, Cape Town is World Design Capital and the International Union of Architects 25th Congress takes place in Durban – for the first time in sub-Saharan Africa.

With the Congress as the focus we plan to make this a week of celebration in Durban including architecture, art, cultural and community events. We are working with interested parties in Durban, South Africa and internationally to ensure a diverse mix that attracts congress participants as well as the public.

A special focus will be the inner city regeneration initiatives that are being undertaken with the eThekwini Municipality.

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Deputy City Manager  eThekwini Municipality
Economic Development & Planning

JONATHAN EDKINS
Deputy Head: City Architects  eThekwini Municipality
Member of the Coordinating Council: UIA2014 Durban

Transforming The City

UIA 2014 will be used as a launch pad for a number of urban regeneration projects and activations through which the vibrancy of the City will be exposed, social cohesion enhanced and the inner city transformed into a more humane habitat.

The legacy projects proposed for UIA2014 focus on developing initiatives that stimulate interest in the built environment sector and focus on Durban’s inner city. These legacy programs will be germane to the congress themes and self-sustaining in the long-run.

Architectural legacy projects stemming from UIA 2014 Durban provide a glimpse of the enormous potential for investment in carefully crafted urban initiatives in eThekwini, which have a positive impact on lives and livelihoods. Architects are fulfilling their responsibility to create the environment for further success.

A number of entities, including the City’s architecture department, are coming together over the period of the Congress to create projects that will bring life and energy back into the inner-city and show what is possible. A lasting legacy for Durban resides in instituting mechanisms that re-invigorate and re-purpose assets in the inner city.

Project co-ordinator for the Spatial Legacy projects, both as Local Government Liaison for the UIA 2014 Organisation Committee and as Programme Manager for City Architects, is Nina Saunders.
DR PIXLEY KA SEME LINEAR PARK:
by redefining the perception of the inner city as an economic, social and cultural centre and emphasizing its value through its diversity, a new wave of architectural renewal will be inspired. The city’s Inner City Renewal Team will activate Step One of the project vision for a pedestrian priority zone along Dr Pixely ka Seme Street in time for the Congress. An exhibition detailing the project and outlining the plans for a 400-metre stretch of Durban’s inner city greened and re-purposed, it will showcase what is possible with the creation of a high quality public space for people who live and work in the City to relax, exercise and play.

POCKET PARKS:
Tying in with the themes of Ecology, Resilience and Values, the Pocket Park Projects, will bring nature and delight back to the city, providing a place for relaxation, play areas for children, a small space for activities, events or street cafes, where people can socialize, share laughter and conversation...under the African sky. An Educational component involves the introduction of Indigenous / Edible and Medicinal plants into the Pocket Parks or Vest Parks - urban green/play spaces at a small scale. These small splashes of green could be tucked away between buildings, or scattered anywhere/otherwhere – even travelling through the urban fabric. A number of pocket parks, in Durban and surrounding areas, are being planned around the UIA2014 World Congress. The Pocket Park project is fuelling student ideas for engaging with the event.
RIVERTOWN:
formerly Durban’s light industrial area, the Rivertown precinct lies to the east of the Durban CBD. A canal, currently enclosed, traverses this area, and water from areas that were formerly the wetlands in the City Bowl, drains into the Canal and is dispersed into the harbour at Cato Creek. The currently derelict area provides an opportunity for regeneration, to draw interest back to Durban’s CBD. Arts and culture initiatives and exhibitions will be run during the Congress to show the opportunities that exist for bringing sustainability and vibrancy back to the area. The UIA Heritage and Responsible Architecture Work Programmes have launched a student competition calling for urban design proposals for a rejuvenated precinct.

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REGISTER TODAY
Time is running out to take advantage of the current Delegate Registration Fee of R4500 (valid until 30 April) to attend the Congress from 3-7 August 2014
The Student Fee is R750 per person
A Day Delegate Fee is also available
For more information and to register, visit: http://www.uia2014durban.org.za
CPD CREDITS
The XXV UIA World Congress is hosted by the South African Institute of Architects
CPD credit values for South African architectural professionals are:
SACAP Category One CPD credit value
Full attendance all days (3-7 August 2014): 5 credits
www.uia2014durban.org