

# WASTEKHORO

31 May to 1 June 2016

COASTLANDS CONVENTION CENTRE, UMHLANGA

"PROMOTING INNOVATION AND UPSCALING ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT"

Welcome



**environmental affairs**

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Find us:  
Department of  
Environment-Affairs



Follow us:  
@EnvironmentZA



Follow us:  
@EnvironmentZA



Watch us:  
EnvironmentZA

Call Centre: 086 111 2468 • Website: [www.environment.gov.za](http://www.environment.gov.za)

# THREE TYPES OF CONDITION TO UNDERTAKE WORK IN TODAY'S ECONOMY

- Wage earners-these are people who are employed by others, including workers and managers. They are employees employed by an employer and are paid a wage or salary for their work. They obey the rules set by the management, and in return are paid a wage at the end of every month.

# SELF-EMPLOYED

- People who work for themselves by offering their services or producing a product to sell to others. An example is a waste picker who pick the recyclables and produce a product from recycled plastics and sells a product to shops and the public to earn an income

# WORKER OWNERSHIP

- This is a form of work where work and management are carried out together. This occurs in a worker cooperative. Workers undertake work in the enterprise, but they also participate in managing the enterprise – in shaping the conditions under which they work. The work and the management of the enterprise are undertaken by the workers together. The work owners work in the enterprise, they own the enterprise and they participate in managing it.

# WORKER COOPERATIVE

- Generally, a worker cooperative is an enterprise that is owned by those who work in it. We call them worker owners or worker members.
- Worker cooperatives are therefore democratically controlled for worker owner benefit, both individually and collectively
- A worker cooperative can be organized around different types of economic activity, however the economic activity of a worker cooperative does not clarify its real identity
- What makes a worker cooperatives a worker cooperatives is the internal relations: how it is organised, who owns it, and who controls it

# WORKER COOPERATIVE

- The objective of a worker cooperative is to create and maintain sustainable jobs for its worker owners in to improve the quality of life of the worker owners, to create work with dignity, to allow for the democratic management by the worker owners together, and to promote community development.
- Membership is voluntary and members contribute with their work as well as economic resources

# WORKER COOPERATIVE

- Work is undertaken by members of the worker cooperative. The majority of workers in the cooperative must be the member/owners.
- The relationship of worker members to the enterprise is different to that of self-employed or wage earners
- Activity within the cooperative is governed by rules that are decided democratically by the worker members
- A worker cooperative is independent of the state or other actors. Work and the use of equipment and so on is decided by worker members.

# THE IMPORTANCE OF WORKER COOPERATIVES

- Workers are generally exploited, undermined as human beings and generally treated as a cost in modern business. In a worker cooperative worker control of work ensures the power and dignity of workers. It ensures work is about development, learning, sharing responsibility and is responsive to the needs of workers



# IMPORTANCE OF WORKER COOPERATIVE

- Worker cooperatives are transformative. They protect jobs but at the same time are also part of a new pattern of production and consumption to change society. Genuine worker cooperatives are self-conscious about being grounded in ethical objectives, values, principle advancing a transformative vision. Such cooperatives are actively involved in the struggle to transform society and live and alternative

# IMPORTANCE OF WORKER COOPERATIVE

- Unlike the typical top down structure of modern businesses, worker cooperatives are democratic options for organising production, finance and consumption. It gives power and rights to worker owners to determine all decisions facing a cooperative and to jointly own the cooperative. It does not produce the insiders and outsiders in the cooperative. All worker owners are equal.

# WHY WORKER COOPERATIVES

- Worker cooperative is part of building a different economy, one that is based on human needs and a non-destructive relationship with the wider environment. It is guided by ethics and principle of solidarity, caring, collective ownership, environmental consciousness, self management, community benefit and democracy.

# BUILD AND DEFEND WORKER COOPERATIVES

- Worker cooperatives have shared economic and social purposes and their legal and doctrinal aspects are different to those of other corporate entities. They are based on an economy based on solidarity and are aimed at obtaining efficient economic performance through quality and trustworthy services that they provide to their members and users

Thank you

Simon Mbata