

Benches in the Organ Donor memorial garden

A new installation of benches and hand-painted rocks at the Durban Botanic Gardens honours the contribution of organ donors in saving lives. This installation was carried out by the Organ Donor Foundation, with the mosaic tile work on the benches completed by four young people from the Action in Autism foundation who are on the autistic spectrum, guided by the artist and designer, Kirstin Miller. As indicated on the sign-boards at the installation:

“This memorial garden is inspired by organ and tissue donors who have helped save lives.

Its siting is no accident and creates a tranquil space in which to contemplate the symbolism of the butterflies' transformation.

Interlocking cobbled rounds represent links between donors and organ recipients, while the rounds themselves allude to the circle of life and wholeness.

Meanwhile cheery indigenous planting emphasises a sense of gratitude for renewal, even as the previous season's splendour fades.”

The contribution of these young people makes the installation even more special and equips them with skills that can be used on similar work.



Amongst others, this programme 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.

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