

Project Update: December 2007

The official launch of the first public appearance of the new Port Elizabethian Non Profit Organisation, Ocean Messengers, has led to international support and understanding.

The film is reflecting the view of an ocean creature, a whale, swimming through the Indian Ocean of Port Elizabeth and explaining with a distinguished voice to the audience how special and extraordinary the sea life and importance of environmental concerns around the Madiba Bay area. Fragile and once out of balance gone for all future generations – forever! The film Ocean Messengers was presented within the last 3 months in Durban (Wild Talk), in France (Antibes Film festival) and last week in Holland (North Sea Film festival).

By the end of the year it will finally be shown on a film festival "Seestern" in Germany, and the footage will be available on the market, too.

However, the reactions were overwhelming. Rainer Schimpf, the sole producer and camera man, states that e.g. in Antibes 700 viewers saw the film on a big screen and the reactions were very positive about the message of the film and its quality.

Industrialisation at all prices is no longer the theme of the world! We are at the edge of a global environmental disaster. So why allow companies to come to PE and continue their destruction they are not allowed anymore in the "so called" western worlds.

In Holland during the North Sea Film festival the film Ocean Messengers was shortlisted to be the Greenpeace Oceans Award Film winner and became second place!

Internationally the message is clearly heard and understood and Ocean Messengers Section 21 Company is hoping to get substantial funding for its future plans, to help industry and people to understand and realise the importance of a proper long term environmental concept which secures the future and does not destroy it as it is happening right now already.

Western countries and all assigned parties of the UNFCCC have one question to ask and only one:

How can we save the climate?

2,500 scientists and researchers have worked on the UN climate report. Their possible solutions and recommendations have not much in common with what is happening in Coega and the industrial area around it.

Questions like who is controlling the nations and who is controlling the industries is one key issue. 'Who will guarantee that resolutions will be for filled and who is able to control them accurately. CO2 gases are one of the major concerns, they change the world by storm, and not even we in South Africa are saving. No, we are producing them too and there is plan for more industry to settle here and "buy" our clean air and buy out our environment.

First world nations signed the Kyoto Protocol and they are obligated to limit their CO₂, also "3rd world nations" (like SA) have signed the protocol, however they are not obligated to the same standards.

This gives the industry the play they need to "rape" African countries and lately as well South Africa off their resources and their environmental prestige.

Coega in Europe or USA or Canada would not be possible at all under same nor similar circumstances. It would be environmentally impossible and not legitimate.

However, the Western worlds have created the problems themselves again, since they allow trade with CO₂ emissions. This is the main reason industries like Alcan, Straights Chemicals, and smelter for metal desire to come here.

Already in February 2005, 141 countries have signed the protocol, last week Australia added onto the list.

Only the USA is a missing link despite the fact to produce about 25% of the CO₂ on their own!

Out of these 141 countries only 55 (which are industrial countries) are allowed to produce 55% CO₂ emission only.

Right now the members produce about 61, 60 % (not a number to be proud off!!).

How will we see South Africa's future in terms of CO₂ emissions....???

The IPCC finalised the first assessment report in 1990 and already stated that the average temperature on earth is rising 0, 3% per year. That is an increase higher than during the last 10.000 years! Thereafter in 1992 the protocol for climate in Rio de Janeiro was signed.

Only in 1995 at the IPCC second edition countries were now obligated to act and reduce CO₂ emissions. More recently, in 2001, it was also documented that the sea level will rise due to the higher CO₂ in the atmosphere.

The 4th IPCC report was released now in Bali in 2007.

The results are still frightening and have not changed; humans are responsible for CO₂ and its increase.

The outcome of the scenario and what the future will be is not predictable (meaning it is really bad!!).

Increase in temperature, less water resources for billions of people (mainly in Africa)
The only scenario in the report with a solution is reducing the speed of what will happen.

One thing is 100% sure and imminent:

Climate change is real.

That's the official statement and final report of the Bali Climate Conference.

The new head of Unep, Mr Achim Steiner, states that the industrial countries must change; there is a historical responsibility, also from the rich countries as well to the disadvantaged countries.

Especially China, India and **South Africa** need to be actively involved to stop climate change. Ocean Messengers is supporting this statement and the start for a change will be the replanning and restructuring of the implemented "CO2 heavy industry" which is planned to come to PE, (particularly Coega) destroy our environment and play a big part in the world wide climate change, right in front of our doorstep!

Another big issue for Steiner and Ocean Messengers is the fact that chemical waste and waste management overall is often very poorly managed.

In Abidjan for instance 500 tonnes of poisonous waste was dumped illegally by Europeans companies, who paid the right price to the right person...

We need an independent organisation to monitor our industries, their politics and waste and emission management in South Africa.

Ocean Messengers approaches Coega and all involved industries for a cooperation. Ocean Messengers' concepts and ideas on how to approach problems are new and unique, solutions are available already and proof of the concept will be available.

Beneficiary will not only be the environment but also the industry by saving time by realising the real concept and its only solution.

In early 2008, an official presentation of the Ocean Messengers' concept to the public is planned at the NMMU.

Until then, Ocean Messengers will continue to gather facts and precise the concepts of solution.