



CITY OF CAPE TOWN  
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA  
STAD KAAPSTAD

## **CITY PARKS WOMEN PERSONAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING**

An approach that levels the ground  
for Women working in Operations

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**Date: 27 September 2016**

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# CONTEXT

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- ❑ PPE : the last line of defense for workers against injuries
- ❑ Finding the right PPE for women in the work place has been a challenge from time in memorial



# CONTEXT

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- ▶ Women In Various Industries expected to wear PPE designed for men
- ▶ 2009 : Prospective study : Advances



# CHALLENGES : OSHAS 2010

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- ❑ Employers' limited knowledge of PPE designs
- ❑ Lack of full range of PPE sizes at retail, manufacture & distributor
- ❑ Low number of women in industries requiring PPE
- ❑ 2010 : 9% or 818,000 vs 200,000 were women in industries



# CITY OF CAPE TOWN: CONTEXT

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- ❑ Challenge : Women PPE in various department : City



# ILL FITTING PPE :

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- ❑ Ill fitting PPE cannot protect a worker from hazards
- ❑ May not be able to do the job well



# IS UNISEX AN ANSWER: 2013 HUMAN FACTOR JOURNAL ( VOL.55,NO.1)

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- ❑ Universal PPE not appropriate for all
- ❑ One size fits all tend to be too large for women



# GROUND BREAKING : CITY PARKS

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- ❑ Women : 18% of total staff compliment - 42% in operations
- ❑ PPE Investigation since 2013-2014
- ❑ Launched women PPE in the form of boots, trousers and tops in 2015/16
- ❑ First break through in the City



# Lessons Learnt

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- ❑ Female sizes not appropriate for all
- ❑ PPE & Cultural Dynamics
- ❑ PPE & Religious Dynamics
- ❑ PPE & Pregnant Woman



# DEVELOPMENTS

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- ❑ Reduction in requests for alternative boots
- ❑ To date Women PPE registered at the city's gender desk for attention
- ❑ Research ongoing City wide for appropriate Female PPE



# RECOMENDATIONS

- ❑ Women be regarded as an integral part of Operations regardless of numbers
- ❑ A budget provided for Women PPE
- ❑ Suitable Women PPE designs be designed to suit relevant operations
- ❑ Women Standards sizes
- ❑ Appropriate & Accurate Measuring





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# THANK YOU

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