 V.V.O.B. VZW	PROGRESS MONITORING REPORT FOR PROJECT: SA-FLEMISH COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE PROJECT March – August 2005 PMR nr. 9 ZAF/DS/NAT 02.10	
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Brief Project Description

The project will set up a national CAC Policy and Training office, located at the Department of Arts and Culture and consisting of 5 people. This office will aim at improving the capacity and service delivery of Community Arts Centres in the Limpopo, Free State and KwaZulu-Natal provinces, through three strategic components. First there will be a consultative research component aimed at the development of an adequate and efficient policy for Community Arts Centres. Second, the capacity of CAC's in the three provinces will be built through partnership development, management training and support. Finally, the project will be promoting from the second phase, a number of service delivery programmes and exchanges.

Progress monitoring visit data

Monitoring visit date: Desk monitoring due to the formulation process 2005-2009	Report written by: Gerard Hagg, Jasper Walgrave, Kgomotso Sekhabi
Monitor VVOB vzw : Christel Op de beeck	Report sent to : Y.Wantens aBB/ZA + J.Vereecke VVOB Brussels

Project data	
Project title:	Province:
Community Arts Centres 2002-2005	Limpopo, Free State, KwaZulu-Natal
Project file number:	District Municipality:
NAT.02/10	Project is not linked to specific districts
Specific area of work:	Local Municipality:
Culture, community and development	Project is not linked to specific municipalities
Duration:	Implementing Agency:
3 years	DAC
Start date – planned (decision):	SA partner project manager:
1 January 2003	Dr Gerard Hagg
Start date – actual:	SA partner project executor:
1 March 2003	Department of Arts and Culture, National
End date – planned:	VVOB VZW Project coordinator:
28 February 2006	Christel Op de beeck

Financial data			
Flanders total budget		Anticipated date request 3rd instalment	September 2005
In Rand 7,743,475.20	In Euro 774,347.52	Anticipated date partner's financial report	September 2005
Amount – 1 / 2 instalment		218,926.82	SA partner total contribution in € : 339,350

Partners report	
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General appreciation

The project is now in its last half year, and a number of initiatives are maturing, particularly in the Free State and KwaZulu-Natal. The Free State has now fully embraced the arts centers, and has developed a provincial strategic plan, to which our project contributed. This province intends to establish six District Cultural offices with an arts center in each one. The arts center budgets will be managed separately, which means that our project is less dependent on the Mmabana Arts Centre. Both Free State arts centers have increased their activities and support by communities. The municipalities have become officially involved but are too poor to invest funds. In KwaZulu-Natal a dedicated senior manager responsible for arts centers, has been appointed in the Department of Culture and Tourism. The arts center managers have increased their activities, and are recognized as lead institutions by municipalities and communities. Province is negotiating with municipalities for the transfer of oversight over the arts centers to the municipalities. The work by the SA-Flemish Local Cultural Policy Project contributes to a growing awareness of the value of arts center for municipalities. Limpopo provincial department remains a problem, with the transfer of the senior manager to another

department, and the appointment of an acting senior manager, who is less dynamic. The two Limpopo municipalities significantly contribute to the arts centers functioning, both invest funds in infrastructure, and support activities through the project managers who have been appointed by the SA-Flemish CAC project. A meeting will be scheduled with the Limpopo Minister of Culture soon after the visit of SA officials to Flanders (10-19 Oct) and before the visit by Minister Ancaux. We will use this meeting to achieve a breakthrough in the allocation of permanent staff and a budget by the Province.

The project manager will deliver a paper in Northern Ireland on the challenges of community arts (centers) in a country in transformation, while the project manager for the Gender project (Three Generations) has been asked to co-facilitate a workshop on intergenerational transfer of culture. DAC pays the costs of the latter, while HSRC pays for the project manager.

A sector-representative selection committee has chosen a training co-ordinator for the management training provision and management manual production, a consortium consisting of Arts and Media Access Centre, the BAT Centre and New Nation Consultancy. The contract will be signed before 30 Sept 2005. DAC has allocated R2 million for a 9 month training and production process. By including the Western Cape and Eastern Cape into this training programme, DAC indicates a willingness to integrate the project into its own programmes. This process however, remains very slow due to lack of capacity and leadership.

The second focus of the last year, increased programming, is making progress, largely through financial allocations by the National Lottery (Thabong Centre R800,000) and applications to the Investing in Culture Fund of DAC, to a total value of R4,5 million for five CACs.

Generally the arts centers programme has been accepted as an anchor programme in DAC, which makes it a core function of the Department. However the implementation is very slow again, despite the support of the national Deputy Minister as the champion. A draft policy and implementation plan has been submitted to the Technical Committee of DAC (Director General and all nine Heads of Provincial Departments). In principle there is support for the policy, but a formal acceptance has not yet been given. We will use the visit by A Olaerts to put pressure on DAC for acceptance and implementation. There is also uncertainty about the proposed conference on the future of CACs in SA, which DAC intends for early 2006.

The student exchanges between SA and Flanders went well as a pilot, and we learnt many lessons, e.g. about the need to build the capacity of students pre their arrival, to ensure effective use in the arts centers (in both countries). It has improved our partnership with SA universities and contributed to a phase where real twinning can be initiated. Both Bart Roge and Maarten Beedert contributed significantly to activities in the Free State arts centers.

The project managers of the three SA-Flemish art projects now meet once a month in preparation for a proposal for the extension of these projects for 2007-9.

A new administrator has been appointed, Nicoleen Mashigo, who professionally updated all general and financial reports and register. We hope to issue a following edition of the CAC Newsletter early 2006.

The project has remained well within its budgets, and monthly statements are now provided by DAC. The way it goes, the SA project manager and Flemish project coordinator may stay on for another two months after March 2006 to ensure the training and implementation processes are transferred well to DAC.

Generally, the project is delivering in most aspects, but has two weak points: the leadership in DAC for integrating the project before it ends in March 2006, and the provincial department in Limpopo, which by now has not spent any funding on its own arts centers.

Legend for understanding symbols in the table below:

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	√	P	W
Q1 =	Mar-May 2005			√ =	Completed	
Q2 =	Jun-Aug 2005			P =	In progress	
Q3 =	Sep-Nov 2005			W =	To be commenced yet	
Q4 =	Dec 2005 -Feb 2006					

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Description activity	Output	Year 3			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1.1. Advertise and identify candidates for the post of communications officer	Appointment per contract				
1.4. Communications officer networks and facilitates relationships with all stakeholders, creating the 'face' of the National CAC Policy and training Office, and keeping the public informed	Regular communications between the project and the major stakeholders Third issue of CAC Newsletter Fourth issue of CAC Newsletter				
1.5. National CAC Policy and Training Office remains furnished, equipped and operational	Functional office				
1.6. National Reference Group in Flanders and SA are functioning	Meetings of NRGs and exchange of input from NRG into project documented				

Effectiveness:

1.1 The original post combined administration and communication in one person. Experience indicated that this responsibility should preferably be done by two persons, a bureaucrat and a communicator. The post of administrator was filled. We are extremely happy with the professionalism of the new administrator Nicoleen Mashigo and generally communication is maintained by the full team, except the Newsletter

1.4. We will appoint the new Training Coordinator also as editor for the CAC Newsletter, at a favourable cost. This appointment provides access to professional media communicators from the Arts and Media Access Centre (lead firm of consortium). All other communication is taken care of by the Project Manager and the team. We aim for the publication of the Newsletter in November 2005 and March 2006

1.5. The office is fully functional

1.6. The PM has requested DAC International Relations several times to organise the NRG in South Africa, which will serve all three projects. However, responses are negative. We intend to organise this meeting ourselves immediately after the visit to Flanders (10-19 Oct). In the meantime the PMs of the three projects have met for better co-ordination and exchange of information

Efficiency:

1.1-4. The funds saved by not appointing a separate communication officer makes funds available to extend the appointment of the Project Manager and the Flemish coordinator, which will ensure that the integration of the project into DAC and the supervision of the training provision will be facilitated sufficiently into 2006. A request for approval will be submitted to the Flemish representative in November.

Description activity	Output	Year 3			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2.1. Build capacity of community arts centres through visits, workshops, meetings, activities, proposal writing	Fieldwork reports, project proposals for activities, positive comments by community				
2.2. Facilitate functional relationships between CACs and their respective provincial and local governments	Formal agreements or documents specifying the relationship				
2.3. Facilitate functional relationships between CACs and their respective Higher Education Institutions and NGOs	Formal agreements or documents specifying a longer term relationship				
2.4. Assist CACs management teams in development and implementation of activities and programmes in the CACs	Regular programmes well planned and executed				

2.5	Assist CACs management teams in fundraising for activities and programmes in the CACs	Increase in submissions for funding to funding agencies, and higher income from fundraising			
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2.1. Capacity of the centres has been built considerably. This is an ongoing process (P). In this period more than ever, it has become clear that a consistent number of visits to the centres bears fruit in the activism and self-confidence of the centre staff and managers. They have clearly also learnt a lot over the past few years. This translates itself in higher programming, and better day-to-day functioning of the centres, a higher buzz, and significantly more people coming to visit the centre.

This is most clearly visible in the Free State, and mostly in Thabong, to a lesser extent in Zamdela due to the fact that Zamdela's manager was appointed only late last year. In KZN, the buzz is huge in the Stable Theatre, while Indonsa, getting stronger on outreach activities, battles with the fact that Ulundi as a municipality receives a lot less attention from political leaders than before the last elections, and does not have the same kind of staff content than the Stable Theatre. In Limpopo, capacity is being built mostly through the implementation of the Investing in Culture Programs, (also in place in the other centres), developing the managers at this present stage more as project managers than as real 'centre managers'. The zeal of the manager in Giyani makes the kind of services that centre offers wider than the centre in Thohoyandou. In Thohoyandou the original project manager left the centre due to relocation of husband, and a new project manager has started in August only.

The project team is still in the process of recording the centre profiles to identify their potential. It has not had the capacity, during this period to get the arts centre managers together again for the biannual meeting. Nevertheless, on the 14th of July, the National Federation has convened in the State Theatre, whereby significant progress was made with regards to its institutional consolidation. Stakeholder forums are not particularly functioning as they should be, in the centres on a local level. A meeting of the project's arts centre managers is scheduled for November.

The provincial coordinators have spent much time on assisting the managers in writing proposals for funding by the Investing in Culture Fund, which seems to pay off. Final decision will be taken in October.

2.2. Provincial governments have been duly lobbied into the realm of the arts centres by the project team, as has been done with the municipal governments. Situations vary according to possibilities that are presented due to the presence of willing or difficult officials and politicians. In this sense the Free State has made huge progress on provincial level, while in the Limpopo relationships with the municipalities are particularly stronger. In KZN, both tiers of government are very well aligned with the process. In the Free State, this has also resulted in a formal integration of the arts centres into the department's strategies and planning, as was already in a certain way the case in Kwazulu-Natal. KZN has appointed a senior official exclusively to the case of the arts centres. The visit of the provincial and municipal officials will take place in October. In Limpopo, a lobbying strategy is being undertaken, under the initiative of the project, with help from DAC senior management in Arts Youth and Social Development, resulting in a meeting of the joint projects (CAC and AET) with the MECs of Arts and Culture and of Education. The good intentions that resulted from that meeting have been translated into follow-up documents, and a meeting is planned soon involving the national deputy Minister.

2.3. Strong relationships continue to be nurtured with the University of Venda, of Zululand and of the Free State, this has resulted in formal agreements and the assistance in development of projects for the centres, especially in the University of Venda and of Zululand.

2.4. There has been a lot of involvement of the coordinators in the development of programmes in the centres. Due the Investing in Culture process, a whole number of activities have been designed and implemented in the centres, in close partnership between the coordinators and the centre staff and users. A second set of such programs has been developed on paper and submitted, and we are currently awaiting approval of the funds. Also a number of other activities have been promoted and supported by the field coordinators. This corresponds to the most important recommendations made by evaluation and monitoring done during the project, and currently consist the most crucial tasks of the coordinators.

2.5. Fundraising has also been assisted by the coordinators, such that this is an integral part of 2.4. It remains a fact that the basis of funding for the centres is not very broad. Thabong Arts Centre received R800,000 from the National Lottery Board.

Efficiency:

The logframe was not realistic in the process of formal training and the relationship development between the provinces, municipalities and arts centres. This is partly due to low capacity at national and provincial level, and lack of policy (see below). Generally it is clear that the proposed extension of the projects for another three years would enable the formal training of arts centre managers and officials to take place, and the production of a management manual to be completed. Due to the slow process of recruitment of a training coordinator, the formal training will start in November only, and will last for 9 months at least. This places a responsibility on DAC for continuation, and an extension of the project will ensure that informed decisions are taken and accountability ensured.

Description activity		output	Year 3			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
3.1.	Facilitate a process of consultative policy formulation	Consultative process reported in documents with input from stakeholders				
3.2.	Facilitate research, collate existing research and record insights from stakeholders with regards to the current needs of CACs so that the creation of a CAC policy framework can be informed by a shared understanding of the current nature and context of CACs and can be responsive to their needs	Document as basis for draft policy				
3.3.	Develop a policy document for CACs	Policy document				
3.4.	Follow the formal government process for CAC Policy's legitimisation	Submission to government documented				
3.5.	Liase with DAC to formulate guidelines for government funding of CACs and other processes of fundraising	Proposal document and report				
3.6.	Facilitate partnerships with other departments for involvement in DAC CACs	Memorandum of understanding with DPLG, Dept of Education				

Effectiveness

3.1, 3.2, 3.3 The research process delivered the framework for a policy, in a consultative way, and taking into account the experience of policy making in other sectors. This brought some changes to the process: presentations were made to the DAC before the draft framework could be taken to local and provincial stakeholders. This process has not yet been completed due to slowness of bureaucracy in DAC, which is natural to policy making in isolation. The process is now being linked to the general policy review of the DAC. In general DAC was very satisfied, but the proposal included a summary of the financial implications and a strategy for implementation towards a policy (practice and policy writing informing each other)

3.4., 3.5 The formal government process is being followed, and the visit by the Flemish policy expert will hopefully speed up the process. DAC has presently not the capacity to integrate the CAC policy framework into its own policy review process

3.6. DAC and Dept of Education have signed memorandum of agreement at national level, but this is only effective as it hits the provincial levels, which is a slow process beyond our means. The CAC project's link to SA-Flemish AET is supportive in this regard. The DAC minister is in process of concluding a memorandum of understanding with Dept of Provincial and Local Government (DPLG)

Efficiency:

Due to the slowness of uptake by the DAC, the milestones and target dates have to be extended beyond the project. This is also one reason why the project should be extended. Similar problems have been experienced by SA-Flemish Local Cultural Policy project.

Description activity		output	Year 1			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4

4.1.	During the design of the CAC Policy specific attention is given to developing guidelines for the development of the internal (micro level) policies of CACs	Guidelines document produced		
4.2.	Guidelines for internal CAC policy are developed through a consultative process	Stakeholders, and particularly arts centre managers and provincial officials are consulted		
4.3.	Provide CACs with guidelines for the formulation of own internal policies	Guidelines document is presented to CACs and stakeholders for take up		
Effectiveness: It has appeared that this component should not fit the national/provincial policies, but should form part of the manual development. The Training coordinator will be mandated to guide this process during the research on management. It will become one part of the manual.				
Efficiency The original time schedule will be changed to coincide with the work of the training coordinator. The draft policy can be completed in March 2006 and the SA coordinator can take the process of consultation forward, in line with the training programme. Final completion can be done in May 2006				

Description activity		output	Year 1			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
5.1.	Develop CAC Management Training Manuals to provide for specific needs of CACs, making use of existing NQF unit standards where appropriate	Site Identification Report				
5.2.	Facilitate CAC Management Training for CAC managers in Free State, KwaZulu Natal and Limpopo Province					
5.3.	CAC manager training is linked to other developmental objectives as well as existing Provincial and Local government training					
Effectiveness: 5.1. + 5.2. + 5.3 Due to delay in getting the management training started, and the feeling that the project team did not have the necessary strength and capacity to run the process itself, we have consulted with the sector and decided to contract an external training provider for the job. The process of approving the idea and budget of the training, off consolidating agreements with senior management of Arts and Culture in Society, that has added to the budget to extend the training to the Eastern and Western Cape provinces, of getting out calls for proposals, receiving those, shortlisting them, etc. has been completed within the period under scrutiny. In September a final decision has been made on the training provider that will be worked with, which incidentally is one of the countries lead Community Arts Centres itself. This adds to the value of the idea of lead organisations being mentors for emerging organisations. Within the call for proposals, the terms of reference and the contract to be drafted, due attention will go to the use of NQF standards, and it is clear from the winning proposal that those will be implemented, and that the training manual will be guided by them as well. Training is foreseen to start towards the end of then year.						
Efficiency: The process of appointing the training coordinator has led to a serious delay in the writing of the manual and coinciding training. As this training is a core need for DAC in all 9 provinces, the extension of the project will deal with management issues, and the DAC will accept responsibility for concluding the process. Due to a link to the MAPPPSETA there is a quality control mechanism in place.						

<i>Description activity</i>		<i>output</i>	Year 1			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
6.1.	Continue with the development of long-term twinning programme between South African CACs and Flemish CACs	Negotiations take place between SA municipalities or CACs and Flemish ones			✓	✓
6.2.	Facilitate an exchange programme between CACs that have been twinned	Exchange programmes take place according to schedule			✓	✓
6.3.	Support collaborative projects between CACs that have been twinned	Collaborative projects take place and contribute to improved activities and management in the SA CACs			✓	✓

Effectiveness

6.1. + 6.2. + 6.3. 6 South African students have spent 2 months in 6 Flemish Arts Centres during the period of March-May. They were located in the Pianofabriek, Roma/Rataplan, CCBerchem, de Limelight, Nieuwpoorttheater and de Muze. Generally it was a very interesting experience both for the students as for the centres as for us as team management. some problems were noted wrt the selection procedure of the students, the profiles of the students in the Flemish centres, and the determination of the role the students would play in the centres. About half, 3 out of 6 of the students seem to have made plans and contacts for further collaboration, and implementation of what was acquired in the SA arts centre sector. VVOB has agreed to send a Flemish expert, from the service of Cultural Studies (Prof. Pinxten) at Gent University, for 8 weeks to South Africa to do an intensive follow up and try to consolidate the contacts that were made. It is clear that there is no budget available within the project to implement the envisaged exchange projects and programmes that will give body to the proposed twinning. It is foreseen that the same expert (Bart Roge) and the Flemish centres will assist in fundraising for these ends. It has emerged that there is a cluster of Flemish centres (CCB, Pianofabriek and Muze) interested in concerted long term twinning, while some other singular projects (e.g. with Nieuwpoort and the Buda project in Kortrijk) are also envisaged. Finally an academic exchange project on community arts and social inclusion is being developed.

In terms of effective exchange projects, an artists in schools in CACs project has been proposed and developed, Three Flemish arts for children organisations will come to SA to implement a month of activities in schools, through the arts centres, to build the capacity of the arts centres as support points for arts education. All three organisations have been identified and informed, they have agreed to participate and given their input. The budget has been stipulated, and all sources of funding have been identified. VVOB has agreed to redirect part of its (excessive) funding for SA to Flanders missions, into the realization of this project, by sending the Flemish arts education experts to South Africa. This project also derives funds from the DAC and mainly from the SA Flemish AET project, making it an example of real integration between the projects amongst eachother and between the projects and the DAC line function. For the Flemish audiences, the realization of an exhibition and of a publication has been envisaged.

Efficiency:

Therefore, one could say that in terms of timing, there is a delay in the twinning process, since no centres have effectively been twinned yet, but that the process has been built in such a way that the long term effects of the twinning might come to consist the nerve centre of the sustainability of the project, and that the effects might go far beyond what was originally envisaged. This is definitely an area to be taken under serious consideration when looking at the continuation of the project.


Budget report in annex	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/>
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For the Partner

Date :

Name :

Signature

 VVOB vzw	VVOB report VERIFICATION REPORT
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Budget report in annex	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
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For the Partner

Date :

Name :

Signature

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Elements for the Progress Monitoring Report: effectiveness and efficiency

RA 1 set up of CAC structure in DAC

Effectiveness: replacement of communication officer and administrator effectively done.

Efficiency: money was of course saved, because these functions were not filled in over the past 5 months. Also, the actual salaries of the new people are lower than they were previously.

RA 2 CAC networks and hubs identified in the 3 provinces

Effectiveness: capacity of art centre managers has been built wrt delivery of services to the communities: esp. the activities in the centers have been changed:

- a) KZN: Stable Theatre reached almost full capacity in terms of staff and space / Ulundi: the main focus has been on outreach programmes in schools and local art organisations, leading to the establishment of cooperatives in the craft sector.
- b) FS: in Thabong, the year programme is running at full capacity, although impact could be strengthened wrt audience development. Lots of outreach programmes as well in the district. In Zamdela, programmes are starting to run towards optimising the local centre.
- c) Limpopo: Thoyohandou: the replacement of the centre manager led to a delay, the Poverty Alleviation projects are running, but there is no space for a lot of additional activity because of the remaining lack wrt the institutional framework. In Giyani a stronger centre manager was appointed, so programmes are running regularly

Efficiency: VVOB can agree to the fact that more focus has been put on the roll out in the CAC's themselves. Hopefully this will become a major incentive for the institutional level (in the provinces and at national level) to put a strong, sustainable and feasible action plan in place to support the centers in the longer term

Volgende resultaatgebieden kan ik pas invullen na jullie analyse in het partner's rapport

RA 3-4-5-6 Policy related result areas

Effectiveness:

Efficiency:

RA 7 manuals for managers

Effectiveness:

Efficiency:

RA 8 relationship to Flanders

Effectiveness: the second leg of the student exchange with 6 SA students going to Flanders to 6 different centers in Flanders (March-May 2005) took place.. Follow up: a Flemish expert, mr.Bart Roge (Unit of Prof.Pinxten at UG) spent 8 weeks in SA, investigating through the student's contacts potentials for partnerships for further sustainable collaboration.

Efficiency: The selection of the students had a very varied degree profiles: some integrated very well into the Flemish centre environment and came back with real ideas of using their experiences in the local context, for others, the effect of the visit to the SA centre context can be questioned

Reports back indicated the visit of the Flemish expert's visit to have been very successful and bringing forward interesting ideas. The final report is awaited.

General appreciation :

The project has made the correct internal decision, that after the preparatory work at the institutional level in the first 2 years of its existence, as well as the major focus that still being put on the development of the policy, to actually focus more on the setting up and rolling out of activities in the centers themselves. This should provide the best reasoning to guarantee (financial and institutional) support for the centers in the longer term.

This does remain the main question mark in this project, which is in its last 6 months of implementation. The real sustainability is definitely not a given.

To VVOB, as to the project team, it remains unclear what real use the national department of Arts and Culture will make of e.g. the policy.

With regard to possible extensions that would be negotiated, we would definitely advise not to prolongue the project as is (since all the set up plans have been filled in), it is now merely a question of finding possible budgets in South Africa. According to us, Flanders and the way its development aid is set up (focuc on capacity building and innovative developments within the line functions of the Departments), cannot provide in budgets that do belong to the core businesses of the partner's.

E.g. when extra training would be needed for the CAC managers, it would be interesting for SA to investigate to which extend the funds available at the National Skills Fund could well be used for the cultural sector.

It would be relevant however to look to which extend the exchanges from Flanders could in the longer term keep the exchange of ideas and concepts in the centers themselves, vivid, as well towards the management, the local artists as towards the audiences.

One should not forget that the concept of a Community Arts Centre is quite a European one, that had to make itself accepted in the African concept. With the support of the Flemish project, a sound foundation has been laid, at least if the momentum can be extended via a continuous stream of activities that impact on the local dynamics and that support the local demand as well as create new lines of vision.

The broader project framework :**Institutional framework:**

The policy development is in its final stages, with Mrs. Ann Olaerts to come over in the beginning of October. This could provide the department of Arts and Culture with a very important tool to support the CAC's in the most structural sense.

However, it is still not very clear to VVOB to what extend the department is internalising or preparing the roll over of the work the project has been doing. Of course one has to be realistic enough to see the relative moderate pace to what extend a department can indeed move. It would be highly disturbing if policies could continuously change as well. But a concept like the CAC, which has been a politically accepted concept as from 1994 when SA started building them, according to us, could well have been integrated more profoundly within the departmental structures.

Project management:

No specific points of attention during the past monitored period: the project management team is standing strong together and builds in the necessary, internal reflection moments.

Human resources

The replacement of the communications manager has been handled internally. No other issues to be mentioned at this stage.

Budget

Gerard, kan jij hier de context schetsen?

Logistics

The project logistics have been in place for a very long time.

Infrastructure

NA

Communication

The post of communication manager is still not being filled in, and will not be done, because the general communication is taken up by the project team, including the new administrator. The newsletter will be handed over to the people that will be doing the management training.

Time adherence

A few delays occurred, partly due to the vacancies in the team. But overall, the project adhered to the planning and is on schedule. The main delay was on the training.

Process observation

Internally, there are no obstacles that intervene with the daily running of the project: the team is working well together in their efforts and the development of a vision that takes the projects –the longer it unfolds– into the implementation at the grass roots level.

Externally, wrt DAC, the integration of project principles (esp, wrt certain layers on a national and in some provinces –Limpopo–) there is still no real success in integrating it organically and as a line function issue. The fact IS that specific individuals are doing the extra mile in having the policy development and the provisioning of budgets stand high on the agenda but of course a Department is a large institute that moves at its own pace. Question remains to what extend an external intervention at this higher level can really make the extra impact that the project has not really made up to date. It is a fact that, according to VVOB, the seeds have been provided, they now have to be and could be picked up by the departmental officials.

Policy changes

No real policy changes, because the draft policy is still to be accepted and integrated in the DAC policy review.

At the provincial level, at least in the FS, the Department of Arts and Culture have reviewed their arts centre policy.

Impact of the project to date

In the centers, one can globally say that the project has made a positive impact on the cultural life of the surrounding communities, particularly on local artists and local art organisations. Of course, one should place this in a changing SA context, where arts and culture has for most of the past been taking places an integrated part of community life, where as the art centres the idea is to take it to a higher, more professional, more diverse level. This is a complete new concept on the whole. One has to take care of this vision, without interrupting the basics of SA culture. At the level of participation, the project has impacted in the sense that now all the places are equipped, and they can cater for larger audiences.

Follow up on action points of the previous progress monitoring report :

Wrt institutional integration for post project phase in DAC:

In general, the Department has accepted the results of the project and uses them in its own operations (eg the deputy minister has accepted the project as a feeder into their own anchor project in the department on Art Centers). However, no specific strategic vision and plan has been developed, despite this issue has been raised many times by now in different PMR's as well as in the Result Monitorings and in the mid term evaluation.

Of course, the project team has no decisive impact on this issue. The policy component of the project has been presented to the technical committee of DAC, but the Department has not taken it forward. With the visit of the Flemish expert later in the year, the project team hopes to meet with the Director General in this regard, plus with senior management. VVOB accepts the fact that the project, for the remaining time, will mainly focus on cultural activities at grass roots level, as well as on training, in order to set best practices wrt programming, creation of audiences etc. In the hope that these good examples will also influence the completion process.

The exchange programme: the next exchange in October is being better structured, to ensure that participants are informed about their own art centers, and deliver presentations in Flanders. The officials will be held more accountable on their return to SA wrt the feed back into their respective Departments. Of course, one needs to admit that one is very much dependent of the goodwill of the participants. Exchanges remain a motivational issue in its own right. Nevertheless, VVOB thinks it was a wise initiative to move some of the remaining exchange budget into the programming scheme of the CAC's, which could well have more grass roots impact than the planned exchange programmes. We suggest that the closing off report will come with proposals in this regard.

CST: proper consultation has taken place, a pilot session of the play "The three generations" is under construction: the questionnaires are being sent out. The gender unit of the HSRC has been taken under the arm to speed up the process. By February the premiere should take place. The project was invited to attend a workshop on CAC's in Belfast, on this CST play under construction.

A Meeting with the provincial Ministers of Arts and Culture took place in the past period (April 15 and July 7), where the proposals and the analysis were accepted, but apparently no SA get is available to bring them into practice. This puts a very large constraint on issues of sustainability, and it has to be taken into account if the project is due to be extended. Some of the provinces, are taking up the project, esp. KZN and since the appointment of a new Head of Department in the FS, also in that province.

Follow up on action points for the next progress monitoring report :

Planning for the handing over of the project.
Preparing a good, concise document for the visit of Mr. Bert Anciaux, Flemish Minister for Arts and Culture, when he visits SA at the end of the year. This document must contain the issue of sustainability to a very large extend.

Next partner's report and closing off report are expected by :

March 5, 2006.

VVOBvzw next field visit :
Early March 2006.

For VVOBvzw

Date:

Name:

Signature

Annexures :

Gerard, zullen we de annexen ronde policy opnemen die je eerder deze week doorstuurde? Ja aub

Nog andere annexen?

Financial report

Rapport van Bart Roge? (vraag t aan Jasper)