



NINE URBAN BIOTOPES

Negotiating the Future of Urban Living

NINE URBAN BIOTOPES – Negotiating the Future of Urban Living (9UB) brings together artists and urban practitioners living and working in cities in Europe and South Africa. From January until September 2014 they will engage in a working process that combines cultural exchange with artistic research and production, in order to reflect upon and make visible global processes and their local impacts in a trans-continental project.

The artist-in-residence program between practitioners in South Africa - *Johannesburg, Durban, Cape Town* - and Europe - *London, Paris, Turin and Berlin* - will generate a trans-local dialogue that enables the potential of visionary practices for sustainable cities to be seen in relation to each other.

Nine artistic projects will be researched and produced in nine innovative urban settings and three of them will run simultaneously every three months. From January through March 2014 the project will begin with the artists *Marjetica Potrc in Soweto, Antje Schiffers in Cape Town and Athi-Patra Ruga in Berlin*. Every project will include an integrated reporter who will communicate its process and products using social apps and smart phone technology.

A »mobile exhibition« will showcase the final project outcomes and interconnect the different biotopes with each other. And finally, the last product of the project, the eBook publication »Urban Biotopes« will be launched in late 2014.

By implementing **9UB** within a South African – European partnership structure, local answers to global questions can be discussed such that they shed light on sustainable solutions and innovative ideas regarding urban development issues.

The project was initiated by urban dialogues Berlin and will be realised with partners from Europe and South Africa. European Partners are *the South London Gallery, Istituto Wesen Turin, Quatorze Paris, id22 Berlin* and South African partners are *Drama for Life Wits University Johannesburg, dala artarchitecture Durban, Cape Town TV and Planact Johannesburg*. Furthermore *Goethe-Institut Sub-Sahara and the GIZ VCP Project (Violence and Crime Prevention)* are involved in the project in South Africa.

The *Centre for Urban and Community Research, Goldsmiths College, University of London*, will lead the academic support of the overall project and evaluate it throughout.