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TITLE OF PROJECT: Development Resources Trust, operating
as the Development Resources Centre (DRC)
CONTACT PERSON/S: David Bonbright (executive director)
Malusi Mpumlwana (chairperson)
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ACCOUNT NAME: Development Resources Trust
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FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

TOTAL BUDGET OF THE ORGANISATION - R1 976 000

HOW MUCH IS THE ORGANISATION ASKING FOR FROM WUS(I)

YEAR FOR WHICH THE FUNDS ARE REQUESTED - 1992

WHAT WILL THE AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM NUS BE USED FOR? - To support the 1992 activities of the trust's sole operating arm, DRC.

BUDGET INFORMATION:

1. SALARIES AND STAFF BENEFITS

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- R200 000

x 7 professionals G R3 750 p.m. x 12 : R315 000

Benefits e R1 916,66 p.m. x 12 x 7 : 161 000

Support staff x 2.5 x 12 : 64 000

Consultancy : 200 000

TOTAL : R740 000

2. IMPLEMENTATION COSTS

Rent : R150 000

Equipment, maintenance, insurance,
auditors, software : 51 000

Office supplies : 15 000

Communications, : 60 000

Board of trustees meetings/

communications links (modems,Worknet) : 19 000

IConsultative council meetings/

(Icommunications links (modems,Worknet) : 79 500

Travel - local, regional, international : 110 000

Contingency : 68 000

Subscriptionsh : 35 000

TOTAL : R587 500

3. PROGRAMME COSTS

Publications - printing & distribution : R100 000

Projects: - '

- Independent Commission of Inquiry
on the Enabling Environment for

N605 : 155 000

- Southern African Fund for Women : 65 000

- South African Community Trusts : 10 000

TOTAL : R330 000

4. CAPITAL COSTS : R318 500

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET : R1 976 000

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OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

To launch the project, fundraising was started in April 1991, when 27 major donors were approached in South Africa, Europe, the United States and Canada.

The Canadian and Dutch embassies responded positively with grants totalling R80 000.

Further fundraising efforts between May and July raised grants totalling R642 000 from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Ford Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation and WK Kellogg Foundation.

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' The German agency, EZE, has indicated that it will make an immediate contribution of R130 000 for the library as well as begin the longer-term process towards a larger grant.

The Liberty Life Foundation has contributed offices, valued at R94 000 a year, and is considering a significant direct financial contribution as well, as are the Gencor Development Trust and the Anglo American and De Beers Chairman's Fund.

As a result of the above efforts, about half of the funds needed to adequately capitalise DRC have been raised. In addition, applications are pending with a number of major European donors and the Canadian International Development Research Centre but are only likely to be realised in early 1992.

While donors will remain important, there will be a growing reliance on revenues from non-grant sources. This will be realised through the sale of publications, training and information services.'

HISTORY OF THE PROJECT:

'There has been a dramatic growth of non-governmental development organisations throughout the world over the last two decades.

This has co-incided with the economic privatisation agenda of developed country donors, which has resulted in sharp increases in financial flows to NGOs.

South Africa both reflects, and differs from, the general trend.

There has been a rapid growth in the number of NGOs since the 1970s and the financial resources now invested in, or through, NGOs is approaching R3 billion a year, with about half of that being raised within the country.

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Because of apartheid, these NGUs have emerged out of a conscious resistance to the white minority regime and in varying degrees of affiliation with the political liberation movements. Political changes since February 2 1990 have forced these NGOs to enter a new struggle - re-orienting their work from mobilising political resistance to supporting sustainable development.

To meet this new challenge, NGO leaders must master new skills and relate to the commercial and public sectors in South Africa in new ways. This is happening at a time when historic sources of "solidarity" funding are drying up and new funding opportunities have to be found. These are only available to those who can show that they can promote development.

Extensive consultations as to how NGDs can meet these new challenges have indicated that a range of specialised resource institutions are needed to help them. Ideally, these should network to provide complementary information, training, advice and other support functions to NGOs.

The DRC is one response to this need for new and effective forms of assistance to NGDs as they try to build their capacity for the challenges ahead. It was formed in April 1991 after 14 months of investigation and consultation with NGOs, politicians and development practitioners.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

DRC's broad aim is to contribute to the development of an independent, self-reliant non-profit development sector in South and southern Africa.

Its programme has two interdependent, complementary elements:

- # skills building through the provision of information, training and advice to NGD leaders in the areas of fundraising, motivating and supporting volunteers, strengthening governing boards, partnering with other NGDs, communications and problem solving.

- # activities to help create and nurture an enabling environment for effective, self-reliance and independent NGOs.

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The enabling_environment element has two aspects:

X examining the legal framework within which NGOs operate and formulating new laws and regulations. This is being done through the Independent Commission of Enquiry on the Enabling Environment for NGOs, which covers issues such as tax, registration and reporting requirements for non-profit institutions.

developing an NBC resource base through research, information, advice and training services as well as public education and advocacy.

TARGET GROUP:

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Non-profit development and human rights initiatives, especially those located in historically disadvantaged communities! There is a bias in favour of the most disadvantaged, e.g. women's and rural groups.

To ensure as wide a spread as possible, DRC's services will be provided to other institutions working with the poor.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT:

Information, Advice and Training

The core of DRC's programme will be a comprehensive data base on developmental resources. These include financial resources (the donors for, and buyers of, N60 services) and non-financial resources (such as technical expertise, contacts, research, models, approaches, lessons and ideas).

It will also distribute this information through practical publications such as grant seekers guides, newsletters and "how to" manuals, and training.

Training seminars and courses will cover a wide range of issues relating to the strengthening of the N60 resource base, including fundraising, motivating and supporting volunteers, strengthening governing boards, partnering with other NGOs, evaluation, communications and problemssolving. These courses are being designed through consultation with a range of NGOs countrywide.

To avoid the red tape, dependency etc associated with the "grant game", DRC helps NGOs develop alternatives to straight project grants, such as programme funding, endowments, wasting capital funds and loan guarantee schemes. It also emphasises co-operative approaches to fund raising.

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DRC operates-a "walk-in" professional advice service to NGOs. On request, it will diagnose an NGOs institutional capacity and recommend appropriate support services to develop the needed capacity.

It will not duplicate the work of existing support service providers, but act as a "guided pathway" to them for local NGOs while maintaining its own specialisation in building fundraising, communication and problem-solving skills among NGO leaders. This approach will involve close co-operation with other support service providers.

The Independent Commission of Enquiry on the Enabling Environment DRC has sponsored and organised this commission to stimulate serious discussion among NGOs and in society at large about how existing laws can be adapted or changed to allow NGOs to operate more effectively in uprooting poverty and redressing disadvantage.

The commission will sit for 12 months, during which time DRC will provide professional back-up. The report of the commission will be published and circulated widely.

Volunteering and Philanthropy

To further help NGOs broaden their resource base, DRC is undertaking research on the character of giving and volunteering in South Africa.

It is also initiating several special projects to strengthen local philanthropy. One of these is the Southern African Fund for Women, which is being created in collaboration with the California-based Global Fund for Women.

'This will be a regional grant making body concentrating on women's rights, gender equity and economic empowerment.

South African Community Grant Making Trusts Project.

Partly as a by-product of disinvestment, a number of grant making trusts were created in the 1980s. Many of these were run by community leaders and executives from donor companies and have become very good at identifying and supporting community-based projects with modest funding levels in areas such as pre-school education, maternal and child health and nutrition, literacy, teenage pregnancy and hunger.

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These are now under threat of closure as their funding sources dry up, and rather than see them close their doors, DRC wants to help them become more dynamic, self-reliant agencies. As a pilot project to this end, DRC is now working with the highly effective Reiger Park Trust to strengthen its ability to make grants, raise funds and take an even greater leadership role in the community.

Electronic Information Network

DRC is applying available information technology to build an electronic information network for NGDs, grant making institutions and others. It will provide timely access to relevant news, resources and information about development issues. The network will also be used to link the 40 to 50 members of the consultative council and the eight trustees of the centre for regular discussions about work in progress etc.

PROGRAMME OF ACTION:

During its first year, DRC will concentrate on:

- t establishing an office in Johannesburg and hiring staff
- X consolidating the board of trustees and consultative council and establishing the electronic information network. .

- x # building a data base of resources for development ' agencies

- X planning, preparing and initiating information, advice and training services. During 1992, it plans to provide advice_to 50 organisations, run at least one training coursedin every province, hold one national training event/conference and publish two major directories of development resources.

- X initiating and implementing special projects such as the Independent Commission of Enquiry, the Southern African Fund for Women and the Community Grant Making Trusts Project. '

- initiating research on giving and volunteering.

- developing and raising funds for a three-year programme to address the need to make the centre's services self-financing and more accessible beyond the PWV area.

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STRUCTURE AND ACCOUNTABILITY:

DRC operates under the legal framework of a registered not-for-profit trust called the Development Resources Trust.

The eight trustees are drawn from the leadership ranks of major social, political, geographic and economic constituencies in the region. They are: Rev Malusi Mpumlwana (chairperson), Mr John Samuel, Mr Moeletsi Mbeki, Professor Nicholas Haysom, Ms Shirley Moulder, Mrs Sithembiso Nyoni (Zimbabwe), Professor Francis Wilson and Mr David Bonbright.

The consultative council will consist of between 40 and 50 representatives of a wide range of interest groups.

The initial staff will consist of an executive director, a director of publications, a director of information and library services, a director of advice and training services and a chief administrator. Three of these have been identified.

DRC will make strategic use of consultancies to build up its information base, publications and training and advice services, drawing on skilled and experienced people in the region.

The 14-month feasibility study leading to the establishment of the centre actively sought out the views of women, youth and rural dwellers and DRC has a leading rural woman activist on its board.

DRC is building relationships with other support service providers.

It will be accountable to its constituencies in that it will charge fees - and if it is not providing an acceptable service, its services will not be bought. But it is also accountable 'through its consultative council and other more informal mechanisms designed to elicit the views of NGOs. The consultative council will hold its first meeting in early 1992,

IMPACT:

DRC hopes to be able to help develop more effective non-profit development agencies at every level of society and its impact will be felt through the direct provision of organisational skills for development work at all these levels.

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MONITORING AND EVALUATION:

DRC's first year will be dominated by continuous assessment and evaluation as it prepares its three-year programmes.

PROJECT ACTIVITY FOR THE LAST YEAR:

Not applicable

PROJECT FUTURE PLANS:

. See DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT and PROGRAMME OF ACTION above.