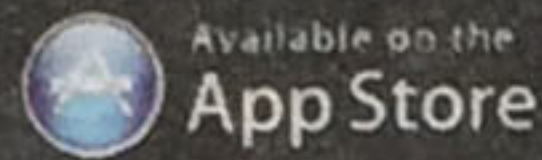


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# Fuelling up on rubbish

A Kraaifontein waste conversion plant is making magic in creating oil from used plastic. And it's also creating employment for members of the community.



■ Freddy Sanduku, Bongwiwe Nyekendela and Nosipho Bam at the the launch of the new facility.

ORIELLE BERRY

Travel around just about any neighbourhood and you'll find our national "flower" adhering to wire fences on a windy day, while plastic bottles litter the ground.

But did you know that every kilogram of plastic waste can be converted into about one litre of fuel?

To this end, the City and Japanese partner corporations have been hard at work for more than a year completing a conversion plant at the Kraaifontein Integrated Waste Management Facility.

Last week saw the culmination of months spent on the finer details of diverting plastic waste from landfill sites to conversion, using sophisticated machinery and technology, at the official launch of the facility.

At the opening, Shigeyuki Hiroki, the Japanese ambassador to South Africa, told the contin-

gent of councillors, community leaders and media, "Plastic should be one of the inventions we cherish. But waste management is one of the major challenges we face today, even though harmful waste could become a gold mine."

He said Japanese companies, including the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), have experimented and found various successful ways in which to recycle used products effectively.

Using the example of the newly-opened conversion plant, he said it was his ardent wish "the success of this plant spreads over to communities throughout South Africa".

Ernest Sonnenberg, Mayco member for utility services agreed that waste, "an unwelcome reality of life", had an untapped potential. "The dynamic sharing of innovation and technology can contribute to the further positive development of the city."

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Northern News wishes our Hindu readers and advertisers a happy Diwali.