

SOLUTIONS

Mobile showers help homeless

Nina Manzi (mother of water) – a mobile shower and an ablution facility servicing homeless people went into full operation recently in Cape Town. The bus offers 15-minute hot showers in exchange for vouchers earned through programmes run by an organisation called U-Turn. People living on the streets of the city struggle to access decent washing and toilet facilities.

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Cape Town recently welcomed South Africa's first 'wash bus' for the homeless, Nina Manzi. The colourful bus has four hot water showers and four toilets divided for male and female use. There is a 15-minute limit per person and users are given soap, a towel, a face cloth and skin cream. The project is a collaboration between Viva Con Agua, U-Turn and Baz-Art.

Although mobile, the bus requires connections to water, sewage and electricity. Sisanda Henda, who works for Viva Con Agua and is the Project



The designs and artwork on the bus were done by artists in collaboration with Baz-Art. Sanelisiswe Singaphi depicted the character of Nina Manzi on the side.

