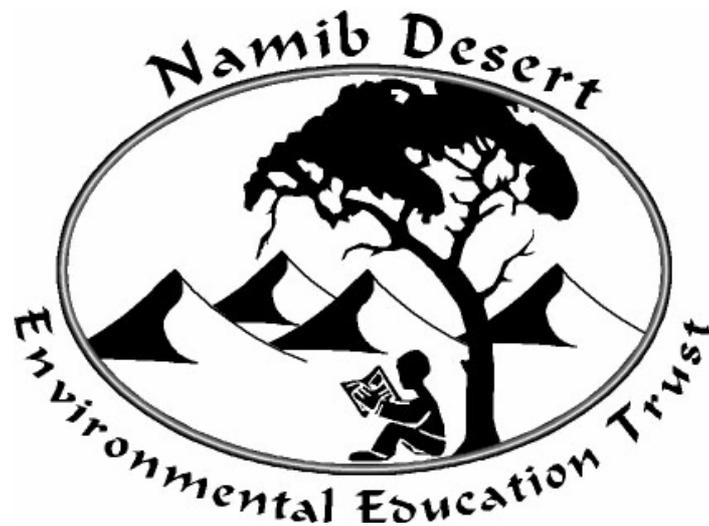




# THE ANNUAL MOLE

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Namib Desert  
Environmental Education Trust



NADEET'S Annual Report  
March 2005 - February 2006

# OVERVIEW

Dear NaDEET friends,

This past year is one of great achievement as NaDEET has grown from strength to strength. I am very excited to present our first annual report that highlights all of these successes, our finances and our fundraising efforts. It is only with the on-going support of all of our donors in Namibia and throughout the world that we are able to work towards our vision.

## NaDEET Vision

*To empower Namibians to make decisions for a sustainable future.*

The core of NaDEET's work continues to be our sustainable living programmes at **NaDEET Centre** on NamibRand Nature Reserve in the Namib Desert. To date approximately 1 500 children and teachers have successfully completed the NaDEET programme since its inception in 2003. The majority of our school groups are primary school-aged (10-12 years) and are from Windhoek, Swakopmund and our local area– the Hardap Region. NaDEET Centre also hosted four adult groups this past year including most recently the Game Rangers Association of Africa. On the following page of this annual report, we will take a more in depth look at NaDEET Centre visitors and activities.

During this past year NaDEET has also focussed its energies on **capacity building**. Environmental education (EE) remains a small, understaffed field in Namibia where adult education and training is crucial to overcoming this gap. To address this I collaborated with one of Namibia's leading tertiary institutions, the Polytechnic of Namibia. I was one of two course conveners for an adult, semi-distance year-long course– the Namibian Environmental Education Certificate (NEEC) Course. In late January 2006, I was very proud to attend the graduation ceremony at the Polytechnic of the 17 adult participants who had successfully completed the course.

NaDEET's own institutional capacity building is also of utmost importance and is a focus for 2006. NaDEET welcomes one new full-time staff member as assistant environmental educator, Michaela Phemelo. She is a former in-service training student from the Polytechnic of Namibia– Nature Conservation Diploma course. Michaela grew up in the Eastern part of Namibia in the town Gobabis. After secondary school she was interested in learning more about her environment and being able to make a difference. With the successful completion of her diploma and through NaDEET's in-house training programme, Michaela will develop more advanced skills and knowledge in environmental education to take on the demanding position of full-time environmental educator at the Centre.

NaDEET has also hosted several In-Service Training students from the Polytechnic of Namibia for a six-month practical experience in EE. Our current intern, Thomas Neema, is a second-year student completing a project on the transpiration rate of various plant species in the desert.

In the past year, NaDEET has continued to promote **environmental literacy** through it's youth mini-magazine, the *Bush Telegraph*. Two issues were developed and distributed to more than 7 500 readers nation-wide. Feedback remains very positive and readers continue to interact with the *Bush Telegraph* through contests and letters to "Dear Chinga and Nzovu".

In the following pages I also report on NaDEET's finances, capital expenditure projects and other projects including the Succulent Karoo Environmental Education Development project.

**Fundraising** remains one of the most important, yet difficult tasks for all of us at NaDEET. Few children who participate in the NaDEET Centre programme are able to cover the full costs. It is of utmost importance to us that all children, regardless of income, are able to visit the Centre and gain knowledge and skills in sustainable living much needed in today's world.

**For 2006** NaDEET aims to continuously improve on its work and to engage more Namibians in sustainable living. We as individuals, local community, nation and ultimately world must work together to critically reflect on our lifestyles and daily lifestyle choices as these have an everlasting impact on our natural environment. I believe that through NaDEET's work Namibians will be better informed and equipped to live together with their environment and not against it. In 2006 a main focus is on capacity building and increasing NaDEET's EE staff. It is also a goal to have more adult groups visit NaDEET Centre. Lastly NaDEET aims to shift from a start-up to a more self-sustainable organisation in our financial and institutional capacity.

On behalf of everyone at NaDEET, I am extremely grateful to all of our friends and supporters throughout the past year who continue to make our work possible. I would also like to share the gratitude of NaDEET Centre visiting children and teachers who had the opportunity to benefit from the NaDEET programme.

I thank all of you for your encouragement and support!



Viktoria Keding- Director



# NADEET Centre



Daweb JSS learners at NaDEET Centre in December 2005

NaDEET Centre is proud to have hosted a total of twenty-two groups this past year. We had a total of 834 participants of which 26% were adults. These adults were teachers and parents of the school children in addition to the four adult groups that participated in the programme. The other 74% were school children of which the majority are from grade 6-7 (ages 10-12).

As outlined in the graph below, we have had a steady increase in the number of groups per annum since we first opened NaDEET Centre in 2003. Although we continue to advertise by sending an informational brochure to schools, most visitors learn of NaDEET through word of mouth. With more staff, NaDEET Centre would be able to accommodate approximately 10 more groups per year.

One of our greatest achievements this past year is that 70% of our school groups are returnees. A significant number of schools have made NaDEET Centre an annual class trip for a particular grade level. Most of these groups have already booked for 2006. Our programme continues to be designed for each visiting age group and is based on the Namibian school curriculum. During the programme, teachers become acutely aware just how many of the hands-on activities at NaDEET cover material from their classroom syllabus.

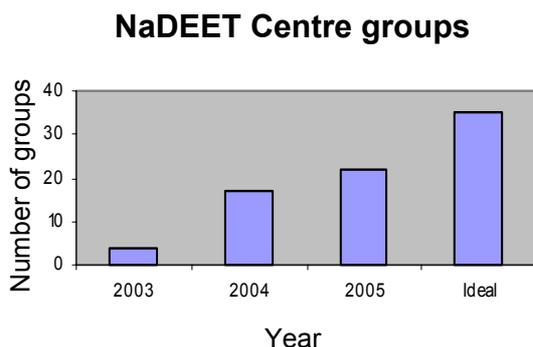
NaDEET Centre and its programme continues to develop and grow to adapt to our changing environment and meet the needs of our participants.

## School Groups

Windhoek International School x 2  
 Usakos Children's Education Centre  
 Deutsche Höhere Private School x 2  
 Suiderlig High School UNESCO ASP Camp x 2  
 Namib Primary School  
 Aranos Primary School  
 Young Scientists– Windhoek region  
 Cambridge Primary School  
 Dr. Frans Indongo Primary School x 2  
 Edward Garoeb Primary School  
 St. George's College  
 Danie Joubert Primary School x 2  
 Daweb Primary School

## Adult Groups

Namibia Nature Foundation staff weekend  
 German Lutheran Church Congregation  
 Maltahöhe Farmers Association  
 Game Rangers Association of Africa



## ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT

As an environmental organization, we believe in a holistic approach. NaDEET Centre therefore does not just educate about sustainable living, but we practice it. Participants are also involved in monitoring and contributing to NaDEET's success in sustainable living through the following activities:

### WATER AUDIT

#### 24 HOUR WATER COUNT

Learners investigated their total water use over a 24 hour period. This was repeated throughout their stay.

Average water use in 2005 was 11.45 litres per day per person for all activities.



### ENERGY AUDIT

#### SOLAR COOKING

With awe and enthusiasm, participants cooked more than 150 lunches and dinners using a parabolic solar cooker and solar oven. Only a few cloudy and rainy afternoons prevented us from using the sun.

#### SOLAR ELECTRICITY

All electricity used at NaDEET Centre was generated by solar panels from the sun. Learners investigated how solar electricity works through five different experiments.



### WASTE AUDIT

#### The 3 R's -REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE

Learners participate in proper waste management by implementing the 3 R's. Learners reduce their waste as they each re-use a plastic bottle for drinking throughout their visit. NaDEET Centre also has a recycling area to separate the waste produced. Lastly, learners gain skills in making their own 'firewood' and recycling at the same time by making paper fire bricks which are used in a fuel-efficient stove to boil water in the mornings.

# Capacity Building

In line with government policy, NaDEET aims to build the capacity of Namibians in EE. This field is underdeveloped in the country and there is a lack of sufficient qualified environmental educators. Our main capacity building efforts are done 'on the job' at the Centre. To help build capacity throughout the country, NaDEET taught an adult professional development course on behalf of the Polytechnic of Namibia. Teachers attending the NaDEET Centre programme together with their learners are also challenged to critical reflect on their own teaching methods and approaches.

## Internal Capacity Building



Michaella Phemelo

Since January 2006 a former in-service training student, Michaella Phemelo, has joined NaDEET's full-time staff. Michaella is currently the assistant environmental educator at NaDEET Centre. Through 'on the job training' she is working to advance as the main environmental educator.

In the past, Viktoria Keding, together with an in-service training student has managed and taught all of the NaDEET Centre programmes. With the increased number of schools, it is not possible for one person to do all of the work alone.

In addition, most school groups are bringing 40 learners, our maximum capacity. NaDEET believes that we can offer a much better service with a lower educator to learner ratio.



Michaella assisting learners in the classroom

## Polytechnic of Namibia: Nature Conservation Diploma– In-Service Training Students



Since 2004, NaDEET has hosted four students from the Nature Conservation Diploma course. Students are required to complete a research project relevant to their study site. In addition, these students gain skills in EE, activity development and implementation and sustainable living. Former student Uakendisa Muzuma reflects on his training at NaDEET,

*"Most importantly I applied my theoretical knowledge in practical skills because at NaDEET Centre most of the activities are practical. Therefore it was educative and exciting to be at NaDEET. Thank you!"*

Current student, Thomas Neema (middle), preparing dinner with a visiting school

## External Capacity Building

### Polytechnic of Namibia– College of Open and Lifelong Learning Namibian Environmental Education Certificate (NEEC) Course



Viktoria Keding (left) and fellow tutor Ronnie Bock (third from right-back) with NEEC course participants

On behalf of NaDEET, Viktoria Keding was one of two tutors contracted to convene the NEEC course in 2005. A total of 17 participants from throughout Namibia completed the course. Participants came from two backgrounds– formal and non-formal education. The course engages participants to critically analyse the environmental crisis and to reflect on their own responses. Participants are required to develop, implement and evaluate an original environmental education programme relevant to their work context. The course materials and workshops are designed to support participants in their own programme development. Some of the participant projects included setting up a village council-environmental committee, implementing water saving activities in the school curriculum and establishing HIV/AIDS clubs with learners, teachers and parents.

Viktoria was also responsible for developing skills and knowledge in three "tutors-in-training" of which one, Martin Namutenya, has become a full-time NEEC tutor in 2006.



Photo on right: Viktoria with 'tutor-in-training' during NEEC workshop

# ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY

## **Bush Telegraph** NaDEET's youth mini-magazine

After five successful years, the *Bush Telegraph* is distributed to over 7 500 learners, educators and interested citizens in Namibia. This past year two issues were completed: "Big 5 and Little 5" and "The United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014)". The *Bush Telegraph* aims to cover relevant issues to the Namibian environment and conservation. One issue per year tends to address a more social-economic environmental issue while other issues are focussed on the biophysical environment.

The Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD) issue was developed for the first time in a participatory workshop approach. In October, NaDEET hosted a workshop which included sessions on the content of the DESD issue. Workshop participants were from a variety of backgrounds including a Local Agenda 21 project, teachers, youth officers, course developers and UNESCO. This approach was extremely successful. It was repeated again in February 2006 to develop a new issue currently being written on the topic "Wilderness Areas".



## OTHER PROJECTS

### **Succulent Karoo EE Project**

At the end of 2004, NaDEET was approached to develop and implement an environmental education programme in the Succulent Karoo ecosystem in the far South of Namibia. In early 2005, NaDEET was given funding by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund for the development phase of the project which was to culminate in a project proposal for implementation. The development phase however took an unexpected turn with the outcome that implementation by NaDEET would not be feasible. The main constraints to the continuance of the project was lack of staff and infrastructure—mainly housing in the Succulent Karoo area. Although this was a great disappointment to all involved, it was an extremely valuable learning experience for NaDEET staff. It has also helped to streamline and focus our main activities.

### **At-School-Programme**

The At-School-Programme aims to take environmental learning from NaDEET back to our learner's communities. Due to limited funding, staff and time, this project is still in its pilot phase. We did receive funding to implement one At-School-Programme this past year. In October 2005, a local school from Mariental—Danie Joubert Primary School participated in the NaDEET programme and developed an action project to implement in February 2006. Unfortunately due to a massive flood in Mariental, this project had to be indefinitely postponed. The At-School-Programme is therefore to be implemented with a different school in April 2006.

### **Capital Expenditure Projects**

During the past year, we had several capital expenditure projects. The most important one for NaDEET's institutional development was the extension of our office and construction of a communal kitchen, outdoor sitting area and two bedrooms with en suite bathrooms. With the need to increase staff, it was vital to provide these basic facilities. This project lasted for the majority of the year as we tried to get many materials donated. The office now also includes a reception information area and small curio shop to increase awareness about NaDEET's activities to visitors on NamibRand Nature Reserve. In addition in order to have sufficient energy, we have added to the existing solar electricity system at the office and have invested in an energy efficient fridge and freezer.

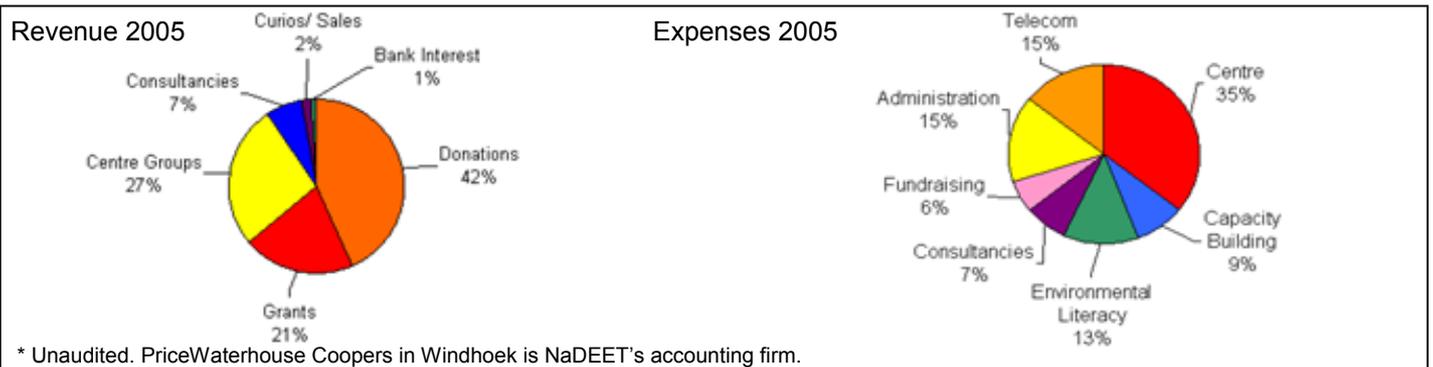
At NaDEET Centre we also made several improvements. When the Centre was originally built, all roofs of the buildings were made with two layers of 80% shade cloth. Due to rainfall being more than expected, in July 2005 the roof of the main building was waterproofed with a UV protected plastic sheet. We have also added an additional room to our small staff house to accommodate the increased number of NaDEET staff members.

# FINANCES & FUNDING

## Finances

During the past year, NaDEET has made strides in its financial vitality due to continued generosity of our donors. NaDEET's total revenue last year was approximately N\$615 000\* (€ 82 000, USD 98 000). The majority of our income came from donations from the private sector followed by the contributions that visiting groups were able to make. Grants also provided a significant source of funding at 21% of our total income.

Our expenses totaled N\$510 000\* (€ 68 000, USD 81 000) giving us a surplus of N\$105 000 in the March 2005 to February 2006 financial year. Our greatest operating expense was NaDEET Centre at 35% of our overall budget. Last year a significant portion of our funding was spent on Telecom Namibia as we were obliged to pay a high monthly rate for three years to pay off the installation of our satellite telephone, fax and internet system. Fortunately the three years are now complete and our communication costs should become a minimal part of our annual budget. In addition to our operating expenses we also spent approximately N\$140 000 on capital expenditure projects (see page 5).



## Fundraising

More than 60% from our income last year was derived through donations and grants. We are extremely grateful for all of the support that we have received from all our donors in Namibia and worldwide. NaDEET is only possible through your generosity. Most of our private donors are individuals that have actually seen NaDEET Centre, primarily through Tok Tokkie Trails or family and friends of NaDEET's trustees and director. We have also received funding through local Namibian grant-giving organisations, specifically Nedbank Namibia- Go Green Fund and small grants through the Namibia Nature Foundation. We hope that we will continue to be the beneficiaries of these grants as they are difficult to receive in a country where there are many 'good causes' but very little money. For the same reason we currently do not receive any funding from the Namibian government as the country has a small tax base and resources are scarce. For 2006 NaDEET continues to search for a large donor that will cover our operating expenses for several years to provide us with a secure future.

## Fundraising for NaDEET around the world

Fundraising is a difficult task that requires dedication and patience. Since our inception in 2003 we have been very fortunate to have several individuals throughout the world that have spent considerable time and effort to fundraise for us.

In **Holland** San van Vliet together with two other friends started an organization, deSTEEN (Supporting Environmental Education in Namibia). During the past year they linked NaDEET with Wilde Ganzen, a Dutch organisation that matches monies raised through fundraising events. deSTEEN held a fundraising event at the Free School of the Hague in 2005. All funds that were collected were donated to NaDEET to be used for the purchase of much needed solar electricity equipment (see page 5). Over the years deSTEEN has also raised funds through the sale of Christmas cards and has sourced other grant-giving organizations, such as the Netherlands Delegation to UNESCO in Paris.

In **France** the Panabieres family and friends have established a friends of NaDEET organization, 'Marseille Namibie'. They are passionate about the Namib Desert and the work of NaDEET- especially to promote democracy and teamwork. They have organised (and performed in) several music concerts in France to raise funds for NaDEET. As Bruno Panabieres wrote, "All my friends said I was crazy to try to organise a concert. For two months I thought, ate and slept the NaDEET concert. Afterwards, my friends and I are already planning another for the end of the year!"

In the **USA** Renate Paulick, Viktoria Keding's mother, arranged several talks and fundraising opportunities for Viktoria's last visit. Many additional donations were generated through these talks in 2005. In **Germany**, the Jacob's Gospel Singers held a concert from which the proceeds were donated to NaDEET. In addition several family members and friends in Namibia and overseas have made donations to NaDEET in lieu of presents for their weddings, anniversaries and birthdays.



Marseille Namibie NaDEET concert



# NADEET DETAILS

## NADEET Structure and Staff

**Board of Trustees**  
Christiane Berker      Elinor Dürr      Dorothe Klein

**Director**  
Viktoria Keding

**Assistant Environmental Educator Staff**  
Michaela Phemelo

### **Polytechnic of Namibia Nature Conservation In-Service Training Students**

Uakendisa Muzuma (March– June 2005)  
Bornface Simangolwa (July–December 2005)  
Thomas Neema (January– June 2006)

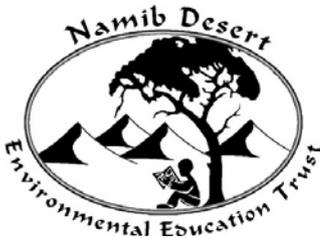
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*In order to conserve paper, time and money, we are no longer using envelopes for our newsletters.*

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Surname: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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***Thank you very much! Your help is greatly appreciated!***