



## Learning and Living for a Sustainable Future

Dear **NaDEET** Friend,

**NaDEET's** 20th anniversary year lived up to its expectations! **NaDEET** Centre was fully booked with almost 1000 participants who among many other things have solar cooked close to 900 hours in 30 multi-day, residential programmes.

The Urban Sustainability Centre hosted 700 participants in 28 groups in our 3-day programmes. At **NaDEET** Base we launched our new Information Centre. We prepared for the next Teach for ESD programme with a revamped Toolkit and a newly selected group of participating teachers.

I recently was approached by a teacher who enthusiastically told me how our programme had truly transformed her schoolchildren. She shared with me that her learners had a new confidence and perspective gained through our hands-on, learning by doing approach to teaching. I am very grateful to receive such praise of our programme, but also the numerous compliments for our friendly, knowledgeable and enthusiastic staff are very pleasing. This is core to the **NaDEET** working culture. On the flipside, I am equally excited to hear from my staff positive feedback about our participants as it lays the foundation for our participants to take **NaDEET** learning and practices to make changes in our society.

Of course, this year also brought its fair share of challenges with the largest being that we need to relocate our Urban Sustainability Centre premises. Fortunately, after months of searching, we have found a new home with the generous support of the ProNamib Trust. With the property and building secure, we now need to raise funds to transform it into a truly sustainable centre. We hope that you will support us and consider making an extra donation to this cause.

**NaDEET** is a special place. Help us to continue to transform the lives of Namibians. Seasonal greetings and all the best for the new year!



UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education  
for Sustainable Development  
Laureate 2018

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*Viktor Keding*

Viktor Keding, Director



# NaDEET Centre



**Centre on  
NamibRand**

2023

30  
groups

994  
participants

55% female  
45% male

900  
solar  
cooking hours



NaDEET Centre again welcomed a diversity of groups this year, including 13 first time participating organisations. We are pleased that our programmes for university students, youths and adults continues to expand whilst our school programme remains strong. For our youth and adult groups, we are now able to include NaDEET Base as part of the experience.



## Massive Sandstorm in the Namib

In July the Namib Desert received a sandstorm with winds up to 80 km/hr. Lasting several days, it is the first time in 20 years that we had to cancel a school group due to the weather! Many people assume that it is the heat that makes life in the desert challenging, but the wind, with its drying out effect and constant sand, is much more trying.



## Hear what our participants say about us!



### Primary School

*"The NaDEET programme made me feel responsible."* - Stampriet CS learner

*"It is a fun learning experience where you see wildlife, learn about nature and just enjoy seeing animals."*

- DHPS learner

*"I learned how to save energy and water and why it was important to recycle and take care of all biodiversity classes."*

- Khomasdal PS learner



### Secondary School

*"I will say that it is an interesting, engaging programme with lots of fun ways to learn about climate change and how to be sustainable."*

- St. Paul's College learner

*"I learned about how we can decrease our Enviro footprint and how we can do our part to sustain the earth's biodiversity."*

- Windhoek International School learner



### Youth

*"The programme has given me much more positive outlook on not only sustainability but life, I shall be more mindful on how much water I use on a daily basis, be mindful on how I manage waste at home and also share the knowledge gained with my housemate."*

- conservancy youth



### Adults

*"The programme provided a space for our team to learn together and to brainstorm how we can implement sustainable development into the workplace. We are walking away with clear goals and action points to develop a sustainable office space and environment."* - AltGen staff



### University

*"I personally have a garden at home, and before NaDEET I didn't know that I could make compost out of left over food but now I know and I am going to implement it in my garden."* - student





# NaDEET Centre

## Welcome to our new Information Centre at NaDEET Base!

NaDEET's philosophy is "we practice what we teach". In other words, we don't just teach about sustainable living, we practice it within all aspects of our work, even "behind the scenes". Since 2019 we have slowly transformed the Die Duine Homestead, our base on NamibRand, into a new modern, sustainable operation. Over the past years we have shared many of these improvements including our new office, composting facility, water infrastructure and garden. Our new information centre now makes it accessible for all visitors to enjoy.



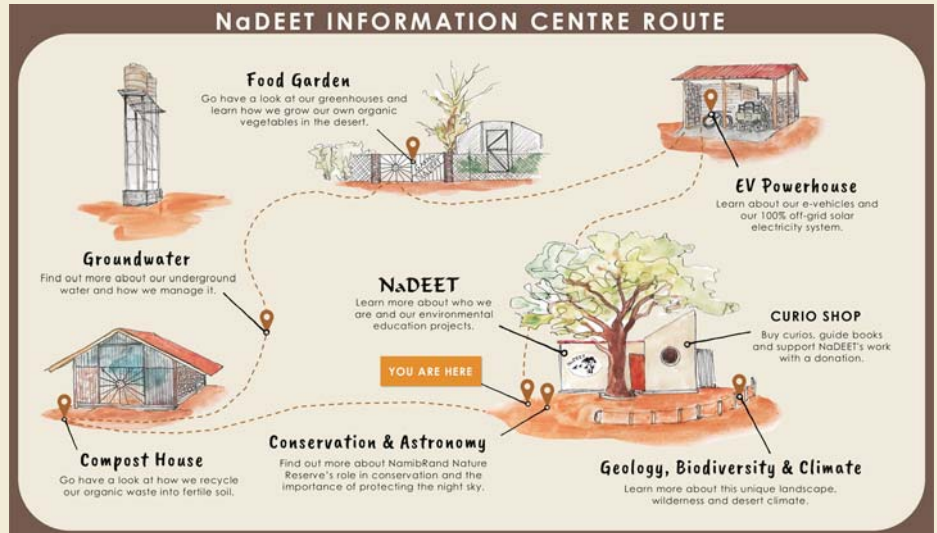
### Information Centre

In the shade of a majestic, old camel-thorn tree, our new information centre and curio shop welcomes guests. Starting with informational posters about NaDEET, visitors can follow a map to six information areas including natural history, the local area and NaDEET's sustainability infrastructure.



### Food Garden

We have often shared developments of our food garden. Now at the heart of the Information Centre, the food garden consists of four garden houses including one for chickens. Several members of the team have been through an extensive garden training which has already manifested itself in a more regular and abundant crop. As with everything we do, the garden is built in a low-cost, easy to replicate manner and can be visited by all.



### Conservation & Astronomy

The conservation successes of the NamibRand Nature Reserve is highlighted including a historical perspective.



### EV Powerhouse

Housing our unique electric farm vehicle, the Fonk, and e-bikes, the EV Powerhouse is the charging station. With our newly upgraded, independent solar system, we continue to be carbon free with our base operations and are able to meet our needs including EV charging at night.



### Natural History

Here one can explore the local geology, biodiversity and climate.



On 29 September we celebrated the official opening of our Information Centre and food garden with our donors - the Reinke Family, IDEALSPATEN-BRETT GmbH & Co. KG and our support organisation in Germany, Freundschaft mit NaDEET - together with the NamibRand community and neighbours. We are so grateful for this support!





# Urban Sustainability Centre



**Urban  
Sustainability  
Centre**

2023

28



groups

705



participants

60% female

40% male

650

day visitors

The Urban Sustainability Centre has grown this year in all aspects. Our Senior Primary School Programme has been fine-tuned, we have a vibrant team that is excelling at their work. We are expanding our reach with a significant increase in programme participants, as well as, many more day visitors than in the previous year. We are proud of our achievements and that the Urban Sustainability Centre is filling an important niche at the coast.

## Interactive, fun and practical - that's our approach to education!



*The teaching staff seems to love what they are doing and are so much well equipped, with information regarding all topics covered during the course of the 3 days. Organized, professional and so helpful. I could not have asked for someone else.*  
- Teacher !Oe#gab Primary School



## A Lasting Effect

Over the course of our 3-day programme, our participants experience tremendous personal growth. The NaDEET approach to teaching and learning fully engages schoolchildren to apply different skills including critical thinking, creativity and teamwork. For most, it is the first time to have the opportunity to take part in such an environmental education programme. Throughout various activities schoolchildren connect environmental issues to their daily lives and on a personal level. As part of our monitoring and evaluation we ask learners to draw a poster to share what they have learned with others. It is an excellent way to gain insight of the lasting effect of the programme.



## Time for New Beginnings

As we have reported in various media, we must vacate our current premises in early 2024. Fortunately it is not the end, yet a new beginning. With the generous support of the ProNamib Trust we have found a wonderful new home just up the road. Belonging to a former teacher, the home will be converted into our new Urban Sustainability Centre where we (re)-install our Eco House and Exploring Namibia Room. At our new home we look forward to being able to apply much more of our *we practice what we teach* approach.

**Please help us convert this beautiful property into a truly sustainable learning experience with renewable energy and energy efficiency, urban food garden, water auditing, e-mobility and much more.**

**HELP FUND OUR NEW CENTRE!**





# TEACH for ESD

## Teach for ESD 2024-2025 Intake



The application process for the second intake of teachers for the NaDEET Teach for ESD programme officially commenced in November 2023.

NaDEET received 570 applications, with an interesting observation that nearly 70% of the applicants were female. Notably, the settlement demographics of the applicants revealed a significant representation from schools in rural areas, indicating a strong interest in the programme from these areas.

After a thorough selection process, 168 teachers were chosen to participate in the programme. This selection aimed at ensuring an equal distribution of participants, with 12 teachers selected from each of the 14 regions. The inclusivity of the programme is evident in the diverse representation of school phases, ranging from junior primary school to senior secondary and pre-vocational phases.

We are thrilled to embark on this educational journey with the new cohort of teachers. Our intention is to build upon the solid foundation established, ensuring that the 2024-2026 cohort achieves significant progress in implementing EE/ESD in Namibian schools and communities.

## Engaging our Alumni Teachers

### ESD in the Curriculum Workshop



With the support of 21 Teach for ESD alumni teachers, NaDEET hosted a workshop to develop a manual for guiding Namibian teachers on implementing EE/ESD teaching across various subjects regularly. The

workshop served as both a joyful reunion and an intensive session for reflection and co-creation of EE/ESD activities from the alumni. Its primary goal was to gather experiences and case studies from the alumni teachers regarding implementation of ESD in the curriculum. With teachers from all subject areas, the workshop proved to be a great learning opportunity for all involved, including NaDEET staff. The manual, subject to review and input from additional external stakeholders, will be published next year.



## University Programme

### From learning to action– University Students at the forefront!

Students from the Department of Environmental Science, in collaboration with the Environmental and Agricultural societies, hosted an on-campus Environmental Awareness Day on Friday, October 13th at the University of Namibia Ogongo campus. NaDEET staff had a wonderful opportunity to witness and actively participate in the activities, commencing with a clean-up campaign around the campus and neighbouring police station. Subsequently, 20 trees were planted at the Ogongo police station, donated by the Directorate of Forestry.



The day transitioned into the official handover of a solar cooker to the campus. The solar cooker was

received by the Head of Department (HoD) of Academic Affairs and Research on campus, Dr. B. Thomas. He encouraged students and the department to delve into sustainability-related research topics, emphasizing the importance of being forward-thinking and early adopters of sustainability initiatives and technologies. Participating staff and students actively engaged with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the SDG Game and explored environmental issues during the Environmental Crisis activity. The day concluded with a demonstration of how the solar oven was used to make pizza. The solar cooking demonstration was well-received by all 65 attendees, who had the opportunity to enjoy a piece of solar-cooked pizza, further affirming the success and positive impact of the event. This on-campus event implemented by students is a follow-up to their NaDEET Centre Sustainability Programme in March and is funded under NaDEET's university initiative sponsored by the Nedbank Go Green Fund.



*Panduleni Haindongo*



# National and Regional Activities

## 41<sup>st</sup> Environmental Education Association of Southern Africa (EEASA) Conference

This was the 41<sup>st</sup> EEASA Conference, hosted by WESSA. The venue, Glenburn Lodge and Spa, is located in the Cradle Valley in the vicinity of the World Heritage Site of the Cradle of Humankind – and thereby was a “return home” for all participants. Under the theme “Education, Advocacy and Actions to Advance Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in Southern Africa” the conference was a great meeting of multiple stakeholders. Themes of the conference were focused on changing the extractive socio-economic burden that is placed on the African continent especially southern Africa by focusing EE/ESD initiatives on talking about ways of thinking and teaching that challenge the impacts of colonization, respect Indigenous knowledge, encourage critical thinking, and aim to empower people.

### Mapping & Developing ESD Learning Support Materials in Namibia



Panduleni and Alisa gave a presentation under the title “Mapping and Developing ESD Learner Support Material (LSM) in Namibia: Identifying gaps and developing new ESD LSM resources for Namibian EE/ESD educators”. The presentation outlined NaDEET’s work in developing LSM from an organisational perspective of the Teach for ESD programme and from the UNESCO National ESD LSM Cataloguing exercise that took place in April this year.

*Alisa Volkmann & Panduleni Haindonga*



## #ESDfor2030

## Learn for our Planet. Act for sustainability

### Namibia Environmental Education Network (NEEN) Members Meet

Conference - 6-7 October 2023 - Hardap Wildlife Resort



After a (too) long break, the NEEN conference took place again for the first time since 2019 and was well-attended by teachers and schoolchildren. Under the theme of “Decarbonisation and Attaining the SDGs”, Festus and Elizabeth presented NaDEET Centre’s approach to climate change education for secondary school learners. The presentation was well received and many questions from the audience were asked about NaDEET’s activities and opportunities.

#### Stakeholder Consultation—Paving the Way Forward for NEEN

On the second day of the conference, Pandu led a stakeholder consultation with the participants to take stock of the network’s successes as well as future opportunities. The platform gave members an opportunity to share their expectations of the network. This stakeholder consultation will feed into the development of an updated strategic plan and action plan for NEEN as one of the key projects of the Namibia National ESD Task Force.

*Check out the newly revamped NEEN website - [www.neen.org.na](http://www.neen.org.na) - to access the National ESD Resource Material Library*

### Whale Festival and Ocean Literacy Toolkit Development in Swakopmund



As part of our way to spread awareness on sustainability and promote the Urban Centre, we took part in the Whale Festival on 6 August hosted by the Swakopmund Scientific Society. The purpose of the event was to spread information about whales and marine conservation. The Urban Centre team had various engaging displays, but one brought about much interest. Our house model that has two sides, one side sustainable and the other unsustainable. The visitors loved the interactive activity of needing to “spot the differences”. This was a great way for the Urban Sustainability Centre to market and showcase to the public what we do and to encourage them to come to see our life size Eco-House.

In November this year, Tuwilika and Beata took part in an Ocean Literacy Workshop hosted by the Namibia Nature Foundation and their partners. We look forward to being part of this very important initiative as the National ESD Cataloguing Exercise exposed that despite having a 1,572 km coastline, most Namibians have very little knowledge of the ocean.





# A BIG thank-you to our on-going donors & supporters

## Our donors 1 July 2023 – 30 November 2023

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A special thank you to

... and all of its donors!

Ein besonderer Dank geht an



... und allen deren Spendern!

## To our founding supporters:

Dorothe & Jürgen Kleint

Berker Family

Elinor Dürr

Wulf & Renate Paulick

Our heartfelt sympathies go to Mrs Klein for the loss of her husband. Jürgen Klein was one of our first supporters. We enjoyed learning from him and appreciated his advice and insights. We have a particular fond memory when he showed up at NaDEET Centre with a donation of our very first parabolic solar cooker strapped to the top of his vehicle.



# We need YOUR Help!

## Support our new Urban Centre



Help us reach our goal: N\$1 million (€/US\$ 50,000)



**One child at NaDEET Centre for one week:**

€ 70  
US\$ 70  
N\$ 1,400



**Co-sponsorship for a two-year teacher training programme:**

€ 300  
US\$ 300  
N\$ 6000

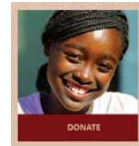
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NaDEET is a registered non-profit trust in Namibia.  
Trust Certificate # T168/2003

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**Operation Manager:** Jonas Ndeuludila  
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**Tech Team:** Mike Katambo & Steve Hindjou  
**Kitchen Educators:** Helena Moses & Lulu Bitz  
**Centre Assistant & Housekeeper:** Elmarie Naris

### Urban Sustainability Centre Team:

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**Environmental Educator:** Tuwilika Shihepo  
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**Trustees:** Michael Louw ~ Gabi Schneider ~ Michelle Pfaffenthaler