



NaDEET's Newsletter

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Action Programme
(GAP) commitment



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TechTalk



UNESCO World Conference calls for Global Commitment

There are two things that truly stood out to me when I arrived in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, to attend the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). Firstly, the City of Aichi-Nagoya embraced this conference to its core. There were special immigration lines for delegates at the airport, sponsored transport, conference signs throughout the entire city to raise citizens awareness and the local conference committee was comprised of the governor of Aichi and the Mayor of Nagoya. This was not just "another conference", but it was seen as a vital step in the city's development of becoming a true eco-city. The second was how the Japanese concept of respect facilitates living a sustainable lifestyle that other cultures and societies struggle to achieve. For example, when I asked one of our tour guides how the streets can be so clean despite there being almost no rubbish bins, she replied that "people just put it in their pocket until they get home. What else would one do?".

This conference celebrated the successes of the United Nations Decade on Education for Sustainable Development (UN-DESD) 2005-2014. At the beginning of the decade, ESD was not known outside of a small circle. Today, ESD is widely accepted and recognised evident through ESD policies and programmes in over 148 countries worldwide. This conference, attended by over 1100 delegates including 74 ministers, also however was to remind us that the work is not yet done and to ask for further commitment through the Global Action Programme (GAP).



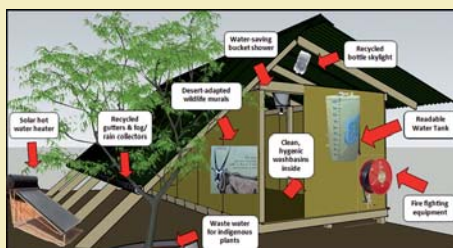
NaDEET has always had ESD as its mission and implements it with a "we practice what we teach" approach. Youth delegates to the conference supported this and declared that adults must be "everyday examples". UNESCO recognised NaDEET's proven track-record and success by providing a platform to showcase our work. A total of twenty-five ESD success stories were chosen worldwide to host an information stand in the main atrium of the conference venue. Visited by conference participants as well as the general Japanese public, NaDEET's stand illustrated to all our practical, straightforward approach.

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Invest in Hygiene and Water Education

Using basic hygiene practices dramatically reduces sickness and disease. This is a simple lesson, but still needs to be learned.

NaDEET Centre teaches to use as little water as possible, **but** still to use enough to be clean. We need your help this holiday season. Please include giving a WaterWiseWashroom Gift to a loved one and know that NaDEET can continue to educate



Namibians about good water use practices.

You can now easily donate to NaDEET!

Go to our website or Facebook and click on "Donate" to invest in water education.

Check out our new GIFT CARD options.





European Union (EU) funded three year action

Building Sustainable Education and Practices in Communities through an Integrated School-centred Approach



Learning, sharing and growing are key elements in the RUG for Sustainability project. Adopting a more sustainable lifestyle is something that takes time to flourish. Explore with us highlights from the past six months with the RUG participants at the Centre and in their communities.

“Thank you for the seed that you have planted within us this past week.”

Frederika Swarts, Gochas Community Member



Five NaDEET Centre programmes for RUG youth and adults

RUG Youth Programmes:

Many youth met the challenge to show their recycling skills in an Environmental Talent Show. From hats to sculptures to dolls a variety of creative innovations were developed. The week at NaDEET Centre gave youth a real glimpse into what sustainable living can truly be like. They were introduced to the Eco-RUG point system, where youth can collect points throughout the action in order to earn a rechargeable solar light and cellphone charger. A participant needs to collect 50 points to earn the light in three categories: participation, action taking and knowledge.



RUG Adult Programmes:

Two weeks that started off with challenges such “oumas” finding it hard to climb the stairs and men finding themselves more present in the kitchen than their “culture allows”, ended up in a joyous celebration when participants earned themselves each a solar cooker. In addition, they took home a self-made fuel-efficient stove, bottle skylight and the attitudes needed to implement. Once participants have made the journey to the Centre, participants quickly realise why they have come. However, communities, together with NaDEET support, must address issues of attendance as only 46% of the expected participants arrived. When asked why— most say they are not able to leave their homes for such a long period of time as they are concerned of break-ins and that no one can take care of their responsibilities in their absence. These challenges are an additional hurdle to living sustainable lifestyles.

Thank you NaDEET, Thank you European Union!

We would like to express our heart-felt gratitude towards the European Union and NaDEET Centre for giving us a life time's experience. It was a super fantastic week at NaDEET Centre.

The experience that we gained during the week is something one can't explain to anyone. It was once again an eye opener for us to see the good work that the European Union and NaDEET Centre are doing in our communities.

Thank you is such a small word but when we say thank you it comes from the deepest part of our hearts.



We are committed!

Participants are committed to train others on all they have learnt such as:

- Construction and usage of fuel efficient stove and bottle skylight
- Importance and usage of solar cookers
- General sustainable living techniques
- The usage of a bucket shower to save water



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Building Sustainable Education and Practices in Communities through an Integrated School-centred Approach

School-centred environmental policies

The RUG communities are tasked with compiling environmental policies to lay a foundation for sustainability within the school's official operating framework. The policies are part of a portfolio of activities and actions that each school-centred community is developing. Here are some excerpts from the policies:

N. Mutschuana PS:

"Gochas aims to inculcate the environmental awareness to the community to have a sense of ownership, commitment and a will to act by:

- E**ncouraging Environmental Awareness
- N**urturing living things
- V**ision-Focusing on the future
- I**llustrating by example (interact and integrate)
- R**emembering important days and celebrating them
- O**ffering assistance to the community
- N**egotiating amongst educators, stakeholders learners and the community
- M**otivating learners, educators and community for campaigns
- E**valuating and reviewing
- N**ature (plants and animals)
- T**reating the environment with care"

Edward Frederick PS:

The policy is still being developed, but will include providing healthy food cooked using a sustainable source of energy.



WJD Cloete JSS:

"Rietog believes that they have a responsibility to care for and protect the environment in which they operate. We are fully committed to improving environmental performance across all of our school activities, and will encourage our learners, teachers, parents and members of the wider community to join us in this effort."

And in the communities...



After Matheus learned about weather at NaDEET Centre he went and constructed his own rain gauge out of an empty cool drink bottle. He uses a ruler to measure how much water there is in the rain gauge.



Good work is rewarded! Mr Berend, Gochas Community Liason Officer, with his new solar light.



Learners at Edward Frederick busy at work watering their garden, we are excited to see what they will harvest come 2015!



After a week of solar cooking at NaDEET Centre, participants showed off their skills by making a late solar cooked meal during our last visit to Rietog and Uibes.



Ride on the wild side! As a thank you, the youth of Uibes took the NaDEET staff on a donkey cart ride in their community!

*NaDEET Centre brings the concepts of the schoolbooks into the **right place** where learners can experience them and are fascinated by the fact that **they can understand** how the world works. This makes each individual **want to participate** and **do the right thing**.—Mrs Murangi, Cambridge Primary School*



Reflections on the Cambridge Primary School programme

By Rosemarie Pauly, Centre Manager

The school is 5km outside Aranos on the farm Cambridge, which belongs to the Roman Catholic Church. Hostel and school buildings, for about 200 learners belong to the church, but the school functions under the Ministry of Education, Hardap Region. Teachers and learners are however from all regions of Namibia and share at least 6 indigenous in that southern Kalahari outpost. 'Holidays and weekends are always stressful for the hostel matron as parents or relatives have to be reminded that school closes during that time.' Mr Tjiroze shares with us. 31 introverted and well-mannered learners attentively participated in all programme activities. Helping and sharing with each other is second nature to them. Although they come from a farm school their English reading and writing skills are outstanding. They appreciated the practical, fun activities which are carefully planned into NaDEET's Upper Primary programme. They waited patiently until it was their turn and made sure they recorded things correctly. Solar cooking was fun and made sense: And the result was irresistible. With regular support these young Namibian's can be examples for sustainable living in their various communities. At their age they are eager to have friends and share equally. Gender rolls and status thinking has not confused their minds yet. During the evening activities we also noticed that they share songs and dance from different traditions and are able to create harmonious fusions. When the programme drew to an end they eagerly pulled the art boxes, and materials for recycled art closer. In silence they created their thanks yous for you as a token of their gratitude. And all NaDEET staff agrees; with your help there is just much more hope for the future.

Behind the scenes at the Centre...



Rosina's organised kitchen includes a corner for "waste" for recycled art projects.

Rosemarie surrounded by the children to whom she gives each individual attention.



Erenstine, a Sustainable Household student at Agriculture Training Centre Krumkuk, became an expert solar cooker during her NaDEET internship.



Elizabeth has showed her experience this year as a true teacher of sustainable living in the desert.

NaDEET Locally and Abroad



NaDEET Educational Stands

featured at numerous events:

- Swakopmund Green Fair
- My Trash, My Treasure competition
- EEASA conference
- Windhoek Energy Fair



1760

... is the number of *It's Time to Grow* publications that have been distributed this year. Ministry of Education (Hardap Region), Sunshine Kindergarten in Karibib, and Physical Active Youth (PAY) Windhoek were some of the beneficiaries.

32nd EEASA conference in Windhoek, Namibia

'Reflecting on current and emerging ESD issues and practices informing the post DESD framework programme' was the theme to which NaDEET staff actively contributed.



Continued from page 1

During the official closing ceremony of the conference, the Aichi-Nagoya Declaration was formally adopted. As one of five delegates given the opportunity to share their organisation's GAP commitment during this important occasion, I was truly honoured. I spoke of our EU funded "RUG for Sustainability" action, but focused the majority of my talk on the importance of taking meaningful, practical action.

There are many lessons-learned and excellent ideas that I took back to Namibia from this conference. We will be building these into our programmes and activities. Importantly the conference also re-confirmed that even our small organisation in a remote location in the southern part of Africa is making a difference not just to our local community and schools, but on a global level.



UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development

10-12 November 2014, Aichi-Nagoya, Japan

*Closing Ceremony GAP commitment #5
- Accelerating Sustainable Solutions at Local Level-
Excerpts from NaDEET's commitment presented by
Viktoria Keding, Director, NaDEET*

Available online at www.ustream.tv/recorded/55313485

...NaDEET's GAP commitment therefore aims to upscale our activities, not in numbers, but in intensity with three school-centred communities that we have worked with a lot. To address the gap between what children **intend to do** after completing a NaDEET Centre programme in these rural communities and what **they actually do** to live more sustainably, we have identified in our context that we need to **primarily address the issue of access**. Access to more Education for Sustainable Development and access to basic equipment. We believe that these will help bring about increased action competence. This programme is a three year action that technically implements activities on three levels: at NaDEET Centre, in the schools and through school-driven activities in the community. But more importantly than the **technical design of the programme**, is the underlying **philosophy of how we will do it**. As the Minister of Education from Ghana said yesterday, we need to ask **why** and we need to **imagine**.

For me personally this is clear. I **cannot** imagine living in a world that is not sustainable- where all education does not infuse the core principles of sustainable development. NaDEET lives by the philosophy of "we practice what we teach". It is our GAP commitment that through this philosophy we can live more sustainable lifestyles. As we start to travel back to our respective homes and reflect on this conference, I encourage each one of you to take your own personal GAP commitment. As delegates to an ESD conference, we should all be experts not just in what policies and activities can be implemented, but we should be experts in living the sustainable lifestyle that we speak of. The ASPNet students have recognised this and declared that "every one of us needs to make every effort to develop clear personal objectives." ...

I encourage each one of you to make your own personal GAP commitment.

Tech Talk Time

The tools that make our work possible are almost always taken for granted. NaDEET's technical team does an excellent job keeping our operations working as smoothly as possible with as little expenditure as possible. However at times we do need to invest in new equipment. We are grateful to our sponsors.

Vehicles, trailers and tyres

After having used our 4x4 and 2x4 vehicles for about 11 years the long and rough roads of the south have taken its toll. These vehicles are still in 'ok' shape however a decision was made to reduce them from travelling very long distances. NaDEET was in desperate need of purchasing a new vehicle to transport mainly people to and through. We did not want to spend a lot and the type of vehicle needed to be sturdy enough for the roads in the south. New vehicles were looked at but with insurance costs high and some unexperienced drivers we were reluctant to get a new vehicle. I test drove several second hand vehicle and was amazed of how much money was asked for very run down cars. After several unsuccessful fundraising attempts and browsing the second hand market for some time, an opportunity came along to purchase a second hand vehicle with very low kilometres for a good price. In the end we had to bite the bullet and pay the vehicle out of our general funds. *Andreas Keding*



Trust-worthy transport on Namibia's long, dusty gravel roads is essential to good project management.



Demonstrating the newly sponsored tyres from Dunlop, Frederik Steufmehl, our new *weltwärts* volunteer, joined the RUG team on outreach.



Long-time NaDEET supporters, Sean and Priscilla Gibson, donated their 4 x 4 trailer for the Tech Team to use for "how they see fit".

NaDEET Centre's Solar Park gets New Batteries!

In 2012 NaDEET Centre had an opportunity to get a significant amount of PV modules sponsored from InnoSun. This solved many of our ongoing limitation in regard of electricity. In this process the solar power input was increased dramatically, but the storage, i.e. the batteries, were not replaced. The old batteries are too small for the new setup and increased electricity usage due to more staff and more cooling demands a higher overnight storage capacity.

So thanks to our generous sponsor Bernard Pinon we were able to purchase a set of batteries that are well suited for our demand. They also have a see-through housing where the anode and cathode, as well as the battery acid level can be seen. This makes it easy to maintain for staff and provides a very good educational value as students can visualise how things work in a battery. Purchasing these batteries was again a decision that was not taken lightly as there is very high costs involved.

Andreas Keding



Primary school learner monitors and records battery level at Solar Park.

Environmental Literature

Environmental Literacy

Bush Telegraph gives "Tools for a Sustainable School"

Sustainability is a term that is commonly used nowadays. However it is a concept that is that is very difficult to maintain, one has to believe and commit to it. Schools provide a very good niche for sustainability. In our most recent *Bush Telegraph*, we talk about some of the 'tools for sustainability' that can be implemented by schools. The whole community around the school has a responsibility to ensure that activities undertaken contribute to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). Find out how you can use these tools to create a sustainable school as well as improve your school-centred environment by downloading your copy at www.nadeet.org/bush-telegraph-series.

Vicky Endjala

NaDEET thanks our on-going donors and supporters

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Education is the key to sustainable development.

Please support our grassroots efforts today!

One child for one week: N\$800= US\$80 = €60

A school class for one week: N\$32,000 = US\$3,200 = €2,400

Choose your own amount: Every contribution makes a difference.

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Trust Certificate # T168/2003

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NaDEET Centre Kitchen Intern: Erenstine Hoes

