



NEWS @ NaDEET

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www.nadeet.org



Learning and Living for a Sustainable Future

Dear NaDEET friend,

We as people are inherently interested in learning and understanding the world that we live in. NaDEET environmental education programmes enable our participants to do exactly that. But they add an additional important element – becoming cognisant of the powerful role that each one of us has in shaping the natural environment.

Through our programmes, we are reaching more people than ever before, but the necessity to educate is always there. Our environmental problems are becoming more complex and solutions seem harder to negotiate. But luckily, I see change. I meet more and more individuals who are concerned with sustainability issues and what they can do about it. Importantly we also see this transformation in the attitude of our participants as the week at NaDEET Centre changes their understanding of the world around them.



One of the ways that children (and adults!) love to show what they have learned and feel is through role plays. Here these schoolchildren are presenting an environmental drama about the problem of deforestation and that they should use alternatives such as solar cooking instead.

These children are the teachers of tomorrow. We should listen to them.

Thank you for your support!

Viktoria Keding
Director

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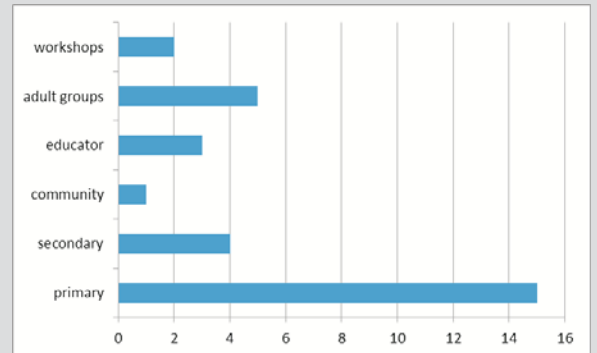
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NaDEET Centre

In 2017 NaDEET Centre hosted 32 organisations in 30 different programmes. There were a total of 910 participants (52% female) in the following programmes:



NaDEET Centre Programmes 2017



Although we had only one community group this past year due to lack of funding, we did host three educator programmes. We also had a slight decline in the number of school programmes due to the mid-year transport funding challenges as not all schools were able to rebook.

Almost all participating schools and organisation have been to NaDEET at least once before and most are regular visitors. Thank you to all that once again participated:

#Oa//nob PS, A.A. Denk Memorial School, ACS Cobham International School, Amazing Kids Private School, Centre for Global Education & Experience, Damarana Safaris, Danie Joubert Combined School, Daweb SS, Deutsche Höhere Private Schule (DHPS), ITTG Translation Workshops (Khoekhoegowab, Oshindonga, Otjiherero), J.A Kahuika PS, Jakob Soul PS, Kalkrand PS, Kamwandi Combined School, Katrin Junker & Friends, Keetmanshoop Private School, IlKhuta!hoas Community Group, IlKhuta!hoas PS, Martti Ahtisaari PS, NATH - Desert Guiding Course, Origo PS, Private School Swakopmund, St Paul's College, Stampriet PS, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Volunta – weltwärts volunteers

NaDEET Staff Help Each Other

NaDEET staff once again showed their flexibility and diversity when Elizabeth and I jumped in as educators for a week.

Although our logistical scheduling mostly pans out pretty well, sometimes things just don't work out as planned. At the end of July we had such a case when the Oanob Primary School from Rehoboth was booked at the centre. Our regular educators couldn't run the programme for that week and the new support staff had just arrived.

So out came the lesson plans and thinking caps as Elizabeth and I, with a well-prepared scheduling of activities from Viktoria, jumped in and ran a week-long programme with 32 participants.

Thankfully the reviews were excellent! The principal, Mr Beukes, and teacher, Mr Ochurub, who both had been to NaDEET before, were full of praise for Elizabeth as such an empowered NaDEET staff member, and of the "luxurious" new bathrooms.

Although behind the scenes we had to adjust now and then, the programme was superbly executed! Elizabeth rightly said, "Teaching always looks so easy when you watch it, but when you have to do it, it's quite difficult to say the right things at the right time even if you know the facts". Conclusion: yes, we were worried about what all would go wrong, but in the end we did it well, had lots of fun and are proud that we were able to provide another excellent programme to a group of excited learners.

Andreas Keding



Saying Good-bye

This year we had to say good-bye to long-serving staff members, Manuela Schmid (since May 2011) and Elia Shikukumwa (since January 2014).

Manuela started off originally in administration and finished in Centre Operations where she was actively involved with all groups. Elia started as an intern and worked his way up to being the Centre's leading environmental educator.

Thank you for your dedication to NaDEET and we wish you well!

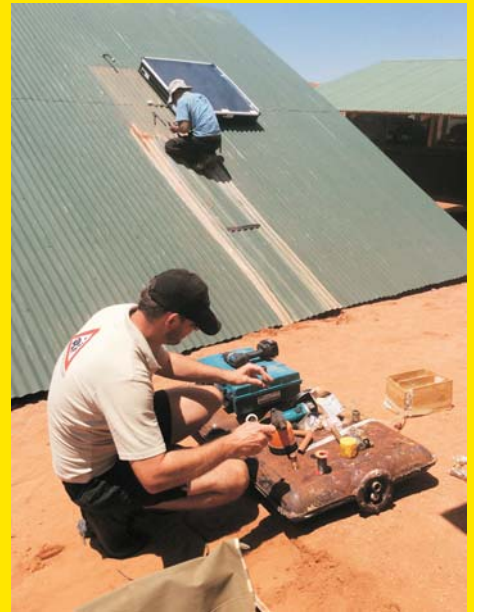


Tech Talk

There is always something to fix and at **NaDEET** we of course try to fix things for as long as possible. But at some point even the **NaDEET** tech team cannot manage to repair it.

New Solar Hot Water Geyser

One of the solar hot water geysers that we inherited from Wolwedans Lodge usable scrap heap in 2003 now finally had to be replaced. The old rusted and calcified metal container and pipes that we kept going for years had seen its last days and was brought to fulfil its last purpose at the scrap yard for recycling. We are testing out a new solar hot water geyser similar to these old, direct system hot water geysers to see if they will survive the extremes of the desert temperature differences. It is mainly just a black, flat tank in a glass box - the simplest version of the solar hot water geyser. Although it has several disadvantages, the simplicity and price makes it an interesting option for us.



New Water Meter for Main Building

We also had to replace our main building water meter after 14 years of service. The old meter has sentimental value as it was our first one with which we began our daily water count.

Andreas Keding

NADEET Centre Environmental Audit 2017

This year again all groups completed the “Measuring our Enviro Footprint” and “Our Eco-Handprint” activities. We continue to find these to be very effective activities as they are real eye-openers to our actual consumption and lead to much discussion and debate. Why do we audit?

- To make sure that we remain true to our philosophy - we practice what we teach!
- To share the skills and values of auditing with our participants.

The 2017 results of energy and water consumption and waste production *during* programmes:

Energy

Over 800 hours cooked on solar and fuel-efficient stoves by participants.

Only 37 hours cooked on gas and 5 hours of back-up generator used due to several days of consecutive cloudy weather.

Reading the battery monitor at the Solar Park



Water

Total water use for the year for all Centre programmes = 57 m³.

Different age groups used varying amounts per day per person:

Primary schoolchildren = 15 litres

Secondary = 16,6 litres

Adults = 24 litres

Applying maths to water saving



Waste

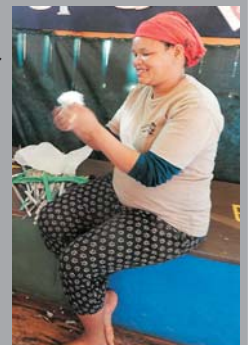
Total of 917 kg of waste of which:
57% composted

18% brought to recycling centre in town

21% non-recyclable

4% made into recycled fire bricks

Elizabeth making one of her many creative recycled crafts to show learners how to recycle on their own.



Visiting the I!Khuta!hoas Community

For several years **NaDEET** has partnered with the ACS Cobham International School and the Namibia Project to provide environmental education services to the I!Khuta!hoas Community in the //Kharas Region. The school is the heart of this very isolated community. At the end of October **NaDEET** Centre staff organised an outreach trip to visit the school and community members. This is an excerpt from the report written by one of NaDEET's current German "weltwärts" volunteers and her impressions of this trip after having arrived in Namibia only in August.

Our visit started with a warm welcome from the I!Khuta!hoas PS. We introduced ourselves to some members of the community, and the people who were at **NaDEET** Centre last or this year remembered Elizabeth and Elia - which gave us an easy start. The main aim of our visit was to follow up with the people from the community who were at **NaDEET** Centre this or last year, to plant 30 trees and to do a cleaning-up campaign with the school. The principal of I!Khuta!hoas PS was so kind to let us camp on the schoolgrounds where the ACS students normally camp. That gave us the opportunity to be directly in the community.

Community follow-up survey

Shortly after our arrival we started with our survey. For that, the principal asked one member of the community (Johannes Vries) to be our guide. He was very helpful, showed us to the correct houses and translated when necessary. In total we saw 15 members of the community who visited **NaDEET**. All of the members implemented what they learned at **NaDEET** differently, but an overall impression was that they used the fuel-efficient stove more often than the small parabolic solar cooker. Some had unfortunately broken. Next to using the cooking equipment, a lot of the members said that they try to recycle, pick-up litter and save water. However they had a few problems with it.

One member said that she would like to recycle but did not have different bins to put the rubbish in. They could find bins from somewhere, but then there would be the problem that at the end everything gets dumped together again. There is no "Rent-a-Drum" who would pick up the recycling later on. They could sort it so that they can use it again e.g. water bottles, tins or they could make floor mats out of paper or plastic. The biggest problem is lack of materials for arts & crafts, a lack of space where they could do it and maybe a lack of creativity.

A lot of them also said that they try to save water, but that it is very hard to do so. The only example of water wasting which we saw were leaking taps.

We saw a few people making and using recycled fire balls (sometimes even for an open fire) and some people doing some arts and crafts.



Tree planting

The tree planting went well, as nearly everyone had a hole dug. We explained to the community and children how they should plant the tree and what they should do in the future. **NaDEET** provided 30 trees to the school and community (20 fruit trees donated by **NaDEET** and 10 indigenous shade trees donated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water & Forestry). Mr. Goeieman, the principal, also personally bought 10 trees for distribution to the community of which some were planted with **NaDEET**. The distribution of the trees was planned together with Mr. Goeieman. The ten indigenous trees were planted in the school area and all the fruit trees were planted at community members' homes.



Clean-up campaign

The clean-up campaign in the morning also went well. The children went around the schoolyard with bin bags and collected all the rubbish they saw. Afterwards we sorted it into paper, plastic, burnable and tin & glass. We could not finish all of sorting as we did not want to take the children out of the class for longer than the one hour in the morning. We took the recyclables, which we sorted, back with us to **NaDEET** and the principal promised to take care of the rest. We weighed the recyclables (39.4 kg), but there was probably double the amount of rubbish in total.

Franzi Hünнемeyer-Weber

Coastal Storytelling & Clean up

The bi-annual coastal biodiversity week was once again held in all coastal towns. This event is organised by NACOMA in partnership with local stakeholders. This year NaDEET staff were active in a variety of activities. In Swakopmund we now also have a "weltwärts" volunteer, Klara Leithäuser. Here is her report on our activities:

Story from the Coast: You're the Storyteller



We as NaDEET developed a new activity called: "Story from the Coast: You're the Storyteller" addressing grades 3 and 4 of the Swakopmund schools. We ended up doing the activity first with the Learning Right Kiddies Centre, a kindergarten, and the grade 3 class from the Namib Primary School.

The activity started by reading out the story "Ndapanda, Toivo, Elia and the Swakop River Beach" to all children, which a previous intern, Toini Amutenya, had written. The story was followed by a presentation on waste management and biodiversity. To practice recycling and to really think about what we said during our presentation we linked it to a second, more practical part, a recycling game. The third part was planned as writing a coastal story

with a smaller group of learners and letting them do drawings and design pages to have their own completed storybook in the end.

When we went to Learning Right Kiddies Centre, the kindergarten children were well disciplined and the supervisors supported us all the time. The room was equipped with a projector already. We had no troubles setting up the first part of our activity. We agreed on playing the recycling game outside, as there was more space and we wanted all children to participate. Initially we had hesitated agreeing to their booking, because we worried that the children might be too young for our activity. Nevertheless, the activity worked out very well. The young learners only needed help when it came to sorting the rubbish. When it came to the final part of the activity, the story writing, we insisted on having a smaller group of children.

As writing a story with approximately 70 learners seemed too chaotic, we prepared a prewritten story. The kids then needed to decide on the characters, their names and other contents. It is important to always make sure that the story is about the coast and an environmental danger that coastal areas are facing. We finished the story but sadly did not have enough time to do the drawings for the storybook together. The story of Learning Right Kiddies Centre is called The Shark Story, including Grandpi Shark, Spark the Shark, Smiley the Shark and a Shark Doctor, as one of the sharks suffers from an injury caused through plastic and tins in the ocean.



A day later I stopped by at Learning Right Kiddies Centre to collect their storybook drawings and I went back to the kindergarten a week later to read the finished story to the children. They were amazed, remembered the story and loved to see some of their drawings in a book.

The other learners' book was called "Dream Big, Pop Star" whose main character was a star fish.

International Coastal Clean-up

Coastal Biodiversity Week finished off with the annual international coastal clean-up on Saturday, 16 September. After 2 ½ hours of cleaning a strip of the beach we made our way back to the Aquarium, feeling devastated about how much rubbish, especially plastic we found once we started looking for it. The number of attendants must have been rather high. Yet, 2 ½ hours of cleaning was not much time and could be extended for the next clean-up to make it an even bigger success.

Klara Leithäuser



National Developments in EE/ESD

Nationally there are several exciting initiatives to which **NaDEET** made significant contributions.

Luckily after far too much time the draft National Environmental Education (EE) / Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Policy was rediscovered and dusted off! Funding was provided by the Hanns Seidel Foundation to revise and update the policy. After two consultative workshops and input on drafts, the revised policy was submitted to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. When this policy is enacted it will finally give the necessary foundation for a national strategic plan to environmental education.



A second development, this time initiated by **NaDEET** and EduVentures, is to establish a working group for all of the EE Service Providers in Namibia. These are institutions that have centres or programmes that offer regular activities to schools and communities. The first meeting was held at AfriCat EE Centre and was to establish in what areas we could potentially collaborate. It was well attended and there is much enthusiasm to work together.

Developments at NaDEET

NaDEET Urban Sustainability Centre @Swakopmund

We are busy building a model sustainable living house inside a house!

After much looking and moving twice, we finally have found an ideal space for **NaDEET's** headquarters and new urban day EE Centre in downtown Swakopmund near many other main tourist attractions.

The concept is to have a model house that demonstrates how a typical household can practice sustainable living. It takes lessons from **NaDEET** Centre and applies these on a household level in a Namibian urban context.



The warehouse converted into a new urban sustainability centre



The Centre will be open for walk-in visitors and will offer day programmes to schools and communities.

We are fortunate to have received the start-up funding from one of our long time donors to build the model house and equip it with educational activities. Recently an anonymous donor provided the initial grant to employ an environmental educator due to start in January 2018.

We are excited about this development as it allows us to take significant steps forward in upscaling our work nationwide.

We hope to be open early in the new year for visitors.

The model house will have cool features such as locally made up-cycled furniture

NaDEET Board of Trustees

We welcome Dr. Gabi Schneider to our board of trustees. The decision was taken to add an additional board member, as co-founder and long-serving member of **NaDEET**, Christiane Berker, will soon move to Germany. Dr. Schneider has a long history of experience in the environmental field and we look forward to her input.

A BIG thank-you to our on-going donors and supporters

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Technical Director: Andreas Keding

EE Programme Developer: Viktoria Endjala (on bursary)

Environmental Educator-Centre: Elijah Shikukumwa

Homestead & Kitchen Manager: Elizabeth Lammert

Administrative Officer: Priscilla Kuzeeko

Kitchen staff: Eveline Rooi and Layha Vliede

General Handyman: Willem Swartbooi

DSJW "weltwärts" Volunteers: Klara Leithäuser & Franzi Hünnemeyer-Weber

