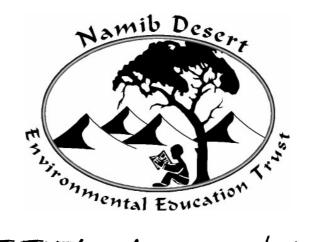


# THE ANNUAL MOLE

## Namíb Desert Environmental Education Trust



## NaDEET'S Annual Report March 2007 - February 2008



#### OVERVIEW

Dear NaDEET friends,

At the end of every NaDEET Centre programme, we conduct an evaluation. Our most recent evaluation session was a strong reminder of the living situation of many children in Namibia. The children were asked two questions: "What was your favourite activity?" and "What is one new thing that you learned at NaDEET?" A very tall, skinny boy, named Paul, jumped up and said, "I really liked eating at NaDEET and I learned how to cook on a solar cooker." Many children laughed at first, but quickly the group agreed how nice it was to have enough food and not go to bed hungry.

Namibia remains one of the countries with the highest disparity between rich and poor worldwide, inflation is rising and the cost of living for the average Namibian remains challenging. In addition, the world continues to develop at a pace that few can keep up with. Paul serves to remind us that our basic needs – food, water and shelter – come first. Knowing how to take care of these resources is the key to creating a sustainable future.

Through our sustainable living programme, we aim to improve the awareness, knowledge, skills and values of primarily children to help them to protect the environment and meet their basic needs. Key components of our environmental education work include: preparing food on solar cookers or fuel-efficient stoves instead of using open fires; conserving and reusing our precious water; and respecting plants and wildlife in our natural environment that play a crucial role in maintaining healthy and functioning ecosystems.

In 2007, we worked with over 700 children and adults at NaDEET Centre to achieve these aims. Children and adults that come to NaDEET are from diverse backgrounds. Sixty-five percent are underprivileged children who are struggling to survive, while others come from middle and upper class families who are the future's main consumers. Regardless of our economic background, we are all equal members in our natural ecosystem.

Our programme continued to grow and develop during this past year with the new main building gaining its own momentum and creating its own history. Through continuous self-evaluation, the Centre remains a model of sustainable living by closing the gap between what we teach and what we practice. Participants experience sustainable living first-hand and gain a greater understanding of living *with* the environment and not *against* it.

In March 2007 we produced one issue of the *Bush Telegraph* which was our primary environmental literacy project. The *Bush Telegraph* remains an important project as it gives children, teachers and others the opportunity to stay connected to NaDEET and engaged with relevant environmental issues.

After a lengthy restructuring process, we are adjusting our staff configuration to include more involvement of all staff members in daily management activities. We believe that by empowering our new staff with additional rights and responsibilities, they will show an increased ownership and commitment to NaDEET. As part of the restructuring, two long-term educators left NaDEET at the end of 2007.

New staff include Thomas Neema, a former NaDEET student, who joined our team as Assistant to Director in February. In addition, a new environmental educator has been hired as Centre Manager to begin in early May. This position carries increased duties and responsibilities including all the Centre logistics (ie. maintenance and supplies). We have signed an agreement with the Deutscher Entwicklungsdienst (DED or German Development Agency) in Namibia to host volunteers. Beginning in July, volunteers will join our team for periods of one year.

To accommodate this increase and diversification of our staff, we have started renovating a two-bedroom wooden house. We will also need to add two additional rooms and increase our current communal living spaces at the NaDEET base. Our increased transport needs were met through the generous donation of a second hand 4 x 4 vehicle from one of our founding supporters.

NaDEET Centre already has hosted three groups this year with another 18 booked. We anticipate a total of 25 groups for 2008. We will continue to develop our learning activities to keep them relevant and meaningful in a world where climate change is a reality. We have funding to develop two issues of our *Bush Telegraph* this year and have started work on an activity book funded by one of our Dutch partners. Capacity building of staff and full implementation of our restructuring, including the diversification and expansion of our Board of Trustees, will remain a priority for this year. We are currently complementing this restructuring with a new fund raising campaign.

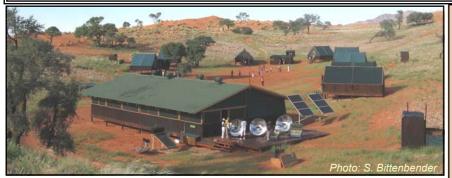
NaDEET's vision is to continue to provide meaningful environmental education for Namibian children and adults to create positive change for our environment.

We hope that you enjoy our annual report and look forward to your continued support of NaDEET's environmental education work.

Best wishes.

Trong

#### NADEET CENTRE



This past year was our first full year with our Centre's new main building. It quickly became a fun learning environment, and many of the returning groups were very impressed with the improvements.

We hosted 20 groups at NaDEET Centre with a total of 710 participants, 13% of whom were adults. The groups included returning schools, and some new and exciting partnerships. Of the returning schools, Dr. Frans Indongo PS, Danie Joubert PS and the DHPS each sent two groups to NaDEET last year, as they have been doing since 2005.

#### **School and Youth Groups**

Cambridge Primary School Daweb Junior Secondary School\* x2 Darmstadt Youth Group Danie Joubert Primary School\* x2 Deutsche Höhere Private School (DHPS)\* x2 Dr. Frans Indongo Primary School\* x2 Hoeksteen Primary School Karasburg Clean-up Club Matiti Safaris After School Care Programme\* Schmellenville Junior Secondary School St. Georges Diocesan College\* Waldorf School Windhoek WJD Cloete Junior Secondary School\* Witkrans Primary School

#### **Adult Groups**

Desert Guiding Course by the Namibian Academy for Tourism and Hospitality (NATH)\* Namibian Environment & Wildlife Society (NEWS) and Bird Club

Word of mouth is still NaDEET's strongest marketing tool. Several times a teacher who participated with one group, brings back a different group. This happened with Peace Corps Volunteer Janet Williams who participated in the 2006 Peace Corps Diversity Tour. This past year she returned with her class from Schmellenville JSS. Janet found funding for a bus from the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communication, the school contributed some funds, and the Ostrich Egg Project (funded by guests visiting our neighbour, Sossusvlei Mountain Lodge) generously sponsored approximately 97% of the programme fees. Janet commented: "The funding is amazing. These kids would definitely not be able to come if our fees weren't subsidized". The group participated in a four day NaDEET programme in June, when we had a rare week in the desert, with overcast skies, cool temperatures and even frost on the ground one morning! The group was enthusiastic throughout the programme and had a great learning experience, despite the unusual weather.

Two adult groups came to NaDEET Centre: the NATH Desert Guiding Course and the NEWS/Bird Club Weekend. NEWS is now an official partner organisation, as we have formalised our relationship by signing a Memorandum of Understanding. This builds upon NEWS and NaDEET's previous partnership activities, such as the co-sponsored essay contest for Namibian learners with the first prize being a programme at NaDEET Centre for the winner's class. (Read the winning essays in the Golden Mole 5.2). The essay contest allowed new schools to learn about NaDEET and participate in NaDEET Centre activities. We are excited about future shared opportunities with NEWS.

We have had to increase the cost of participating at the Centre for the first time since 2003. The cost to NaDEET is now N\$150 per person per day (from N\$125), and is necessary due to inflation and rising fuel and food costs. We continue to operate on a cost efficient basis and remain open to all Namibians regardless of their ability to pay.

It has been an exciting and productive year and we are looking forward to the many new faces and education opportunities in 2008.

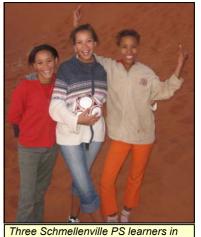
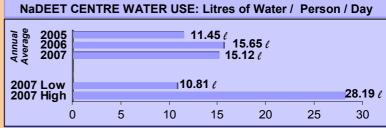


Photo: P. Mamili

the "chilly" desert.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT:** NaDEET continues to strive to improve itself and to keep the gap between what we practice and what we teach as small as possible. Since 2003, we have been conducting thorough water audits with

participants and of the Centre overall. However, due to the loss of some of our records in the fire and improvements to our methods we only recently have a true audit of our water use. Starting in March 2008 we will improve our overall environmental auditing by reinstating our energy audit of solar cooking and weighing of all of our rubbish — compost, glass and tins to be recycled, and rubbish that we must burn. This additional information on how we interact with our environment will help us gain a more complete under- As discussed in last year's Annual Mole, we believe the increase of water use standing of our actions and NaDEET Centre.



between 2005 and 2006, was closely related to the introduction of solar hot water heaters, allowing learners to take hot showers.

### CAPACITY BUILDING

The training and development of both NaDEET staff and educators throughout Namibia remain a priority. In 2007, internal capacity building was strengthened, and external networking expanded.

Internally, NaDEET hosted the NATH Desert Guiding Course and the Johanniter-Hilfswerk Namibia-First Aid Course. One of our educators and inservice training student both participated in the Desert Guiding Course, receiving full accreditation. NaDEET staff members also participated in the First Aid Course, which gave us an opportunity to refresh our First Aid skills along with staff from NamibRand Nature Reserve and neighbouring tourism concessionaires. We received feedback that our internal environ- Participants from the solar cooking workshop mental education training is working when two NaDEET staff were invited



Photo: Workshop member

to present at a Peace Corps solar cooking workshop for Peace Corps volunteers and their counterparts from rural villages throughout Namibia. NaDEET's environmental educators, Michaella Phemelo and Patience Mamili, successfully gave a presentation on solar energy and the physics of solar cookers and solar ovens. Each community member at the workshop received a solar oven from the workshop coordinators. The event organizers were very pleased with the NaDEET presentation, and additionally we have received requests for bookings for groups from several participants. Lastly, in July Viktoria Keding participated in the World Environmental Education Congress (WEEC) in Durban, South Africa. (See Golden Mole 5.1.) This increased NaDEET's networking opportunities and built upon Viktoria's knowledge as an environmental educator in the region.

In external capacity building, NaDEET has continued its relationship with the Polytechnic of Namibia. NaDEET has been hosting in-service training students from the Nature Conservation Course since 2004. In 2007, we were not able to host any students due to various constraints. However, we can happily say that another student, Jeremia Amutenya, is now with us through June 2008. He began his training early of his own volition, in November 2007, eight weeks before the Polytechnic required him to start. In the past five and a half months we have seen a continuation of his energy and eagerness to be a part of the NaDEET Team and are very happy that he is with us. Viktoria Keding was the external moderator for the Namibian Environmental Education Certificate (NEEC) Course, held at the Polytechnic. This continues NaDEET's involvement with the course, which began in 2003. NaDEET staff involvement has, at various times, included development, tutoring and teaching of the course.

### AT-SCHOOL-PROGRAMME

As part of our strategic planning process this past November, we have put the At-School-Programme (ASP) on hold, and no longer list it as one of our active projects. The ASP entailed a NaDEET environmental educator visiting each participating school both before and after their visit to NaDEET Centre. Over the past four years we have had four successful pilot programmes. Each time we saw great strides forward with the participating learners. (See Golden Mole 4.1 for the most recent ASP.) However, we also learned that the ASP is not currently viable for NaDEET because the amount of time, money, staff and vehicle capacity it takes for planning and implementing, are beyond our means. We still believe that the programme is vital to the fundamental aims and vision of NaDEET, and welcome anyone who would be interested in managing the program or financially supporting it.



Viktoria Keding, Thomas Neema, Martha Smit, Jeremia Amutenya Photo:S. Bittenbender

#### MEET OUR STAT

NaDEET's newest staff member, Thomas Tangeni Neema, is from Ondangwa, a town in the northern part of Namibia. He is the third of nine siblings, and has just completed his Nature Conservation diploma at the Polytechnic of Namibia. Thomas was an in-service training student at NaDEET from January to June 2006, and he has now returned to work with us as the 'Assistant to the Director'. Jeremia Weah Amuntenya joined us in November, and is our current in-service training student, also from the Polytechnic. He is from Okahandja, a small town just North of Windhoek, and is the second of four brothers. Nature has been of fundamental importance to him in his life, which led him to study Nature Conservation. In addition to his practical learning at NaDEET, Jeremia is studying the effectiveness of various fencing methods and the consequences for the wildlife in and around NamibRand Nature Reserve.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL LITERAC

#### Bush Telegraph

with the textbook, Caring For Our Water. Shirley Be- available by January 2009 both as a print copy and online. thune, a NaDEET supporter, and the co-chair of the Wetlands Working Group commented during the official launch that "Although... pollution is not a big problem in Namibia yet, we can't afford to pollute the little bit [of water] that we have."

the Bush Telegraph. Due to delays with funding, we only received sponsorship for one issue. This coming year and Namibian Coastal Management.

#### ACTIVITY BOOK

NaDEET's youth mini-magazine: Last year In other environmental literacy projects, NaDEET has re-NaDEET produced one issue of the Bush Telegraph, ceived funding to create a Sustainable Living and Desert "Water is Life!". This issue was sponsored by the Wet- Activity Book this coming year. The book is being sponsored lands Working Group of Namibia and the GEF Small by our Dutch partner, de Steen, with a matching grant from Grants Programme. Water is Life! focused on water- Wilde Ganzen. We look forward to working again with Mirelated issues, such as supply, access, pollution, how chelle Gaugler, a local artist, to provide the illustrations. In animals use and save water, human water conservation 2006 she created drawings for the NaDEET Centre poster and water management careers, all in direct relationship and website. The activity book will be produced and distribto Namibians. The issue was produced in conjunction uted in Namibia for schoolchildren aged 8-16 years. It will be



The Bush Telegraph can now be downloaded from our website! Water is Life! is available as a pdf at www.nadeet.org/ Last year our goal was to produce two to three issues of educationalMaterial.html. All future Bush Telegraphs will be available on our website. Previous Bush Telegraphs cannot be converted into electronic form, so currently only Water is we have already secured funding for two issues. The Life! is available on line. In order to receive a print copy of tentative topics for the two issues are Climate Change any other previous Bush Telegraph issues or Water is Life! please email us at: admin@nadeet.org.

## CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROJECTS



This past year the Centre has seen several new improvements in addition to the annual maintenance and upkeep. Late last year, Wolwedans (our neighbouring tourism concessionaire) kindly donated two old solar water heaters which were then installed by NamibRand Nature Reserve staff. In addition to the solar hot water heaters for the learners' showers, we therefore now have one solar water heater for our kitchen and one for the staff and teacher shower. The solar deck was also recently torn down and re-built (see the article below for more details).



We are expecting to increase our staff and volunteer numbers in the coming year, and have begun working on increasing staff housing. At NaDEET base, we purchased a small wooden house from the previous owners of Tok Tokkie Trails. A volunteer is renovating the house which will provide two more bedrooms with a bathroom, living room and kitchen facilities for NaDEET staff and volunteers. This coming year we also plan to implement a larger construction project to create two more staff rooms, another bathroom and larger communal facilities.

**NEW SOLAR DECK:** When the Centre was first built we planned the solar cooking area to accommodate two solar cookers and one solar oven. We quickly learned, however, that solar cooking for large groups of 40 or more peo-



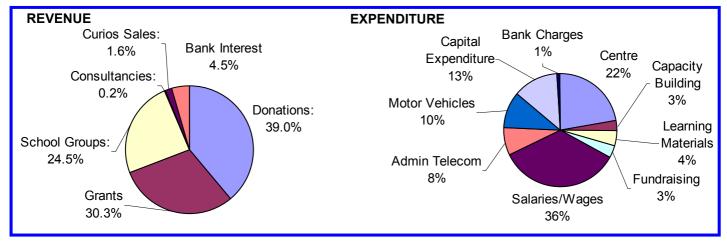
ple requires more cookers, pots and space. We also learned that a solar deck that is directly connected to the indoor kitchen would make it easier for everyone to cook and monitor the food and, very importantly, not to spill food from the heavy cast-iron pots which we use for solar cooking. In 2006, we upgraded to a larger solar deck that was connected to the Centre, but as you can see from the photo, we quickly ran out of room here as well. With a volunteer carpenter, improving the solar deck became a reality. The newly built deck has room for all three solar cookers and both solar ovens. There is now sufficient space for learners to cook and to easily move the cookers and ovens to face the sun.

## FINANCES & FUNDING

**FINANCES:** As expected, the revenue and expenditure from this financial year (March 2007-February 2008) has decreased compared to the last financial year as we had no major capital expenditures. Revenue totaled approximately N\$636 000 (€52 600, USD 81 600)\*. Expenditure was approximately N\$643 000 (€53 200, USD 82 400)\*. For the first time in several years, we have spent slightly more than our income. The majority of our income has come from the private sector; grants, however, have increased by 16% and school group income by almost 10%. This is a positive sign as it shows a diversification of NaDEET's sources of revenue.

Our two major expenditures last year were salaries and Centre running costs. This is comparable to the past years as are NaDEET's other running costs (i.e. communications, transport, administration). Our capital expenditures were significantly less than initially anticipated as a second-hand 4 x 4 vehicle was generously donated to us.

For this coming year we have already begun a large fund raising campaign as our projected budget is approximately N\$950 000. This significant increase in our financial needs is due to NaDEET's restructuring plan which includes capital expenditure to provide housing, furnishing and utilities for the planned increase and diversification of staff. We have sent proposals to various grant-giving organisations and are in the process of identifying potential new company donors. We have approached several organisations to secure funding for marginalized children participating in our programme.



\*Unaudited. CR van Wyk & Co. is NaDEET's accounting firm. Exchange rates used 1€= N\$12.10, 1 USD= N\$7.8

**FUND RAISING:** Fund raising in the past year started off slowly as environmental education and capacity building was a high priority. NamibRand Nature Reserve and neighbouring lodges continued to give us ongoing support, such as the 'Ostrich Egg Project' at Sossusvlei Mountain Lodge (funding five local schools to participate at NaDEET Centre). Our Dutch partner deSTEEN raised money for NaDEET by auctioning artwork. The proceeds generated were matched by Wilde Ganzen and are earmarked for the production of an Activity Book. (See page 5.) A school in Koblenz, Germany, donated proceeds of a Christmas craft market. Since November, a NaDEET volunteer has worked full time on fund raising and restructuring, including bringing fresh ideas and connections. New fund raising included a Holiday Card campaign which allowed donors to "give the gift of environmental education". An e-gift card was sent to the donor's recipient of choice.

In January, we had a very successful event at the Franco-Namibian Cultural Centre (FNCC). Jorge Machin, a NaDEET supporter and FNCC employee, approached us about the event in coordination with a French photographer's exhibit of

aerial desert photographs. The many attendees included long time NaDEET supporters, as well as those who were hearing about NaDEET for the first time. We hope to have similar events in the future, as it helps to bring NaDEET to the attention of both old and new supporters, and reminds those of us working at NaDEET that our organisation continues to be well received. Viktoria Keding was interviewed on three radio stations in Windhoek to advertise the event and bring attention to NaDEET. Afterwards there was a brief story on the local Namibian news program (NBC) and in the Afrikaans language newspaper, *The Republikein*.



Daweb J.S.S. learners saying "Thank you Dunlop!" for the new tyres Dunlop donated for both of our vehicles. The vehicles have been graciously donated by our founding supporters, Mr. and Mrs. Klein.

#### THANK YOU

NaDEET gratefully acknowledges the individuals, groups, companies and grant-giving organisations who have made generous contributions from 1 March 2007 to 29 February 2008 for our environmental education projects.

Anonymous Africa Foundation-CC Africa Harald & Dolores Evers Rich & Joanne Agabs Wolfgang Aigner Suzanne Appl Christoph Aschoff Anne Baltren Chrissy Bartsch Mr. Beckmann Erika Benz Christian Bigler

Dieter & Gigi Blennemann Erika Böhme

Ernst & Viola Bolay Pat Bonser Ludia Booth Chantelle Bosch Bishöfliches Cusanus-Gymnasium Koblenz Herve Bourret

Hans-Dieter & Heidi Brammer

Hartmut & Irene Brüdgam Andreas & Mandy Brückner

Sally Burnley CC Africa Alain Colo Consolidated Sugar

Industries

CYMOT Darien Book Aid Plan

Jacques de Fave Bernard & Mayda de Winter

deSTEEN Richard Dreyer Marc Dürr Dunlop **Barry Dwarkin** 

Rick & Carolyn Edwards

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Melanie Eltz Miek Wackie Eysten-Neervoort

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Bärbel Heiduk Kathleen Hildreth Hans Peter Hirsch

Johannes & Karen Hoeschen Nils Odendaal & Danica

Lawrence Holden Heinrich & Gisela Iber International Pharmacy Alan Ives Caroline Joubert

Elke Kallfelz Olaf Keding

Reinhard & Dorle Keding Horst & Brigitte Kemmling

Franz Kempken Jürgen & Dorothé Klein Riam-Sarah Knapp Roland Köble **Edwin Korner** 

Thorsten Krebs Christin Lange

Dietrich & Susanne Leis Hans & Uli Leis

Jenny Linley Peter Lochner Jorge Machin Angelika Mähs Matiti Safaris

Mark Mattias & Jennifer

Martin

Eva-Maria Mautauschek Brigitte Mechekour Francis Moul Karen J. Nagy Namib Foam

Namibia Travel Connection Namibian Environment &

Wildlife Society

NamibRand Conservation

Foundation

NamibRand Nature Reserve

Adele Nebel Elke Nissen Dawn Oben

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Bernard Pinon

The Pupkewitz Foundation Hans & Christel Rathjen

Jacques Ripoull

Jürgen & Heide Schreiber Bernd & Sabine Schüler

Ingrid Schulz

Second Congregational Church Outreach Committee Sarah Bittenbender Second Congregational

Church Women's Fellowship Christin Lange Sossusvlei Mountain Lodge

Winfried & Wally Spaeh

Richard Speich

Barrie & Marie Spelling Rob & Johanna Stoffer Erika Timperman

Walter & Vicki Tschinkel

George Tucker **Briony Turner** 

Unlimited Travel & Car Hire t/a Tok Tokkie Trails

Dirk & Jannie van Duijn Schouten

Elise van Herk Peter & Almut Vietzen Manfred Vogel

Herbert & Birgit von Nitzsch

Angela von Wietersheim

Peter Ward **Barry Watson** 

Wetlands Working Group Michael Whitelock

Martin Wiedenmann Wilde Ganzen Maria Wilen Windhoek Optics

Wolwedans Desert Academy

Students

Wolwedans Foundation Wolwedans Lodge Theo Wortmann & Ute

Gramowsky

A special thank you to our volunteers for all of your help:

**Chrissy Bartsch** Christian Douglas Cargill



























#### Special Thank You

For all of your time, effort and continued dedication:

Andreas Keding Richard Dreyer deSTEEN Marseille Namibie

NamibRand Nature Reserve Tok Tokkie Trails

To our founding supporters:

Christiane & Marianne Berker Elinor & Marc Dürr

Wulf & Renate Paulick Mayda & Bernard de Winter

To our host and neighbours for their generous support:

The Entire NamibRand Nature Reserve Staff

Sossusvlei Mountain Lodge Wolwedans Lodge

Dorothé & Jürgen Klein

## SUPPORTING NADEET

NaDEET depends on individual donations to fund our projects and ongoing operating costs. As presented in the Finances section, grants and individual donations made up over 65% of our annual income. While grants from companies and organisations are essential to our projects, donations from individual supporters are what keep NaDEET going — private donations last year were 39% of our income. Individual donations go primarily to support our main project, NaDEET Centre. They also go to supporting the infrastructure that is integral to running a smooth and efficient environmental organisation. Below is a list of some of our upcoming expenses to give you a better understanding of our financial needs. Each donation — whether to support one of our initiatives below, to sponsor a child for a day, to sponsor an entire school group for a complete programme or any amount (large or small) — is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support of our environmental education work.

**PRACTICING WHAT WE TEACH:** The following initiatives are important to further our aim to practice what we teach. In order to minimize our impact on the environment, we would like to implement the following:

INITIATIVE:	Cost:	WE ALREADY HAVE:	WE NEED:
Solar Electricity for NaDEET base	N\$100,000	N\$20,000 worth of equipment	N\$80,000
Water Recycling System for NaDEET Centre	N\$30.000	_	N\$30.000

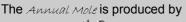
**RESTRUCTURING FOR MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY:** With our new strategic plan we are now in need of the following additional infrastructure to support our increased and diversified environmental education and support staff:

INITIATIVE:	Cost:	WE ALREADY HAVE:	WE NEED:
New Buildings: Accommodation, Meeting Room, etc.	N\$100,000	N\$50,000 already donated	N\$50,000
Freezer and Refrigerator for Staff: Energy efficient	N\$20,000	_	N\$20,000
Furniture: Beds, Tables, etc.	N\$20,000	<del>_</del>	N\$20,000

		Donations can be made as a cheque,	
	ng donation: act details to receive the newsletter ar	d for our records:	Nane
Surname:	Name:		Branch Code: 280 172 Account No: 620 451 071 68 SWIFT: FIRNNANX
Address:			or in Europe-Germany NaDEET Bankhaus Lampe KG
with your donation	E-mail:  NB: Please email or post this information on or copy of your bank deposit to: admin@.O. Box 31017, Pioniers Park, Windhoeld.		Kontonummer #3013812 Bankleitzahl: #480 201 51 SWIFT: LAMPDEDD IBAN: DE83480201510003013812

Sponsors will receive two newsletters a year, and our Annual Mole.

Thank you very much! Your help is greatly appreciated!





#### NaDEET

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

