



NaDEET's Director Travels to Israel as Invited Speaker:

The 3rd International Conference on Drylands, Deserts & Desertification:

The Route to Restoration

Entitled, "Living and learning for a sustainable future: NaDEET Centre – a practice what we teach case study", Viktoria Keding's presentation was well received by Israeli and international environmental educators at the 3rd International Conference on Desertification at the Ben Gurion University at Sde Boker, Israel. Viktoria and her husband, NaDEET's Technical Director Andreas Keding, joined over 400 delegates from 65 different countries for this four day conference in early November in Israel's Negev Desert.



Viktoria and Andreas Keding in Israel

This year's conference included an environmental education theme for the first time giving the NaDEET team an opportunity to learn and share with others. Local Israeli environmental education is at the beginning stages and is seeking to find a footing in a country that is focused more on development and settlement of land rather than its conservation. Viktoria was therefore invited to share NaDEET's practical experiences "on the ground". The Kedings gained their own experiences by participating in several educa-

(Continued on page 6)

"I will remind my mom to turn off the light!"

After a week of hands-on, practical learning at the Centre, I ask the children what their environmental commitment is once they leave NaDEET. I get responses such as "remind my mom to turn off the light"; "make sure our pool is covered when we are not swimming in it"; and "teach my parents how to make fire bricks" -all of which are simple, attainable goals that each child has thought of on their own and can achieve. It is these small,



Gqaina Primary schoolchildren learning about energy efficiency

yet important changes that lay the foundation for bigger changes amongst Namibian youth throughout their lifetime.

With every group of students I am constantly reassessing how I should approach the issue of sustainability in Namibia, especially since every child's background and way of life varies. Namibia is currently the country with the widest gap between rich and poor. This constant adjustment of relating to my learners' economic background and therefore relationship to the natural environment keeps me on my toes. Environmental education at NaDEET is therefore an open dialogue between learners of all sorts—including myself—since we all have something to share in looking for solutions to our environmental issues. I believe that our hands-on activities promote the right learning environment for this to take place.



Deutsche Höhere Private School boys saving water through a daily audit

In the second half of the year, we have hosted another ten groups at the Centre. For all of these participants – young and old, the sustainable living experience had at NaDEET creates a desire to learn more and make changes to current lifestyle choices.

Karley Drumm

“The most remote work party in the world...”

On 10 October 2010, NaDEET kicked off its L.I.M.E. (Less Impact More Education) Green initiative in support of international climate campaigns, 350.org and 10:10 Global. The campaigns encouraged everyone from anywhere in the world to throw a “Global Work Party” on 10/10/10 that would help to address the issues causing climate change. NaDEET registered as the first work party to take place in Namibia, and soon became declared “the most remote work party in the world.” In all, 7,346 parties in 188 countries joined together to help address our staggering carbon emissions.

L.I.M.E. Green is a long-term plan for NaDEET to become completely dependent on solar and wind energy. Hence, NaDEET staff Andreas, Daniel and Kolja erected six new solar panels at the NaDEET Base, while all staff spent the day carbon-free. Since NaDEET’s mission against climate change is part of our everyday philosophy to “practice what we teach,” we celebrated our hard work with solar-baked treats and solar-brewed iced tea (cooled in a solar powered fridge). The staff discussed new behaviours and habits in an effort to leave less impact on the environment, and more impact on the minds and lifestyles of Namibians for a sustainable future as we continue to expand our adult community programmes next year.

The United Nations’ Secretary General Ban Ki Moon noted in support of the Global Work Party: “It’s time for us to roll up our sleeves and get to work on building the clean energy future that will generate economic opportunity and provide a better, safer and healthier world for our children.” Other work parties included a free bike fix in San Francisco, U.S.A.; the planting of over 3000 trees in Latvia; trail maintenance and potato harvesting by local students in Loja, Ecuador; and even the installation of solar panels on the White House.

Jon Maravelias



From left to right:
Andreas and Alexandra Keding,
Elizabeth Lammert, Antonet Plaatjies,
Marlene Keding, Jon Maravelias,
Viktoria Keding and Daniel Shagama.



The number 350 stands for the scientifically determined “safe” amount of carbon emissions. Currently, we are emitting 392ppm (parts per million) of carbon dioxide into our atmosphere. Many scientists warn that we may be reaching a point of “runaway climate change”, that is, a tipping point of environmental destruction that we won’t be able to stop. Hence, 350.org used 10/10/10 as a day for people all over the world to come together and help lower our carbon emissions. For more information, visit www.350.org.

NATH Desert Guiding Course

The Namibian Academy for Tourism and Hospitality (NATH) held its Desert Guiding Course at the NaDEET Centre for its fourth consecutive year during the first week in November. NaDEET was proud to host NATH and appreciates their support of NaDEET Centre as an optimal location for educating tour guides from all over Namibia. The course focuses on the flora and fauna of the Namib Desert and had 16 participants, including two NaDEET staff members, Karley Drumm (our Peace Corps Volunteer) and myself, a “Weltwärts” volunteer. The prospective desert guides enjoyed the solar-cooked food and were as excited as NaDEET Centre “regular” learners to explore the living dunes of the Namib Desert.

“The awesome setting and fantastic facilities make it a pleasure to host an environment of learning at NaDEET Centre.”

-Michael Godfrey

The three lecturers, Peter Bridgeford, Mike Godfrey and Gerhard Thirion were pleased with everyone’s effort, especially with Clement Lawrence’s contribution. As a veteran guide in northern Namibia, he caught two snakes during the course: a cape cobra, which was staying under the main building, and a Namib sand snake in the dunes. Together with a Grant’s golden mole and a white lady spider, those four animals were the highlights of the week.



Kolja Lichtenthaeler

Namib sand snake

Student Research on Recycled Paper Firebricks

Making recycled paper firebricks is a staple activity for school and community groups who visit NaDEET Centre. The process involves compacting shredded newspaper, sawdust, egg cartons and water to create a more environmentally friendly alternative to burning firewood. After many years of producing this alternative fuel source, NaDEET Centre staff have identified that there are considerable differences in the burning ability depending on how the bricks have been made. NaDEET's recent nature conservation interns, Russa Gottlieb and Daniel Shagama, therefore conducted research projects to investigate how NaDEET can improve and standardise our recycled paper firebricks to ensure a good standard.



Waste paper for recycling

One of Namibia's environmental challenges is deforestation, or the removal of trees at a rate faster than they are being replaced. Since trees store and take in huge amounts of the Earth's carbon dioxide, the removal of forests furthers climate change. Although Namibia is a "carbon sink" (it absorbs more carbon than it produces), most Namibians depend on firewood to cook and provide heat as their main fuel source thereby contributing to this global crisis and diminishing Namibia's limited wood resources. Recycled paper firebricks provide a healthy alternative to using firewood, and help manage our waste through recycling used materials.



Daniel showing recycled paper firebricks

Ruusa's project compared various paper ingredients and production methods for the bricks. Daniel's project then expanded on Ruusa's results and also looked at new brickmaker designs and water sources. To conduct their investigation, both Ruusa and Daniel produced a considerable number of test bricks that were burned in a fuel-efficient stove to test the length and heat of burning. We are pleased that at the end of the studies, we have a new composition and production method for making firebricks and a new brickmaker design that not only improve the brick, but also reduce production time. The key findings state that all paper materials can be used (office paper, boxes, food wrapping materials etc), paper

materials do not need to be shredded in advance, but can be soaked for 24 hours and then processed and that brickmakers should allow for enough airflow. We will be implementing these as of 2011 at the Centre.

Ruusa and Daniel's full reports are available at www.nadeet.org/studentInternships.html. One can also learn how to make recycled firebricks in NaDEET's latest *Bush Telegraph*, titled "Rethinking Waste through Pollution Solutions" as available on the NaDEET website.

Jon Maravelias

"The stay [at NaDEET] has made me realize that even the seemingly insignificant things in the environment are important and should therefore be protected. The desert really is alive..."

-Ruusa Gottlieb

"The long term goal is to promote a healthier environment while conserving flora and consequently the fauna that depends on it..."

-Daniel Shagama

Community Education Continues: Bethanie Participates and NaDEET Prepares for Evaluation Phase

The last of five community groups from our current "Mitigating Climate Change Project" sponsored by the Global Environment Facility attended our adult workshop at the end of November. Eighteen members from Bethanie, approximately 250 km south of NaDEET in the Karas Region, eagerly learned about solar cooking and energy efficiency. Participants included communal and commercial farmers, heads of households and the local headman, Chief Frederick's wife. One participant commented, "I was so interested in solar and to learn how to save water and energy. I have learned so much about environmental problems that I did not know. NaDEET has educated me. Thank you." Again one of the participants received their own solar oven constructed by the group during the workshop.

NaDEET staff are now preparing for the second phase of the project— the community visits and evaluation. We will be visiting every community that participated in the project to give further assistance in solar cooking and to find out how the workshop has made changes in their lifestyle, if any. We will also be distributing a sustainable living guide due to be printed in February.



Karel with his new solar oven

“Rethinking Waste through Pollution Solutions” NaDEET’s Latest *Bush Telegraph*

In October the second issue of the nine-volume *Bush Telegraph* magazine, titled “Rethinking Waste through Pollution Solutions” was released. The latest issue explores the definition of pollution and its effect on our environment, while encouraging readers to rethink their household waste habits. Through describing where our waste goes and how it contributes to an unhealthy environment, readers are offered three simple suggestions to combat against pollution: the 3 Rs– reduce, reuse and recycle. Reduce is a key method to combat pollution as illustrated on page 8 featured here:



So if I shouldn't use a plastic bag, how do I get my shopping home?
Check out these suggestions:

NO!

Pollution Solution Sam says,
“Just say no to plastic bags!”

Next time you are in a shop, politely tell the cashier that you do not need a bag and then put your purchases into your own carrying container!

Did you know? By using your own carrying container, you can save at least 7,000 plastic bags in your lifetime. That is 14,000,000,000 plastic bags if all Namibians just said no!

Under the regular “Personalities in Conservation” feature, the Section Engineer of the Department of Infrastructure, Water and Waste Management, Maya Chipeio provides a detailed explanation of the new recycling programme in Windhoek and the many challenges they face in trying to make recycling a national priority. Upon reading her copy of the *Bush Telegraph*, Ms. Chipeio wrote:

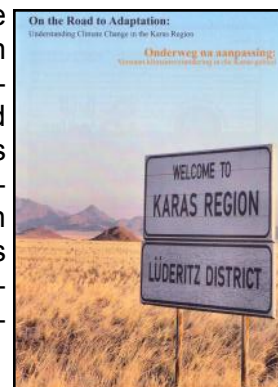
“Wow, I am really impressed and really enjoyed reading the Bush Telegraph, specifically on waste. This is really in line with the City of Windhoek’s policy on solid waste management. I like it a lot. Can you send me some more copies of this issue on waste? We had a newsletter which we have discontinued, which we would distribute at the schools, and we always felt that it was too “serious” and formal for the school kids and thus spoke more to the parents...this is a perfect example of what we had in mind.”

This issue is the 4th supported by the Windhoek UNESCO office in support of the United Nations’ “Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014”. Finding solutions to common pollution problems is a vital step all Namibians can take to implement a sustainable lifestyle. As always, the *Bush Telegraph* is easy to read and full of colourful activities to encourage readers to *rethink* their waste management habits. “Rethinking Waste through Pollution Solutions” can be found as a downloadable PDF at www.nadeet.org/educationalMaterial.html.

Jon Marvelias

On the Road to Adaptation: booklet and poster

On a consultancy basis, NaDEET recently wrote a booklet and poster for Karas Region farmers entitled, “On the Road to Adaptation”. The A5-booklet gives background information to climate change and how it will affect the most southern region of Namibia, in particular its farmers. Filled with interview quotes from locals, this booklet is written in English and Afrikaans and is available from the Namibia Nature Foundation in Windhoek.



NaDEET Gets the Gold: 1st Place in Eco Media Awards

For the third time, NaDEET has been awarded with an Eco Media Award in the publisher house category for our environmental literacy contributions to Namibia. The publications entered this year were the *Bush Telegraph* (Women & the Environment and Biodiversity), *It's Time to Solar Cook* and *It's Time to Identify*.

Sponsored by Namibia Breweries, the award includes a N\$5000 cash prize for first place. NaDEET will use this funding to support the further development of environmental literacy materials that are relevant and accessible to all Namibians.





Freundschaft mit NaDEET Namibia Tour 2010

NaDEET's support organisation in Germany, *Freundschaft mit NaDEET* (Friends of NaDEET)

made their first Namibia tour. The two-week tour took place at the end of October and aimed to familiarise members and potential members with Namibia and most importantly NaDEET. The group stayed three nights at the Centre and participated in many of our regular activities including solar cooking, water saving and learning about the Namib. *Freundschaft mit NaDEET* also invited community members from our local village, Maltahöhe, to join the group for an afternoon and evening of cultural exchange. Karen Lohr, one of the German visitors, reports to NaDEET staff member Kolja about her impressions:

Kolja: *Can you tell me a little about your experience at the NaDEET Centre?*

Karen: What can I say? A dream come true! Life can be so simple and so beautiful. I experienced pure nature and the most refreshing and economical shower of my life!

Kolja: *What were your favourite moments?*

Karen: Warmth from every direction: from the sun above; from the wonderful colours all around; the [sense of] community we experienced, although most of us had only first met a few days before (The group from Germany, the group from Maltahöhe, the NaDEET group!).

Kolja: *What were some of your favourite events?*

Karen: Following the nature "trails" made by an abundance of animals, becoming conscious of the preciousness of their lives and of the resources they need to survive. The jeep tour through the savannah (Kolja did a fantastic job at driving along the very stony and bumpy paths!). And the solar cooked food and baked bread and cakes were delicious, compliments to head cook Elizabeth and all of the staff!

Kolja: *How would you sum up your NaDEET Experience?*

Karen: NaDEET [is] a wild and wonderfully unique experience, which I am very grateful to have made! Thank you!

Initiated and led by Pastor Reinhard Keding, *Freundschaft mit NaDEET* has been active for almost two years and has supported us with donations totalling more than €15,000. These funds are generated through private donations and various events. Thank you to all for your effort on our behalf.



Reinhard Keding with Maltahöhe friends at NaDEET Centre

Meet NaDEET Staff



Since April this year, **Karley Drumm** has been our new environmental educator. She is here with the United States Peace Corps and will be with us as a long term volunteer for at least two years.

She originates from upstate New York with a background in psychology. Karley has experience with all ages of learners and more recently in wilderness therapy and residential treatment for at-risk youth. Her passions include any outdoor activity and meeting and learning about people.

Kolja Lichtenthaeler joined us in July as our third "weltwärts" volunteer through the German Development Agency (DED) for one year.



From Landau in der Pfalz, Germany, he chose NaDEET as he is interested in environment and conservation and wanted to experience Namibia. Kolja's volunteer service at NaDEET will fulfill his obligatory civil service for the Germany government and will allow him to begin his studies in late 2011.

Tribute to Marc Dürr

10. November 1967– 27. October 2010

It is with a sad heart that we must write this tribute to Marc Dürr. Marc was the "spark" that ignited the start of NaDEET. It was Marc's desire to share his passion of the desert with not only tourists, but also Namibians, especially children. Marc was an inspiration to our work and will continue to be with us in our work to protect the integrity of the natural environment.



At the end of last year he wrote this message to us:

"Congratulations on another successful year. You and your staff have done a sterling job again, and I can only encourage you to keep it up. Be assured of my personal, ongoing support for your effort, as thankless as it may seem sometimes. Adversity only makes us stronger, and improves our tools to work at improving the environment and the future of this glorious country."

Networking in Namibia

During the past several months, NaDEET staff have participated in several conferences to network with other environmental education practitioners and spread the ideas of NaDEET.

In August NaDEET staff traveled to the Okatjikona Environmental Education Centre at the Waterberg Plateau Park to attend the Namibian Environmental Education Network (NEEN) 2010 Annual Conference. The conference was held in efforts to revive networks among all environmental education centres and programmes throughout the country. The conference was well attended and enthusiasm for further collaboration was strong. Director, Viktoria Keding contributed to the conference by giving two presentations. The first was a presentation on closing the gap between what is "taught" at EE Centres/ Programmes in the country and what is actually practiced. This was followed by a practical workshop in environmental auditing at EE Centres. We are pleased that as a result of this workshop, a student intern at the Okatjikona Environmental Education Centre has embarked on an environmental audit of the facilities.

In early November, Viktoria then gave a presentation and led a solar cooking workshop at the annual Women's Action for Development (WAD) conference at the Greiter's Conference Centre in Windhoek. This is a continuation of our partnership with WAD to educate and train in solar cooking and technologies in communities throughout the country.

Viktoria Keding

(Continued from page 1)

tional tours that introduced them to schools, solar projects and kibbutzim.

Among the schools visited was *Al Mustakabal*, an Arab primary school in a Bedouin village, meaning "the future". With the initiative of a science teacher, this school has adopted "environment" as their main theme and now implement it across their curriculum. The children spend 2-5 hours/week outside the classroom on field excursions helping them to link traditional knowledge and the natural world. A common saying in Bedouin culture is:

If you see a snake before you go to bed, its okay. If you see a scorpion, don't go to bed.



Bedouin children making coffee with the wood of the olive tree

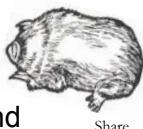
Through the school's environmental classes, this saying now is no longer folklore for the children, but they have learned about the natural ecology of the animals in their surroundings. This school illustrates how the motivation of one teacher can create positive change for environmental learning.

The conference participants also reconfirmed their motivation to continue to implement new methods, research, education, training to fight against desertification, as submitted in a resolution to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. NaDEET commits itself to continue to assist to reach this goal.

Viktoria Keding

THE MOLE FILE

Fact No. 2: Another nocturnal friend



Share

Normally the small spotted genet is as elusive as the golden mole. As a great climber, it feeds not only on insects and mice, but also on small birds. It marks its territory with a musky smell.

A New Visitor at NaDEET Base



NaDEET staff have had a regular visitor to their kitchen during the past couple of months. The small-spotted genet is normally a solitary and shy animal. In recognition of this unique occurrence, we decided to feature the small-spotted genet in our Mole File.

Expanding our Sanitation Options

With the continuing quest to try out sustainable technologies, NaDEET has installed a urine diversion system (UDS) toilet at the centre. Featured in the Bush Telegraph on sanitation in 2009, we are excited to see how it will work with multiple users that are unfamiliar with the system.



Sanitation for a Healthy Environment:



Top view

URINE DIVERSION SYSTEM (UDS) - a dehydrating system:

The urine diversion system is a dehydrating system. It separates urine and faeces immediately. The toilet has two chambers. Urine goes into the front part where it flows into a soak pit or



Bottom view

into a storage container. Urine from the storage container can be directly used for agriculture. The faeces go through the second chamber into a storage pit for drying. When the faeces are dry, they are almost odourless and free of harmful bacteria. They can be used in a compost and as a fertilizer.

NADEET thanks
our
on-going
donors and supporters



Our 1 July 2010 — 1 December 2010 donors were:

Mirow Alexander
Alrifai
Bauer
Rudiger Becker
Horst Bellmer
Caillaud
Claire Chaigne
Frederico deMarchi
Fabienne deVerdiere
Christophe and Anne Dezeure
Rudd Emous
Miek Wackie Eysten-Neervoort
Uwe and Annette Fischer
Jean-Marc Frantz

Frecaut
Albert and Linda Hartig
Jo Hoffman
Johanna Holldack
Christine Homans
In Memory of Marc Dürr
Jo and Fi
Inge Kiesbye
Jürgen Klein
Eric Lang
Hans Peter and Irene Lüthi
Pierre Maquil
Chantal and William McCabe
Wolf and Ingrid Meyer

Nodenot
Winfried Ochsenfahrt Agnes
Roger Schauls
Friedhelm and Sigried Schervinsky
Jürgen and Heide Schreiber
Alexander and Anna Schüler
Sabine Seipold
Alex Stauch and guests
Rita Steinegger
Martin Theisohn
Judy Tulloch
Van den Hove
Louis Vercken
Barrie Watson

A special thank you to:

Monika Diehl, Dr. Sandra Dantu,
John Bernstein, Rich and Margot Bittenbender, Bernard Pinon and Hans-Heinrich Vogel

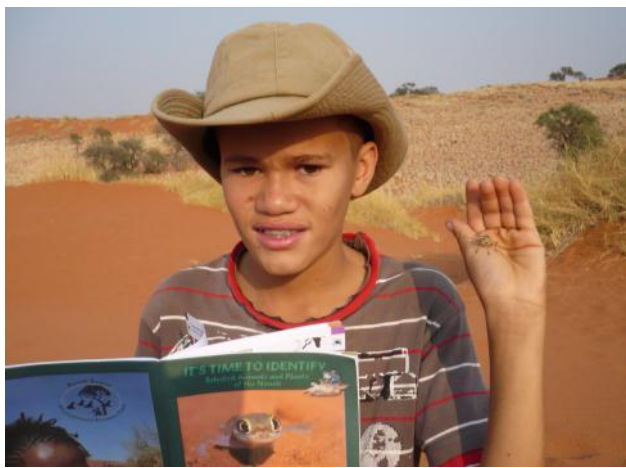


A very special thank you to



... and all of its donors!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!



NaDEET depends on individual donations to fund our environmental education projects. Most Namibians cannot afford to cover the cost of a NaDEET Centre programme. It is however one of NaDEET's core principles to provide environmental education for everyone, regardless of their financial means. We are also in need of funding to renovate the Centre's houses to provide comfortable and safe accommodation for our visitors.

Please help us with a donation today!

One child for one day N\$150 (€15, US\$20)

One community member for one day N\$250 (€25, US\$35)

One child for one week N\$600 (€60, US\$80)

New accommodation N\$35,000 (€3,500, US\$4700)

YES, I would like to support NaDEET!

My donation: _____ (amount)

Send us your contact details to receive our newsletter and to thank you!

Surname: _____

Name: _____ **Title:** _____

Address: _____

Country: _____

Email: _____

Your help is greatly appreciated!

Donations can be made as a cheque or bank transfer to:

NaDEET
Bank Windhoek
Branch Code: 482 172
Account No.: 3000659951
SWIFT: BWLINANX

or in Europe

NaDEET
Bankhaus Lampe KG
Branch Code: 480 201 51
Account No.: 3013812
SWIFT: LAMPDEDD
IBAN: DE83480201510003013812

Sind Sie in Deutschland zu Hause?

Werden Sie Mitglied von

Freundschaft mit NaDEET

Alle Mitglieder und Spender bekommen eine steuerabzugsfähige Spendenbescheinigung

Bankverbindung:

Freundschaft mit NaDEET e. V.
Sparkasse Osnabrück
BLZ: 265 501 05
Kontonummer: 461 202 5579

The *Golden Mole* is produced using
100% wind- and solar-powered electricity

NaDEET
PO Box 31017
Pioniers Park, Windhoek
Namibia
admin@nadeet.org
www.nadeet.org
Tel: +264-63-693012
Fax: +264-63-693013

NaDEET is a registered non-profit trust in Namibia.

Trust Certificate # T168/2003

NaDEET Structure and Staff

Board of Trustees:

Christiane Berker

Elinor Dürr

Uda Nakamhela

Director: Viktoria Keding

Technical Director: Andreas Keding

Centre Manager/Environmental Educator: Karley Drumm

Sustainable Living Kitchen Manager: Elizabeth Lammert

DED "weltwärts" Volunteer:

Kolja Lichtenthäler (July 2010-July 2011)

Polytechnic of Namibia Nature Conservation

In-Service Training Student:

Daniel Shagama (July-October 2010)

