

365 Trees Project



In support of the UN International Year of Forests, NaDEET is planting 365 trees this year. Track our progress on our website:
www.nadeet.org/trees.html

NaDEET's Director Addresses Climate Change Ambassadors

In June, NaDEET's Director graduated as one of eighty-one "Climate Change Ambassadors" through the Namibian government's Africa Adaptation Programme (AAP-NAM). The AAP-NAM programme aims to build a foundation for a national approach to climate change adaptation. One programme component is to establish a diverse network of experts in the field of climate change. These experts come from various backgrounds and sectors including education, research and agriculture from government and civil society. Climate Change Ambassadors are to advise and influence policy-makers.



Viktoria Keding speaking at the Gala Dinner

Viktoria Keding gave a vote of thanks and remarks about the sustainability of the programme on behalf of the ambassadors. She concluded her speech with the following:

As we say at NaDEET Centre, let us not only tell others how to "adapt and mitigate", but rather let us be role models and lead the way by practicing sustainable living. I have recently learned from the Honourable Minister of Environment and Tourism that her 91-year-old mother is already adapting as she actually prefers her meat solar cooked! We are a critical mass. It is time for us to be ambassadors for climate change adaptation!

Solar Cooking Becomes a "Way of Life"

In April, Viktoria Keding and two NaDEET interns, Jon Maravelias and Emilia Sende, embarked on an evaluation of NaDEET's adult community group programme that was launched in 2010. We visited many of the participants at their homes in Rehoboth, Mariental, Keetmanshoop, Bethanie and Maltahöhe. During our visit, we conducted the evaluation using surveys and interviews to determine the success of implementing a sustainable lifestyle amongst rural Namibians in the South after the week-long NaDEET Centre programme and distribution of sustainable living equipment.

In Maltahöhe, we met with community organiser and shop-owner, Veronika Katjikuru, who explained the money and energy she saves using her solar cooker: "I save N\$80 on my electricity bill every month because I am not using electricity to cook my food anymore!" Indeed, this sentiment was shared throughout the community as many expressed that they are grateful not to have to travel several kilometres a day to collect firewood or even spend money to buy it. In fact, using recycled firebricks in a fuel-efficient stove retains more heat than an open fire, causing food to heat up quicker. Therefore, rural Namibian residents can enjoy the time and money they save, using the alternative cooking technology NaDEET has provided through our programme.

As we travelled on to the farming community of Bethanie, we met several community members at the homestead of Chief Fredericks and his wife, Anna Fredericks. There was no doubt that the NaDEET



Maltahöhe residents cooking traditional food on their new solar cooker

participants from Bethanie were some of the most "financially challenged" since the majority were unemployed and did not even have gas or electricity to use. However, we found a highly organised and responsible community who traded their solar cookers amongst one another every three months.

On the contrary, we found the opposite situation in Keetmanshoop as many participants had moved to Windhoek for work, abandoning their solar cookers at the Women's Action for Development (WAD) office. It had been nearly a year since the solar cookers



Baking bread in a homemade solar oven

(Continued on page 4)

Namibian Teenagers Question Their Lifestyle Choices: NaDEET's New Secondary School Programme



How do I look? Am I smart enough? What should I wear today? Should I talk to him/her? Why hasn't s/he SMS'd me yet? These are some of the typical questions about which most teenagers worldwide are thinking. It is a difficult time for many, yet today it seems that teenagers have more access to the world around them through technology. Even rural Namibian teenagers have access to cell phones and are becoming more disconnected from the natural environment. This makes it all the more important for NaDEET's sustainable programme to address the right issues for young people.

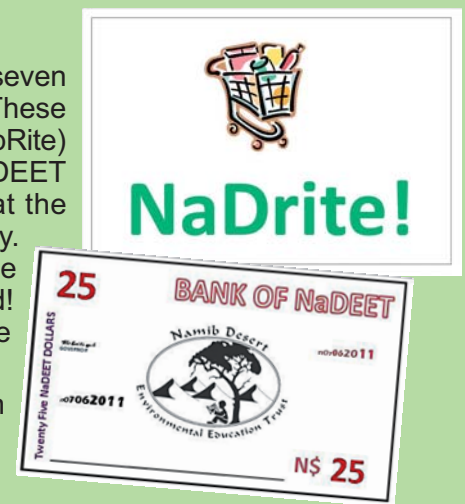
The new secondary school programme is designed for 15-20 year olds from 9-12th grade. It confronts teenagers to ask questions about their current lifestyle choices, consumerist behaviour and attitudes towards the environment and society. It encourages them to think

about the complexities of solving environmental problems and their own responsibilities. The week-long programme includes many hands-on, interactive activities such as the ones highlighted here.

Shop Until You Drop

It is difficult to find a teenager that doesn't enjoy shopping. This game has seven different stores where participants must shop for their needs and wants. These are for example, NaDrite (based on well-known Namibian supermarket ShopRite) or NaDprice for clothing. Each participant is handed an envelope with NaDEET money at the start of the game and s/he has 20 minutes to shop. What the participants do not know is that participants have varying amounts of money. At the end of the game, participants discuss their shopping choices. Some participants have purchased cell phone credit, but they didn't buy any food! The participants that were given a very low income found the game to be "completely unfair".

Shop Until You Drop is a fun game that introduces the link between consumerism and the environment.



I enjoyed every activity at NaDEET. It was so much fun. The one activity I enjoyed the most was the G6 environmental challenge. - learner from M& K Gertze HS

G6 Environmental Challenge

The G6 Environmental Challenge is an extensive role-play game that requires learners to divide themselves into imaginary countries (loosely based on real countries) and to attend the annual G6 Summit. Each country must visit six stations that present some sort of environmental challenge dealing with climate change. Three solutions are offered to deal with the challenge – one that results in a pollution cloud (negative points), one that results in a tree (positive points), and one that gives nothing. However, don't think that the solutions are easy! They are designed in a way that makes environmentally-friendly decisions difficult to notice and even more difficult to make – since this is the way the world works anyway. In the end, the teams have to add up their pollution clouds and trees to decide who the winner is. However, if everyone collects too many pollution clouds, then get ready for a global surprise!



"Government officials" discussing how to solve their countries water crisis

Family Style Cooking

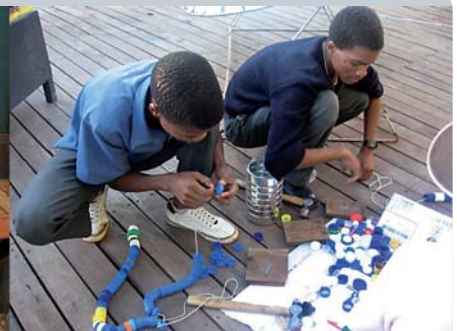
Sustainable Living Teams are responsible for cooking their daily food for their own “family”. NaDEET now has six extra solar ovens in which each team cooks their lunch. Meals include pizza calzone, sausage rolls and roasted chicken and potatoes. The Sustainable Living Teams then serve their meals directly at the dining room tables. Secondary school learners therefore see that solar cooking is something that is very simple and the application to their own home is even clearer.

How is this different to solar cooking with other groups at NaDEET Centre?

Normally, one Sustainable Living Team cooks a meal for the whole group. Therefore 6-8 participants are cooking for approximately 40 people. Meals are served from our kitchen counter in a more cafeteria style.



Girls proudly showing their sausage rolls



It was very interesting to learn how to solar cook. I will now teach my family to use [natural resources] and to [live] sustainably. - learner from P.I. Groenewald JSS, Gochas

Build Your Own Sustainable Town

What would your town look like if you were a town planner? At the end of the programme, secondary school learners have the opportunity to design their own town. They must design a town which has basic services that people need such as housing, schools and health care. They must make sure that the town is built in a sustainable way by taking into account the following questions:

- Is it fair to the environment?
- Is it fair to the people?
- Is it a fair price?

This activity applies all concepts that participants have learned throughout the NaDEET Centre Secondary School Programme.



A team creating their “perfect” town

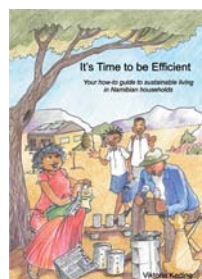
We are very grateful to the Nedbank Go Green Fund for funding NaDEET Centre programmes since 2004. The secondary school programme development has been a long process over several years. This year’s funding from Nedbank sponsored the programme fees and contributed to the transport costs of three Hardap Region Secondary Schools including M & K Gertze HS, Pioniers JSS and P.I. Groenewald JSS. Freundschaft mit NaDEET sponsored the construction of six new solar ovens for family style cooking. Other groups that have also participated in this programme are St. George’s College and the !Kharas Environmental Club.





Mariental community member Ingrid explaining how she has been implementing sustainable living

formula for HIV positive mothers. She explained to us that the solar cooker had more opportunities to be used for demonstrations in the community, as well as to generate income for Orange Babies through having bake sales. We were very impressed to meet such dedicated women in these communities who seek to teach others about sustainable living practices. We at NaDEET hope that all participants will continue their hard work to change their communities for a sustainable future.



During the evaluation trip, we were also able to give out copies of our new sustainable living handbook "It's Time to be Efficient". This booklet was written with the input of these community members during their NaDEET Centre programme. The booklet is written in English and Afrikaans and focuses on the main themes of energy, water and waste on a household level. It gives tips for rural Namibians as to how to use these resources efficiently and provides technical drawings for implementing sustainable living technologies. For example, it includes drawings as to how to build a solar oven and how to make recycled paper fire bricks. This booklet is now being used in all of NaDEET's community programmes and is a very useful teaching tool. It is available as a free pdf from our website: www.nadeet.org/educationalMaterial.html.

Your visit has reinstated my conscious on my lifestyle's contribution to the environment. My stay at NaDEET has impressed me. I share my enthusiasm of my experience at the Centre often with family members and friends. - community member

use their solar cooker 63% of the time. Lastly, those that no longer use an open fire or only for traditional-use, rely on their solar cookers 68% of the time. Thank you to the UNDP Global Environment Facility-Small Grants Programme for funding this successful project.

In 2011, we will be hosting several more community groups from the Hardap Region including Stampriet, Rehoboth and Maltahöhe. Funding for these groups comes from the European Union, COV fund and the NamibRand Conservation Foundation. All groups will be receiving solar cookers and fuel-efficient stoves as part of their programme.

Jon Maravelias

A 67% increase in the daily use of parabolic solar cookers in communities

Demographics and Living Conditions

Of the 93 total NaDEET Centre community participants in 2010:



71% were female;
73% were under the age of 40;
97% have 4 + people living in their household;
68% are currently unemployed;
71% used an electric stove (before NaDEET);
44% used an open fire (before NaDEET);
28% reuse household water;
15% use the bush as a toilet.



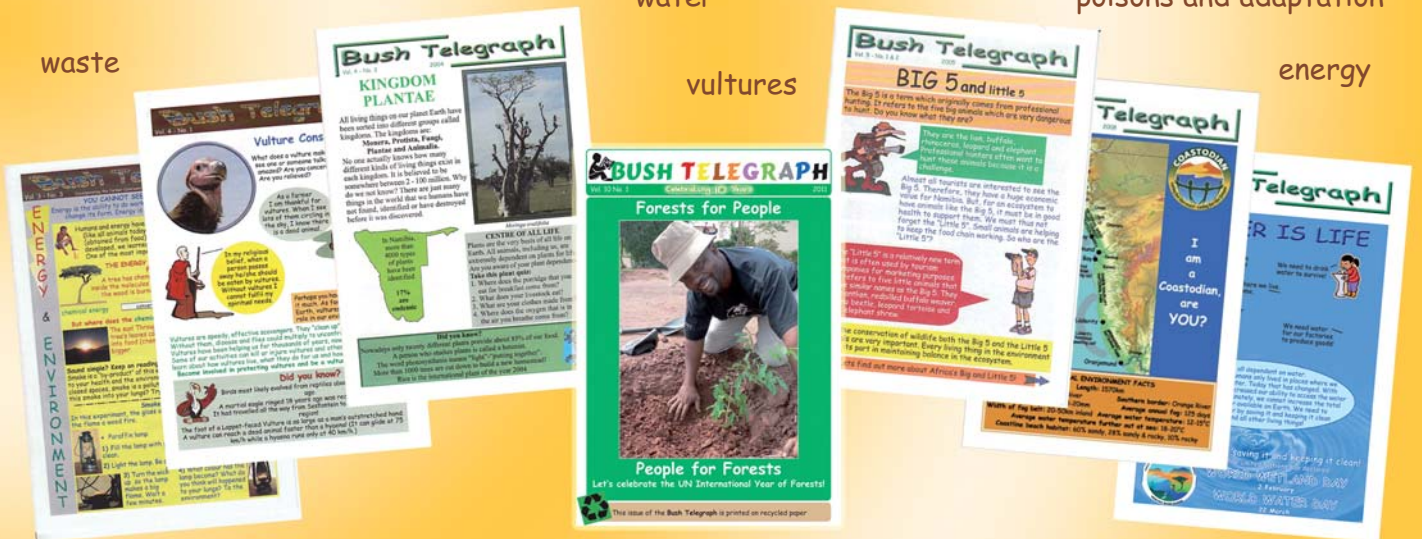
Family member cooking lunch on a home-made, low cost fuel-efficient stove

The Bush Telegraph: Celebrating 10 Years

NaDEET's award-winning youth magazine celebrates 10 years with the most recent issue on forests. With this issue, a "facelift" was given to the header. The *Bush Telegraph* is a key component within NaDEET's work as it gives participants the opportunity to stay in touch with NaDEET after their programme. The *Bush Telegraph* is also actively used by many teachers and educators with their classes and activities. We currently have a distribution of 15,190 copies throughout Namibia to our readership list. In addition, we print another 3,000 copies that we distribute at NaDEET Centre and at various events.

The *Bush Telegraph* has evolved and matured over the years. A total of 22 issues have been written covering the following topics:

forests biodiversity women climate change plants ozone layer life cycles
sanitation Namibian coast sustainable development carnivores
water poisons and adaptation energy



The latest issue of the Bush Telegraph is on "Forests for People, People for Forests" and is printed on recycled paper. All issues of the Bush Telegraph are available as a free download from our website: www.nadeet.org/educationalMaterial.html

The Centre is Fully Booked Thanks to the Outreach Trip

Nineteen schools and five town councils were visited in February during our first Hardap Region Outreach trip funded by the European Union. During this trip, NaDEET staff gave a teaser to sustainable living and NaDEET Centre. Months later, we can report that the trip has been a huge success as nine of these groups have already made a confirmed booking at the Centre. One of these schools is Ruimte Primary School from Rehoboth. The principal and teachers were excited about NaDEET Centre that they came with two groups of grade 7 schoolchildren and they were not disappointed. One teacher wrote:

Thanks to NaDEET, I enjoyed possibly the most meaningful week of my life. Obviously, the most significant is how to save the most valuable source of life (water and energy). To "sustain" is a word that did not come up in my vocabulary. This experience however will change a lot of wrong doings.

A highlight of my stay at NaDEET was the School Outreach Trip in February. Visiting all those schools in the



Teachers and principal listen to Kolja during the outreach at Ruimte PS Rehoboth

Hardap region was a great experience for me and it was interesting to see where the learners come from that I teach at the Centre. On the trip we visited many schools, including secondary schools. Some of them have already come to the Centre ... All in all, I could say that my year in Namibia was probably the best thing I have ever done.

Kolja Lichtenthäler
weltwärts, volunteer July '10-July '11



Ruimte PS schoolchildren solar cooking at NaDEET Centre

NaDEET Travels to Gobabeb Open Day

NaDEET staff showcased alternative cooking technology at the Gobabeb Research and Training Centre for their annual open day in May. Despite our plans to demonstrate solar cookers and ovens, Gobabeb, being much closer to the coast than NaDEET, was covered in fog that morning requiring us to change our plans quickly.

The day still turned out to be a great success as visitors enjoyed our “vetkoek” prepared on fuel-efficient stoves fired by recycled paper firebricks. Many visitors also took information with them and intend to organise a trip to NaDEET Centre. This experience once again highlighted to us that to implement a sustainable lifestyle there is not just one formula and that a variety of alternatives need to be used.



Alternative cooking can still be done, despite cloudy weather with a fuel-efficient stove

THE MOLE FILE

Fact No. 22: “Heat? Let’s Dance”



Another fellow sand dune resident is the wedge-snouted lizard. Unlike the golden mole, it is active during the day and deals with the heat by doing a “thermoregulatory dance”.



Adult Seminars at NaDEET Centre

NaDEET Centre has hosted a variety of adult seminars in the past few months. These included groups that come to us on a regular basis such as the NATH Desert Guiding Course, “Weltwaerts” conference from the German Development Agency and our annual Namibian Environment and Wildlife Society (NEWS) weekend. The NEWS weekend was a great success with another 20 locals having the opportunity to take part in NaDEET’s environmental education experience and the beauty of the NamibRand Nature Reserve.

NaDEET also hosted a community engagement workshop for rural development officers that have recently received the additional mandate of supplying rural Namibians with sanitation in addition to water. Both participants and NaDEET staff had a challenging, yet entertaining week discussing toilets!

Meet NaDEET Staff



Manuela Schmid (on right) is NaDEET’s new Development Associate. This position has previously been held by a variety of short-term volunteers. Thanks to our funding from the European Union, NaDEET is finally able to make this a full time position. Manuela’s portfolio includes human resources,

bookkeeping, donor relations and general office management. Manuela is passionate about the environment, especially the Namib Desert, and she has been a long time committee member of NEWS.

Vilho Absalom is our newest Nature Conservation intern. He is a third year student originating from the Kavango region. At 24 years of age he has quickly become a valuable member of the NaDEET Centre team as “Centre Assistant”. Vilho’s internship is until the end of October.

Nick Heinke joins the NaDEET team as our new “weltwaerts” GIZ volunteer for one year.

We also say good-bye to several volunteers and interns including Kolja Lichtenthäler (GIZ volunteer), Emilia Sende (Nature Conservation intern) and Jon Maravelias (evaluation intern). Thank you to all of them for their valuable contributions.



Student Research on the Wedge-snouted Lizard

The wedge-snouted lizard is one of the endemics of the southern Namib Desert. Identified by its wedge-shaped nose, it usually lives in the vegetated dunes and is active during the day.

In order to contribute to the thermoregulatory behavioural research of visiting NamibRand researcher Barry Dworkin, I conducted a project on the feeding behaviour of the wedge-snouted lizard in its natural environment and in captivity.

I collected data twice a day two times per week in the field recording what the lizard is feeding on and how it’s responding to the sand temperature. Two lizards of different sizes were then kept in captivity for six weeks and each week were given a different kind of food (boiled rice, boiled carrot, raw meat, detritus, sugar ants and small grasshopper). At the end of the project, I concluded that the wedge-snouted lizard also eats detritus, sugar ants and small insects (e.g. flies and moths) in its natural environment. When kept in captivity, wedge-snouted lizards will also eat boiled rice, raw meat and small grasshoppers.

Emilia Sende



NaDEET thanks our on-going donors and supporters



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WE NEED YOUR HELP



NaDEET depends on individual donations to fund our environmental education projects. Most Namibian school children and their families 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\$165 (€17, US\$22)

One child for one week N\$660 (€68, US\$88)

One school group for one week N\$22,000 (€2,200, US\$3000)

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

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DED "weltwärts" Volunteers: Kolja Lichtenthäler (July 2010-2011) & Mascha Schädlich (May-August 2011)

Polytechnic of Namibia Nature Conservation In-Service Training Students: Emilia Sende (January-June 2011) & Vilho Absalom (June-October 2011)

Evaluation intern: Jon Maravelias (April-June 2011)



This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of NaDEET and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

DHPL 2011