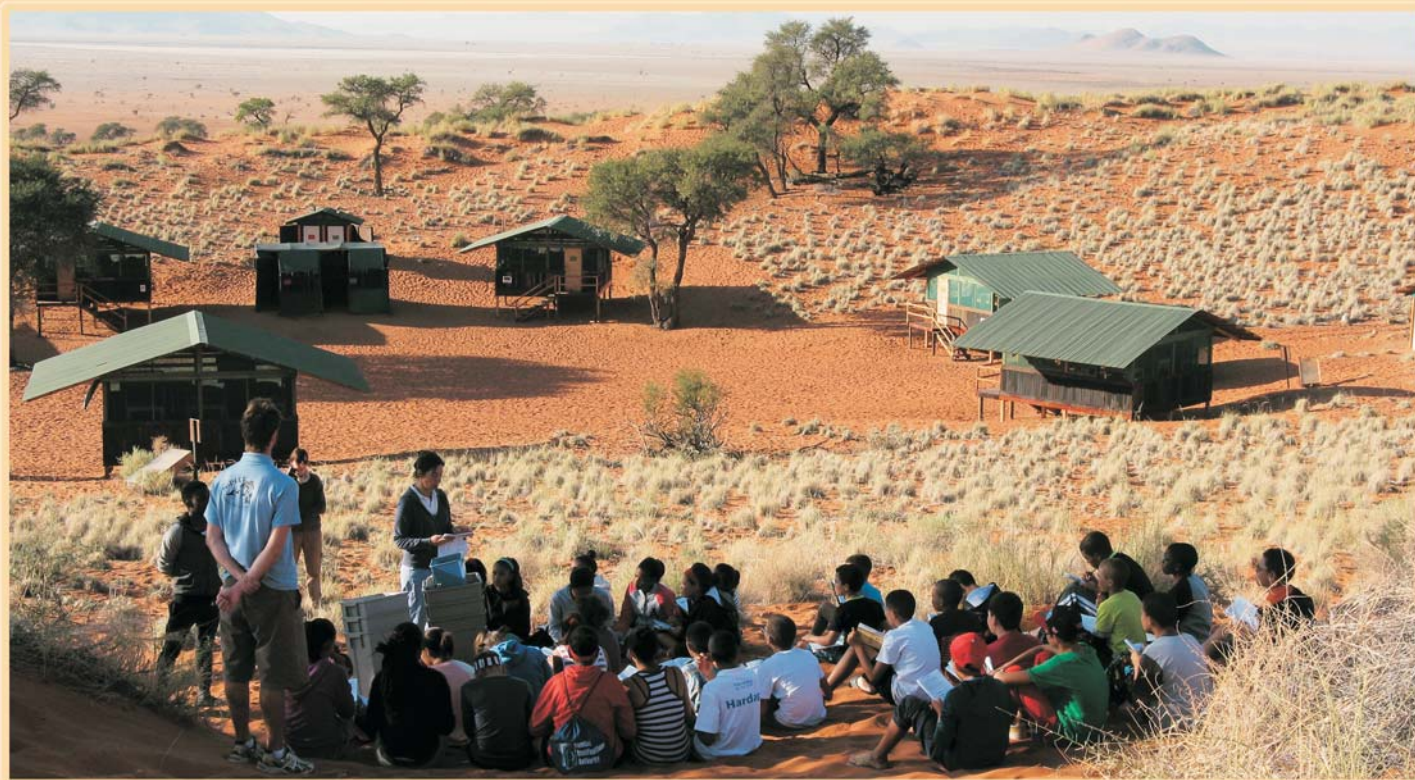




NEWS @ NaDEET

Vol. 13. No. 1 ~ June 2015

www.nadeet.org



Learning and Living for a Sustainable Future

Dear NaDEET friend,

"The only thing that is constant is change". Personally, I like change because it gives the opportunity to try out different ideas. A positive change in the past years is that *sustainability* has now become a household **word**, but unfortunately we still have a long way to go before it becomes everyday **action**. A few weeks ago, we were playing a new environmental treasure hunt with schoolchildren at a park in Swakopmund. Just as they were testing their recycling skills at the "rubbish station", a woman passed by and dropped a plastic sweet wrapper on the ground right in front of us. I was so surprised that I blurted out to her that she should please not litter and that we were teaching children how to protect the environment. She quickly apologised, picked up the wrapper and went on her way. It led me to start a conversation with Eric, the street vendor nearby, that sold her the sweet. He told me that he has a rubbish bag for his customers, but he often sees them litter and does not know how to stop them. Well, we right away made him a poster for his cart. It is only a small start, but he was thrilled to now be *educating* people with his new sign. What began as a depressing experience turned into a great networking opportunity with a previously "unrecognised by me" potential environmental educator.



As a key partner in the newly formed UNESCO Partners Network #5 - Accelerating Solutions on a Local Level - NaDEET remains dedicated to **educating for change**. I invite you to read about this and our many other environmental education activities in this new newsletter format. Instead of the two newsletters and one annual report per year that we have written in the past years, we are now combining these publications into two newsletters that each will report different aspects of what was previously in the annual report. On behalf of the whole NaDEET team, thank you for your support!

Viktoria Keding, Director

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Thank you
to our
donors



NaDEET Centre



"NaDEET really taught me a lot about sustainable living, how not to waste natural resources and to respect the biodiversity at large." - *Kuisebmond Secondary School learner*

Sixteen week-long programmes and one weekend workshop have taken place already at NaDEET Centre since February including many returnees such as St George's College, Ruimte Primary, JTL Beukes Primary, Private School Swakopmund, Maltahöhe Community and all of our "RUG for Sustainability" partner schools and communities. In this time period we hosted Namutoni PS (featured below) and the Kuisebmond SS from Walvis Bay, sponsored by Manica. I have had the opportunity to spend considerable time at NaDEET Centre this year to train new staff and update many programme activities. One such activity is a Sustainability Drama that is performed by our staff and the visiting teachers for the schoolchildren. It always leads to lots improvisation and laughter. Our Solar Park works as a wonderful outdoor theatre.

Viktoria Keding



Our new Centre Environmental Educator, Faghan Pocsi (front right), performs in the drama.



Namutoni Primary School's children recycling.

"Most Improved" School Wins a Free Trip to NaDEET Centre

A total of 53 schools nationwide participated in the 6th Annual Recycle Namibia Forum's Schools Recycling Competition. This year a new prize was introduced to award the most improved school a free trip to NaDEET Centre, sponsored by the Environmental Investment Fund. This prize aims to reward, but also teach the winning school more environmental skills. As keynote speaker for the awards ceremony earlier this year, NaDEET's Director encouraged all schoolchildren to clean their environment and to be role models for others. Congratulations to the winners, Namutoni Primary School from Windhoek, who chose thirty of their best learners to participate in the week-long programme at NaDEET Centre.

The House With Order

During the Centre activity "Environmental Problems Around Us", participants look at three different posters to assess scenarios in different environments, by discussing problems and identifying ways of adapting in a changing environment. It was during this activity when Anna Katrina Hanse, one of the 30 Maltahöhe residents at the Community Programme in May, had what she described as an eye-opening moment.

Comparing the two houses on the Low Carbon Lifestyle Poster, she used the descriptions "House Without Order" and "House With Order" when sharing how the two pictures made her realise at once the simple ways she herself, in her very own and immediate surrounding, can start making a difference. This is the 6th consecutive year that *Freundschaft mit NaDEET* has sponsored the Maltahöhe community.

Manuela Schmid



Interns at NaDEET



NaDEET continues to offer internships to Namibian students from our partner organisations. This year we have been fortunate to already have had four interns.

Intern Juliana Herero is teaching a community member how to read a water meter.

Biodiversity Research at NaDEET

During my five months of internship at NaDEET Centre, I did my Bachelor's degree project on small nocturnal mammals, which aided in a better understanding of gerbils in this area. As NaDEET is busy revising its identification guide *It's Time to Identify*, I was able to make an important contribution to it by clarifying the gerbil species around NaDEET. My position as a Centre Assistant included working with primary and secondary school learners as well as community members, showing and helping them understand how to protect the environment by living sustainably.

Elijah Shikukumwa

Elijah has now joined our Centre staff as Assistant Environmental Educator.



Elijah showing a gerbil to kids



Thanks to 45 mm of rain in April in the NaDEET area wildlife has migrated here from other drier parts of NamibRand to take advantage of the grass cover. Participants have been fortunate to see these animals at a very close distance making their visit even more special.

NaDEET Reaches Out

NaDEET Educating the Public

NaDEET reaches out to the general public at several environmental events countrywide and reconnected with past participants and local supporters. These venues are a great platform to promote our mission amongst a broader audience and to reconnect with a number of individuals that had visited NaDEET Centre or participated in one of our environmental education programmes.

One of the events was the **COSDEF Easter Market** in Swakopmund, with the theme "Celebrating Easter by Learning about Namibia's Biodiversity and Using Our Water and Energy Resources Wisely". In May we took part in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism's Annual Biodiversity Day and **Youth Environmental Summit** at the Waterberg Plateau Park, under the theme "Biodiversity and Sustainable Development". In June as one of several projects supported by the NNF-Nedbank Go Green Fund, NaDEET was also given the opportunity to showcase at the **2015 Tourism Expo** in Windhoek. The official theme 'Embracing Ecotourism' put focus on nature conservation, saving water & energy, recycling and poverty eradication through community development. NaDEET's project work addresses all these issues and therefore we felt right on the spot exhibiting at this prestigious annual event.

Manuela Schmid



Easter Market



Youth Environmental Summit



Tourism Expo

Upscaling and Spreading NaDEET Education

2015 Coastal Biodiversity Week

This year, the Annual Coastal Biodiversity Week was celebrated under the theme "Biodiversity and Sustainable Development".



NaDEET hosted two new activities entitled "My Town, My Environment, My Treasure" for lower and upper primary ages. The activities adopt the well-liked NaDEET approach to a coastal town setting to create awareness about the linkages between human lifestyles and the natural environment around us. Lower

Primary learners made mobiles out of recycled plastic and drift wood, whereas the Upper Primary learners received engraved Makalani nuts as their prizes. A total of 84 learners participated and we are inviting all other coastal schools to take part in the activities the next month. This is beginning of NaDEET's upscaling of activities to the coastal region.



NaDEET Partners with Giraffe Conservation Foundation



The GCF "Khomas Environmental Education Programme" - KEEP - will be launched later this year with a NaDEET developed programme as its foundation. We are honoured to have been consulted in the development of this programme as

it furthers our aim of integrating a holistic, sustainability approach to all environmental education activities. Watch for more updates. Coincidentally, we also had our first ever giraffes visit the NaDEET waterhole earlier this year!

Key Partner in UNESCO Network

Accelerating Solutions on a Local Level is the theme of Key Partner Network #5. This UNESCO initiative is part of the five year follow-up agenda to the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD) under the Global Action Programme (GAP). NaDEET has been invited to be part of Network #5 after our contributions at the end of the DESD World Conference in Japan in 2014.

There are a total of five networks with over 75 members from institutions and organisations around the world. NaDEET's Director participated in the initial two-day meeting which took place at UNESCO's Headquarters in Paris in May. It included a day for each of the partner networks to collaborate and share their work as well as for the whole group to agree on working guidelines. The networks aim to support the organisations' GAP commitments made in 2014 and to upscale the impact through increased collaboration.



The Network #5 working group



European Union (EU) funded three year action

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



The “RUG for Sustainability” action started off this year after the long summer holidays with a weekend stakeholder’s meeting at NaDEET Centre. The meeting was well attended by most communities, set the agenda for the year and officially unveiled the EU action sign board. It gave a forum to share achievements and challenges and the main focal areas for 2015. In addition to continuing with education programmes at the Centre and in the community, the RUG action has several exciting initiatives planned for this year including moving forward with the “Long Term Community Projects” and a Media Assessment Project. Schools also made renewed requests for assistance in transforming their various school feeding programmes into solar based and energy efficient kitchens which is part of the 2015 action plan.

Outreach Workshops and At-School Activities

Sewing for Sustainability

Elizabeth, our NaDEET Centre Kitchen Manager, joined the outreach team and introduced community members to sewing items that can help to live a more sustainable lifestyle such as shopping bags and hot bags. These of course not only help to protect the environment, but also are a great business opportunity.

Firebrick Drying Racks

Three firebrick drying racks were constructed and given to the schools in an effort to support their recycled firebrick production for cooking in the school feeding programme.

The Sustainability Game

Schoolchildren played a sustainability game that teaches about conserving resources for the future. The game is played with sweets as it demonstrates how difficult it is to “leave some behind” for replenishment and the future.

Environmental Information Boards

The environmental information boards serve as key communication tool of this action funded by the European Union. These were mounted at the schools, with the aim to display information about the environment and sustainability for the school and the community. They should also encourage more communication about local, national and international issues and events through “environmental newsflashes” and regular updates. In all three communities the information board will hopefully ensure that everyone is informed about NaDEET’s work in the community, planned programmes at NaDEET and RUG team visits to encourage more participation. Coincidentally, the boards were launched during the celebration of World Environmental Day which was celebrated under the theme “Seven billion dreams. One planet. Consume with care.” this year.



In Rietoo, NaDEET staff, including new RUG environmental educator Alton Tsowaseb (second on left), launch the new Environmental Information Boards.



Fortune Tjituaiza (right), NaDEET's new technical foreman, admiring Rietoo's recycled papermaking station with the new drying rack.



In Gochas, the Village Council's CEO Mr. Willem Beukes officially unveiled the board and encouraged the learners to use it regularly.



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.

European Union (EU) funded three year action

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



Action on Community & Household Level

The RUG Team conducted intensive household surveys in February to follow up with past participants and to gauge the spread of sustainability within the community. Here are a few examples discovered:



Energy saving in Gochas

The entire school hostel now uses energy saving light bulbs after the matrons participated in the community programme. Some teachers have purchased the solar light and charger for the farm.



Energy efficient cooking in Uibes

About half of the former participants are using their solar cookers and fuel-efficient stoves. They report their energy bill has been reduced considerably.



Annual recycling and solar cooking day in Rietoog

The school management continues to tackle the rubbish issue in Rietoog through environmental action days which include rubbish collection and solar cooking.

Huibes Conservancy Traditional Uses Plant Guide

Upon request from the Uibes community, RUG team's Nature Conservation intern Naomi Antonius conducted her research project in the Huibes Conservancy on the local plants to help develop tourism potential in the area. Her project is being compiled into a plant guide and will be used for educational activities in all communities. *During my research project, I learned about the different plant species that are found in the Huibes Conservancy and their economic and ecological uses. Apart from being part of the ecosystem, by interviewing community members I now have also found out the nutritional and medicinal value to both human and animals. I had the chance to contribute my knowledge as a Nature Conservation student and am developing a plant guide, which consists of all identified plant species in the conservancy, and can be used for easily identifying medicinal plants to treat different diseases such as chest pain, toothache and stomach ache. With the sustainability knowledge I gained, I can now go back home and share with others how they can contribute to protecting our environment.*

Naomi Antonius



NaDEET Centre Programmes and Media Assessment

During the first half of the year, the Centre hosted the RUG for Sustainability school classes and community members, with the youth groups planned for August. Schoolchildren have earned "Eco-Rug Points" through sustainability activities and quizzes to win solar lights as they continue to actively participate. Eighty-nine community members earned their own solar cookers during their week long training programme. In addition, all participants have been introduced to different forms of environmental media as an assessment tool. The assessment works as a form of self-evaluation as through the development of a written article or oral presentation participants can critically reflect on the sustainability actions they have truly adopted.

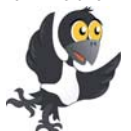


Here Christoph Gilsbach with a learner pantomimes a story at one of the other schools visited on their trip.

Primary schoolchildren will be making their own environmental videos that are to be entered into a local film competition. The N. Mutschuana Primary School was lucky enough to have professional theatre performers who were travelling with *Freundschaft mit NaDEET's* founder, Reinhard Keding, join their Centre programme. The performers, Christoph Gilsbach and Markus and Marion von Hagen, gave acting classes and tips on improving the learners presentation skills to get their message across to the audience.



This Pied Crow is the main character of the upcoming Bush Telegraph on environmental media.



NaDEET receives Recognition

NaDEET was the first recipient of the newly established Namibia Sustainable Development Awards in the Environmental Education category. This award is hosted by the Namibian Sustainable Development Advisory Council and is sponsored by the Environmental Investment Fund (EIF). It aims to award individuals, organisations and companies that are outstanding leaders in their field. The newly appointed Minister of Environment and Tourism (MET), Pohamba Shifeta delivered the keynote address at the prize-giving ceremony.



Viktoria Keding with MET Permanent Secretary Malan Lindeque (right), EIF CEO, Benedict Libanda (left) together with Wolwedans staff, who won an award for Sustainable Business Practices.

 Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia | ensuring sustainability

Energy Global Award

NaDEET was honoured with the Namibia national country award from the Energy Globe Award on World Environment Day on 5 June. The Energy Globe is one of the most important environmental international energy prizes with 177 participating countries and annual more than 1500 project entries. It is given in recognition of outstanding performance in terms of energy efficiency, renewable energy and resource conservation worldwide. Being presented this award is a very high recognition, for ENERGY GLOBE is an internationally recognized trade mark for sustainability.



NaDEET was recognised for its long-standing NaDEET Centre work.

Finances & Funding

WaterWiseWashroom Call for Support Answered

The WaterWiseWashroom project has commenced after our call for support was positively received. We have secured funding for this large project from the German Embassy in Windhoek, Speich Education Fund, ACS Namibia Project, Eine Welt Lädchen and several private donors.



Angelika Steufmehl, our current weltwärts volunteer's mother, donated the proceeds of the Eine Welt Lädchen that she runs in Bonn-Beuel Vilich-Müldorf for the WaterWise-Washrooms.

During the next few months, as our programmes continue at the Centre, preparation work will take place. To start, the tech team needed to first construct equipment to facilitate the building, such as this feeder table to plane long wooden planks.



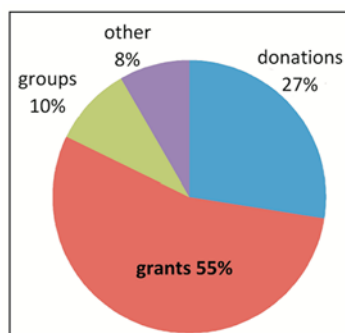
Fundraising actions for NaDEET projects are much needed!

We are grateful to the on-going fundraising efforts of our support organisations such as *Freundschaft mit NaDEET* in Germany and *Marseille Namibie* in France. In addition, a long time supporter donated to us the money raised through a marathon race which was then matched by his company.

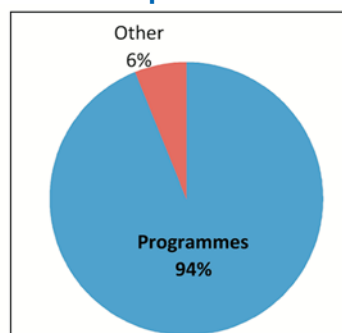
Financial Overview 2014/2015

NaDEET maintains a healthy financial balance at the end of our past financial year March '14 - February '15. With our current "RUG for Sustainability" action, the majority of our income remains from grants, specifically from the European Union. Our core environmental education work at NaDEET Centre is supported through several key on-going supporters featured on pg 7. We aim to use our funding as effectively as possible and to create the biggest impact we can. We are grateful for the support we receive to enable us to achieve our mission.

Income



Expenses



NaDEET hopes to have a tax deductible donation option in the US soon, to coincide with the Keding family fundraiser tour planned for September 2015. Please contact us if you are interested in hosting an event. We will be in Nebraska, Chicago and the East Coast. Special thanks goes to University of Nebraska-Lincoln Centre for Great Plains Studies and the Paulicks for sponsoring the tour.

NaDEET thanks our on-going donors and supporters

Our donors from 1 December 2014 to 30 June 2015 were:

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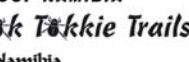
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Ein besonderer Dank geht an

... und allen deren Spendern!

To our founding supporters:

Berker Family

Elinor Dürr

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We need YOUR Help



Education is the key to sustainable development.

Please support our grassroots efforts today!

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

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

Choose your own amount: Every contribution makes a difference.

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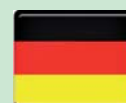
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Nature Conservation Interns: Elijah Shikukumwa & Naomi Antonius

NaDEET Centre Kitchen Intern: Juliana Herero

