



NEWS @ NaDEET

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www.nadeet.org



Learning and Living for a Sustainable Future

Dear **NaDEET** friend,

Wow! Seeing this recent photo of the Stampriet PS schoolchildren immersed in the middle of the dunes of the NamibRand Nature Reserve makes me happy.

Mr. Festus Toromba, the school's principal since 2009, has partnered with us to make a trip to **NaDEET** Centre an annual event. I often emphasize how important it is for schools to integrate environmental education into their curriculum and to realise the educational value in a week-long programme at **NaDEET** Centre. Mr. Toromba, standing on the right side of the photo above, is an excellent example of someone who has done this. His first visit to **NaDEET** was as a science teacher, shortly after we opened in 2004. So many children have benefited from his motivation and dedication to including environmental education in the school programme.

As one of the key pillars of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, quality education also recognises the important role of education for sustainable development (ESD). On a national level exciting steps forward are taking place as the draft EE/ESD national policy is being finalised. This is an important step to getting national coordination to support principals like Mr. Toromba and to support **NaDEET's** ability to upscale its impact in Namibia. We are a key part of the drafting process of the policy and are working towards its completion by the end of the year.

Enjoy reading about the many exciting EE/ESD activities in which we have been engaging schools and adults here in Namibia.

Thank you very much to all our donors for your support!

Viktoria Keding
Director

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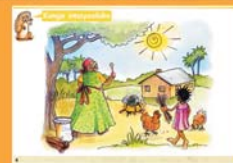
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Thank you to
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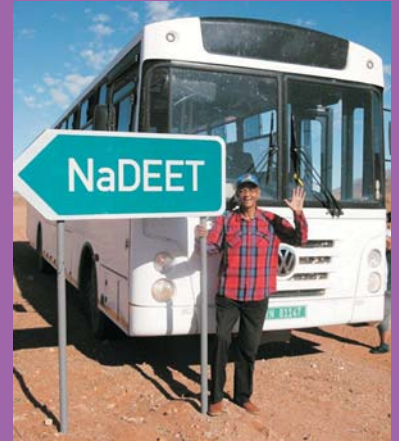


NaDEET Centre

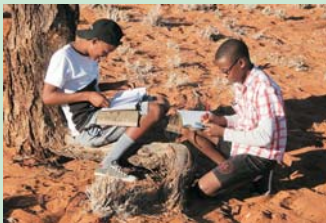
"All Roads lead to ... NaDEET!"

After years of first time visitors to the Centre getting lost (despite detailed maps!) we invested in new road signs. We now have large official, easy to read day and night green road signs to NaDEET, at all major intersections. For the past six years Hardap Region schools have been incredibly fortunate as they have been provided with Ministry of Education busses to come to the Centre. Since the end of April, however, this situation changed from one day to the next due to major government budgetary cuts. I wish the rest of this article could be about new "sustainable transport", but unfortunately it is about securing safe, reliable and AFFORDABLE transport for Namibian children to come to NaDEET Centre. In the short-term we have averted the crisis through the continued support of vehicles from the Ministry and funding from our neighbouring lodges on NamibRand Nature Reserve and the Greater Sossus Namib Landscape (GSNL). We are now exploring options of how to handle transport challenges to NaDEET Centre in the long-term, especially as we want to reach out to more schools nationwide to upscale our impact. A big thank you to Wolwedans Foundation, Tok Tokkie Trails, & Beyond, NamibRand Family HideOut, Solitaire, FNB Namibia and Gondwana for your generous support for this cause.

A special THANK YOU to Selected Hardware for co-sponsoring the signs!



NaDEET partners with Giraffe Conservation Foundation on Centre's Secondary School Programme



The Centre's secondary school programme received an injection of new content and some new visitors through funding from the Giraffe Conservation Foundation (GCF). Through this project NaDEET developed several new activities using giraffe such as "Test your Taxonomy" and environmental impact

assessments. In addition, learners get the opportunity to see the world-renowned BBC documentary on GCF's work in Namibia and Africa. It is exciting for young Namibians to see the conservation work taking place in their own country. The funding also supported several school classes that could not afford the full programme costs. Although they did not see the giraffe on NamibRand they did see lots of other wildlife.



TEST YOUR TAXONOMY

There are more than 10 million different kinds of organisms on Earth. Only a small portion have been named and catalogued through a system developed by Carl Linnaeus called **taxonomy**. This is a system of grouping and naming living organisms based on their characteristics.

Grouping: Living things are grouped starting very broadly and then becoming more specific.

Classification: The genus and species name makes up the scientific name of an organism (genus species). This system is also known as the **binomial nomenclature** as each organism is given two names.

Naming: The genus and species name makes up the scientific name of an organism (genus species). This system is also known as the **binomial nomenclature** as each organism is given two names.

Dichotomous key: It is a guiding key that has a series of questions that always only have two possible answers that lead you to a specific organism.

Directions: Use the dichotomous key to identify each of the four different giraffe species. Look out for the shape and colour of patches. Write the correct scientific name for each.

Are the patches dark and wain shaped?

Yes: **Mass giraffe**
Giraffa tippelskirchi

No: Are there markings that go all the way up to the lower legs?

Yes: Are there striking white line markings on the lower legs?

No: **Northern giraffe**
Giraffa camelopardalis

Yes: **Reticulated giraffe**
Giraffa reticulata

No: **Southern giraffe**
Giraffa giraffa

Giraffe Scientific names

1	
2	
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4	



John Amanyanga, a NUST Work-Integrated-Learning Intern, guiding environmental club members from Kamwandi Combined School on a dune walk. John completed his research project on a comparison of camel-thorn tree structure and habitat.

Here is what our participants have to say...

On behalf of Origo Primary School in general and more specific the grade 7B, I am privileged to bestow a vote of thanks to the entire NaDEET Staff Members.



Ms Ousie, thank you very much for all the delicious meals that you have blessed us with. And we are so grateful that we could have learnt from an expert in solar cooking.

Ms Manuela, thank you very much for your warm welcome. We know that you are working behind the scenes to make our dreams come true.

To our presenter, Mr E, Mr John and Ms Salome, we would love to promise you that we will put in practice everything that we have learnt from you.

Please remember we are just children who make mistakes but the good thing is that we learn from our mistakes.

Thank You!

Read by Walthaim Witbeen



All the way from Germany... NaDEET Centre's solar cooking kitchen has a new bell to give a unique sound when it is time to rotate the solar oven!

NaDEET Centre

International visitors at NaDEET

ACS Cobham International School

"We did not expect the level of activity, immersion and thoroughness of the programme. Clearly a lot of thought has gone into this and I hope that ACS will continue to support it going forward." This comment by one of the accompanying supervisors of the ACS-Namibia Project is as rewarding as it is motivating for NaDEET.



Elizabeth Lammert shows participant how to construct a solar cooker during the //Khûta!hoas community programme sponsored by the Namibia Project.

For the second consecutive year ACS-Namibia Project has arranged for a group of students from ACS Cobham International School (UK) to visit NaDEET Centre on their "summer" tour of Namibia. They got to see and experience first hand, what Namibian learners are taught at the Centre and the various environmental education activities focussed on implementing sustainable practices.



ACS charity committee at sponsor board during visit at NaDEET Centre.

NaDEET is grateful for the on-going support from ACS-Namibia Programme. Due to their generous funding community members from //Khûta!hoas took part earlier this year and another group of learners from primary school will come in October.

Centre for Global Education and Experience (CGEE)

The Centre for Global Education and Experience in Windhoek has made a weekend programme at NaDEET Centre a part of their programme. CGEE is a semester abroad programme for university students studying at an American university. The programme focuses on nation-building, globalisation and decolonising the mind. The group highly enjoyed our "Shop Till You Drop" game that explores sustainability issues in relation to consumerism and income inequality.



Participants who were allotted to be "poor" in the Shop Till You Drop game.

University of Nebraska– Lincoln (UNL)- Namibia Tour

We were happy to welcome back Larkin Powell with a new group of UNL students at the end of their month long Namibia tour. The group participated in the annual NamibRand Nature Reserve game count and of course made their own solar cooked pizza at the Centre. Lots of discussions were enjoyed regarding Namibia and conversation as the students began to reflect on their many experiences.



"RUG for Sustainability" Update

Even though we are not visiting our RUG schools monthly anymore we have had a chance to visit some and have received some great photos of solar cooking and vegetables from the RUG sponsored gardens. We also were given credit from Mr. Davids in Uibes that his school is doing well because "his learners have **learned to manage** the school well!"



Tech Talk



Tippy Taps for Centre

At **NaDEET** we are always looking into replicable solutions as the Centre is a showcase for our participants. We aim to show how one can achieve more with little. It can be time consuming to get started BUT... straight-forward, simple technology usually prevails in the conditions that are a reality in the Namib. Hygiene and handwashing has been big on the agenda in Namibia and at **NaDEET** as well. Running water is often not accessible. So at the **NaDEET** Centre toilets, we had a very simple solution, a reused plastic container hanging next to our tyre basins for many years. This worked, but was not ideal, as it is a bit awkward to use. I played around with many ideas and looked at different taps and hands-free solutions that would work without plumbing. All of them too complicated or too expensive.

Enter the tippy tap. I had heard of the tippy tap a long time ago and it is a widely used hands-free handwashing solution in rural areas. During some kind of dinner event discussion a fully unrelated side comment sparked the right brain cells into action. We got going and built several prototypes until the tech team had the design that worked in our setting in the dunes.

The end product is pretty amazing and the interest from teachers, in only a few weeks, has been overwhelming.

Andreas Keding

Off-grid Living: Maintenance and Upgrades

Living off-grid is actually very common in Namibia. To provide enough water and electricity is a part of daily life "on the farm". Luckily in today's day and age this has become much more convenient and easy with modern technology. **NaDEET's** solar systems which provide water and electricity need an upgrade or replacement every now and then to keep up with growth or to replace outdated or broken parts. The time for **NaDEET** to address some urgent issues and upgrade, arrived a few months back.

For some time, we have been experiencing low pumping volumes on our solar electricity water pump due to reduced electricity production. Our old panels, some of which had been damaged and partially replaced or repaired in 2010, were only delivering at very reduced capacity. We decided to upgrade to a new set of slightly more powerful solar panels. With groups visiting the Centre on a weekly basis and the need to keep water tanks full in case of fire, this was an important investment.

We then replaced a faulty battery in our old **NaDEET** Base battery bank in hopes that it would keep the system going. Unfortunately it did not and we needed to invest in a complete new set.

Our Staff Valley accommodation was also upgraded with a new A++ fridge/freezer for our 4-5 staff members living there. Electricity capacity for Staff Valley was also upped by using two smaller inverters hooked up in tandem to double the power that is amply available from the panels.



The Speich Education Fund has been supporting us with many capital expenditure projects over the years. Visitors to the Centre can see the beautiful houses, WaterWiseWashrooms and dry toilets that have been sponsored in part by the Speich Education Fund. Once again they looked at our proposal and recognised the importance of having a functional infrastructure to deliver quality programmes. We are very thankful for their support as it saves us from rolling over our capital expenditure onto the programme costs.

Andreas Keding

Environmental Literacy



"It's Time to Grow" Translation Workshops

With funding from UNESCO and support from the Ministry of Education, **NaDEET's** pre-primary/ lower primary school sustainability booklets are being translated into three Namibian languages. Instead of using a translator we decided to use the opportunity to bring language teachers together at **NaDEET Centre**, as they will be the ones to use the material in the classroom. Although time was short during the workshops we were still able to cover many sustainability activities



and translate the booklets for content and comprehension. Most teachers thoroughly enjoyed taking part in such an active, practical workshop and took valuable ideas home with them. The booklets are being translated into Oshindonga, Otjiherero and Khoekhoegowab and will be officially launched before the end of the year.

Here is what our participants have to say...

I would like to give my wholehearted blessing thanks to the whole NaDEET community and it's staff for the best ever project.

I am Johannes P Shalonda, one of the Oshindonga teachers. I joined the NaDEET project called Bush Telegraph in 2004 when I was in grade 9 at Nehale S.S.S in Oshikoto Region, and I have been developing my environmental life guided by this book series.

I still have all editions I received because they were ever useful to me and as additional materials to look through to complete my Natural Science homework or Biology project when I was to grade 11 and 12.

I enjoy the books by completing puzzles and answering questions about our environment. I once won a poster when I completed and drew a life cycle of a palm tree. I was very happy to put a big poster of different Namibian plants in my room and this motivated me to explore more on different local plants and know why are they important in our communities.

Providing these books to schools will help, even to us teachers, as most of us have grown up in towns and we really ignore our natural ecosystem. It fails us to present these environment related topic very effectively simply because we also don't have any information about them. Being a member of the Bush Telegraph is essential in the life of all primary and environmental related subject teachers, as I have even made six other colleagues join and now they are happy with the copy they receive every three months though they are complaining of few copies and few editions in a year.

If it wasn't for the financial problem I would suggest NaDEET and the Ministry of Education to train teachers ... there are many old schools without a single tree... finally I would like to wholeheartedly request if NaDEET can be a friend and partner of my school, Onethindi Primary School. We will be helping each other in developing materials and visiting each other. It will be marvellous!

Yours J.P Shalonda, teacher, Onethindi JPS

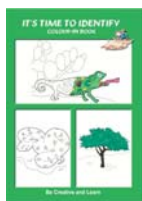
Director's note: It was great to meet you in person at NaDEET Centre and to hear how NaDEET has touched your life. It is an inspiration to us and encourages us to continue with our work! We will try to again have more Bush Telegraph's per year!



Local & International Networking

It's Time to Identify Colour-In Book

Our new publication illustrated by Katie Nieland from the UNL Center for Great Plains study was launched with Katie in February in Nebraska, USA, at a local school. It was designed to accompany our popular *It's Time to Identify* guidebook and is a fun colouring book for a road trip in Namibia. *It's Time to Identify*



Identify Colour-In Book is now available at **NaDEET** and in bookstores in Namibia.



UNESCO Global Action Programme mid-term conference, Ottawa, Canada

I had the privilege to present, together with colleagues from South Africa, on Southern African perspectives on EE/ESD.

The mid-term conference was an important networking opportunity to share best practices.

Mit ganzer Kraft für die Umwelt

Viktoria Keding hat eine Vision: Sie will ihren Naturschutz nicht nur reden, sondern ihn auch leben. Dafür wurde sie jetzt ausgezeichnet.

It was an honour to be awarded first

place in the Yves Rocher Trophée de Femmes - Germany prize earlier this year. The prize honours women who are dedicated to the environment and making the world a better place.

The prize was awarded together with cash donation for **NaDEET**. Several articles also appeared in German media outlets including in "Für Sie" women's magazine.

Viktoria Keding



Investing in our Team

Update from Vicky Endjala in Holland



Time really does go by fast! I have just completed the first of my two year studies and I am now looking forward to the summer holidays. This has been an amazing year. Being in the Netherlands has given me a different perspective on just about everything (in a good way). I have acquired so

many new ideas about how we can contribute to the reduction of global emissions, management of water resources and that 'waste equals food'. I am thrilled and can't wait see how I can use this knowledge back in Namibia.

Besides going to school, I was presented with great opportunities to travel across Europe and of course it is my dream to travel the world as much as I can. Travelling with new friends and seeing old ones has been the best experience and every place I have gone to has its own unique beauty that just makes me want to travel more. I miss my family and friends very much but this is a once in a lifetime opportunity and I am looking forward to where the next year takes me. In the coming school year starting September 2017, I will be doing a minor in Bio-based Technology and Business Development and a graduation internship. Thank you very much to **Freundschaft mit NaDEET** for making this possible.

Vicky Endjala

Office Administrators Boot Camp

The course was very interesting and I really learned a lot from it. The biggest highlight or the topic that stood out for me was how to master my office work effectively and efficiently, reducing stress and most importantly improving time management.

These stood out for me because I am the face of **NaDEET** and everything starts with me and my desk. By this I mean when people walk in our office I am the first person they talk to and I am the first person to answer the phone when it rings. I have to make sure that the way I talk and present myself goes hand in hand with my body language. A first impression is very important. As the face of **NaDEET** I also learned that I need to be pro-active, try to think a little out of the box and not only wait for instructions or be told what to do and what not.



Priscilla Kuzeeko

Director's note: Priscilla has been working "behind the scenes at NaDEET" for three years already. She manages all of our NaDEET Centre bookings and assists with many other crucial administrative tasks to support all of our environmental education work.

Strategic Plan

NaDEET Gets a Fresh Perspective

NaDEET applied to the NYU Wagner Capstone programme to receive assistance with developing an updated strategic plan.

After our three year RUG programme it was time for us to again review our key strengths and how we can best act on them to have the greatest impact. We are currently working on an implementation plan and setting up meetings with our key stakeholders.



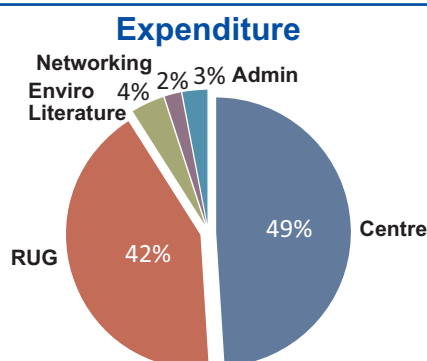
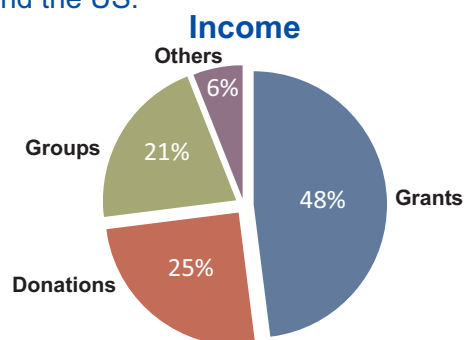
The Capstone Team presenting the **NaDEET** plan in New York

Finances & Funding

Financial Overview 2016/2017

This financial overview reflects the final year of our three year funded European Union grant for the "RUG for Sustainability" project. This project made up a significant portion of our budget.

Our outlook for 2017/ 2018 is stable due to the generous support of many individual donors and the active work of our support organisations in Germany and the US.



Viktoria sharing with Rotary Club 14 in Nebraska the impact of their grant.



The Wolwedans Foundation team hands over sponsorship for Hardap Region schools.

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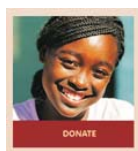


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NaDEET Structure and Staff

Trustees: Richard Baines ~ Christiane Berker ~ Michael Louw

Director: Viktoria Keding

Technical Director: Andreas Keding

Development Associate: Michelle Pfaffenthaler

NaDEET Operations: Manuela Schmid

EE Programme Developer: Viktoria Endjala (on study leave)

Environmental Educator-Centre: Elijah Shikukumwa

Homestead & Kitchen Manager: Elizabeth Lammert

Administrative Assistant: Priscilla Kuzeeko

General Handyman: Willem Swartbooi

DSJW "weltwärts" Volunteers: Theodor Blume and Marvin Warken

