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Monthly EE News Flash of the SADC Regional Environmental Education Programme

CONTENTS

1. NEWS 2. TRAINING 3. EVENTS/OPPORTUNITIES 4. PUBLICATIONS

1. NEWS

1.1 NRM Aquaculture Capacity Needs Assessment in Mozambique

The SADC REEP programme has been supporting the mainstreaming of environmental education and sustainability in agriculture and natural resources management in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and wildlife through training, workshops, meetings and other EE/ESD networks.

An NRM aquaculture capacity needs assessment programme was conducted to determine some of the gaps existing in aquaculture development in order to plan for a workshop for aquaculture practitioners. In consultation with the University of Eduardo Mondlane University, the Department of Aquaculture Development and National Directorate for Environmental Protection it was agreed that we organise a workshop in which people will share and explore good practices in aquaculture development. Participants selected for the workshop will be asked to share knowledge, skills, expertise and experiences in aquaculture and be able to extend the learning to other practitioners in their institutions and countries. A number of countries close to Mozambique who are involved in aquaculture development will be invited to take part in the workshop. Some of the areas to be covered during the workshop will be:

- Mapping potential sites for aquaculture development
- Bloodstock management

- Fingerling production and management
- Sustainable aquaculture development

Further details about the planned course will be publicised in the next NewsFlash.

1.2 Orange-Senqu River Learning Box (OS-RLB) Partners' Meeting 26 and 27th March 2012

The first Partners' meeting of the Orange-Senqu River Learning box was held at in Howick, Umngeni Valley on 26th and 27th March 2012. The four Country Partners to this project are Botswana (Mokolodi Nature Reserve Education Centre), Lesotho (Transformation Resource Centre & National Curriculum Development Centre), Namibia (Desert Research Foundation of Namibia) and South Africa; Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA). Other participants at the meeting included the Orange-Senqu River Commission (ORASECOM), UNOPs, ShareNet and the SADC REEP. The objectives of meeting were; to create a common understanding of the OS-RLB project; to discuss and deliberate implementation strategies on the OS-RLB project; and to expand networks.

The Partners spent the first day of the meeting taking part in the mini-SASS training which was organised by the Water Research Commission (WRC) and conducted by the NGO GroundTruth. Highlights of the day included practical application of the Mini-SASS in the Umngeni River using the water toolkit to determine the level of pollution in the river by taking note of the type of organisms present. The water testing tool kit is popular and there is a possibility of including in the River Learning Box for use by the teachers and learners in the Orange-Senqu River Basin.

Day two was spent in deliberating and agreeing on a number of issues such as MoU and practical implementation strategies of the OS-RLB Project within the four riparian states. The Country Partners all showed enthusiasm and excitement towards the project and hoped that the project can be used even beyond the Orange-Senqu River Basin. It was emphasised that this project is a team effort, and should therefore be of benefit to all stakeholders. This can only be achieved by working through partners and communities of practice of sustainability learning and teaching eg SADC Network Representatives, Environmental Education Association of Southern Africa (EEASA), and partners from ORASECOM community. This transboundary project will set an example from an educational perspective as the project involves a basin-wide approach and has high potential to transcend political boundaries.

The meeting ended on a positive note and set the stage for the Project Manager to plan and coordinate the forth coming Project Inception Meeting to be held in Johannesburg on 25th April 2012.

1.3 Regional Centre of Expertise Capacity Development Writing Workshop

A five-day RCE capacity development writing workshop which was organised by the United Nations University - Institute of Advanced Studies was held in Howick from 26th to 30th March, 2012. The workshop which was a continuation to the one which was held in Grahamstown was aimed at developing a module focusing on four ESD thematic areas:

- Transformative learning
- Governance and management
- Collaboration and partnership
- Research and development

The workshop started with the mini-SASS workshop which among others included presentations on water and water management, RCEs initiatives in Africa and beyond and a trip to one of the streams which flows to Umgeni Natural Reserve for a water testing practical activity. The participants' involvement in the mini-SASS workshop provided a forum for them to engage with people from the Water Research Commission, the ORASECOM project and other WESSA staff from KwaZulu Natal and other part of South Africa.

Participants to the writing workshop were drawn from Lesotho RCE, Kano RCE in Nigeria, KwaZulu Natal RCE in South Africa, RCE Nairobi in Kenya, Swaziland RCE, SADC REEP and the United Nation University in Japan. A draft module comprising of the above four chapters was produced ready for circulation for comments and will be piloted with RCE coordinators in Grahamstown in September before the EEASA conference.

2 TRAINING

2.1 Swedish International Centre of Education for Sustainable Development/Global Action Plan International/ SADC Regional Environmental Education Programme

"Learning for Change" workshop
Umgeni Valley, Howick: 15th to 17th May 2012

Applications are invited from **past participants of both Teacher Education and NRM/Agriculture courses that were facilitated by the SADC REEP who are implementing change projects.**

The Swedish International Centre of Education for Sustainable Development (SWEDES) and Global Action Plan (GAP) International, both based in Sweden, and the Southern African Development Community Regional Environmental Education Programme (SADC REEP) are in a collaborative partnership which is facilitating a workshop during the period 15th to 17th May, 2012. The capacity building workshop is for **past participants in Teacher Education and NRM/Agriculture courses, who are implementing change projects.**

The workshop has three main objectives:

- To create conditions for participants to assess and evaluate their own work in order to learn from/for it
- To enable participants to experience new approaches, tools and models for collaborative learning
- To support teacher trainers and other stakeholders in Southern Africa to adopt the new approach, tools and models
- To promote exchange and cooperation between practitioners and stakeholders, not least through strengthening the existing SADC REEP networks

Interested applicants (**only past participants in Teacher Education and NRM/Agriculture courses, who are implementing change projects**) are invited to

- complete the application form which should be signed by their supervisor,
- write a one-page motivation to attend the course
- submit a description of the progress of their change project from inception to the present.

All expenses for supported participants will be covered by the organizers for the duration of the workshop, including air ticket from the international airport of departure only, workshop materials and accommodation and food. Participants will arrive on 14th May and depart on 18th May. Accommodation will be modest and participants should be prepared to share a room. No *per diems* will be given.

The 2012 SADC-Rhodes University International Certificate in EE Course

The application form for **Rhodes/SADC certificate course past participants** the course is attached. The deadline for applications by past participants is **13th April 2012**. Applicants need to submit the completed application form, signed and stamped by their employer, a brief CV, a letter of motivation endorsed by

their employer, and a "story" about their change project (see guidelines), in order to be considered.

3 EVENTS/OPPORTUNITIES

3.1 EEASA Conference 2012

This will be the **30th annual conference**, combined with a workshop, and will take place at Rhodes University in Grahamstown from 11th to 14th September 2012. The theme is : " Environmental Learning, Agency and Social Change". Information is available on: www.EEASAConference2012.co.za.

Early bird registration for the conference is ZAR 1 900 (before 31st May 2012). This does not include accommodation, which must be booked separately (see the website).

Conference streams are:

- Natural Resource Management, Biodiversity Conservation and Agriculture
- Higher Education & Training (including teacher education)
- Formal Schooling
- Informal Learning (including workplace learning, youth programmes, public awareness etc.)
- Business and Industry
- Local and National Government
- Inter-sectoral (cross-cutting) work.

3.2 International Wildlife Management Congress (IWMC)

This is the first time that the International Wildlife Management Congress (IWMC) comes to Africa. The Wildlife Society (TWS) in partnership with Wildlife and Environmental Society of South Africa (WESSA), SANParks, EZEMVELO KZN Wildlife will host this prestigious congress at the Durban International Convention Centre, South Africa from 9th - 12th July 2012.

The III International Wildlife Management Congress (IWMC) was held at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch from 1st - 5th December 2003. It was the first time a wildlife management meeting of this magnitude was held in the Southern Hemisphere. The Wildlife Society, a wildlife science & educational association based in the USA, co-hosts these Congresses every few years. Each Congress is located in a different part of the world and is run jointly with one or more local partners. The first two Congresses were held in Costa Rica (September 19th -25th, 1993) and Hungary (June 28th - July 2nd, 1999) and attracted attendees from 66 countries.

Previous International Wildlife Management Congress gatherings have attracted an average of 600 delegates involving global organizations, government officials, academics, NGOs, CBOs and other Wildlife Management practitioners. The 2012 IWMC hopes to attract 1000 delegates from around the globe.

For further information log on to the website: www.iwmc2012.org

3.3 World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities (WSSDU-2012)

Expressions of interest may now be submitted by persons/organisations interested to take part in the "World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities" (WSSDU- 2012), to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 5-6 June 2012, as a parallel event to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD). WSSDU-2012 is organised by the Task Force Earth Summit 2012 at the Research and Transfer Centre "Applications of Life Sciences" of HAW Hamburg, the RCE Hamburg and Region and the International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education. The aims of the "World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities" (WSSD-U-2012) are:

- i. to provide universities all round the world with an opportunity to display and present their works (i.e. curriculum innovation, research, activities, practical projects) as they relate to education for sustainable development at university level;
- ii. to foster the exchange of information, ideas and experiences acquired in the execution of projects, from successful initiatives and good practice;
- iii. to discuss methodological approaches and projects which aim to integrate the topic of sustainable development in the curriculum of universities;
- iv. to network the participants and provide a platform so they can explore possibilities for cooperation.

Last but not least, a further aim of the event will be to document and disseminate the wealth of experiences available today. To this purpose, a special issue of the "International Journal of Sustainable Development" with selected papers from the conference will be produced. Furthermore, the book "Sustainable Development at Universities: New Horizons" will be published, with a further set of papers. This will be volume 33 of the award-winning book series "Environmental Education, Communication and Sustainability" (Peter Lang Scientific Publishers), which since its creation in 1998, has become the world's longest running book series on education and communication on sustainable development.

Delegates attending the "World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities" (WSSD-U-2012) will come from a cross-sectoral range of areas.

They are:

- i. members of university administrations;
- ii. teaching staff
- iii. research staff;
- iv. student groups;
- v. project officers and consultants;
- vi. other people interested in the field.

It is believed that this wide range of participants will help to outline the need for integrated approaches towards sustainable development and, hence contribute to the further dissemination of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

Further details on the event can be seen at: <http://www.haw-hamburg.de/wssd-2012.html> or from:

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3.4 Scholarships for University research work

Please share these scholarship links with your students and networks:

<http://tinyurl.com/3vd93zc>

Stephen M. Mureithi
Ghent University
BELGIUM

3.5 The Terra Viva Grants Directory

The objective of the **Terra Viva Grants Directory** is to “*develop and manage information about grants for agriculture, energy, environment, and natural resources in developing countries*”.

Visit the following web-link <http://www.terravivagrants.org/> which offers:

- ü Profiles of over 400 grant makers, with regional coverage for the developing world.
- ü Funding News: Application deadlines, and new and changed grant programs and other funding news.

- ü Links and Resources: A strategic inclusion of information resources for grant seekers.

4. PUBLICATIONS

4.1

Compiled by Sally Cumming

Please submit other relevant EE activities to the SADC REEP Monthly News Flash and feel free to forward this message to people who might be interested.

Please [inform us](#) if you do not wish to receive this EE News Flash.

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