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**Monthly EE News Flash of the SADC Regional Environmental Education
Programme**

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1. NEWS

**1.1 30th Conference of the Environmental Education Association of Southern
Africa**

The 30th EEASA conference held at Rhodes University, South Africa, was a great success. Over four hundred people attended, including a large contingent from Botswana - about 80 people, including school children. SADC REEP sponsored the attendance, fully or partially, of about fifty participants in the conference, all of whom were attending other meetings, workshops and courses before or during the conference.

The conference welcome address was given by Dr Sizwe Mabizela, Acting Vice Chancellor of Rhodes University, and the opening address by Dr Justin Lupele, President of EEASA. Keynote speakers were Professor Bob Jickling from Canada: "Economic Narratives, Normalising Catastrophe, and the Music of Salesmanship: so what are you going to do about it? eh?", on Tuesday; Dr Daniel Babikwa from Uganda on Wednesday: "Learning, Agency and Social Change: Perspectives from Africa"; Professor Jeppe Læssøe from Denmark on Thursday 13th: "ESD and Socio-cultural change: on contextualising ESD in time and space"; and finally Dr Mahesh Pradhan from UNEP addressed the conference on "Environmental Education and the post-Rio+20 agenda".

Leaders of the future were well represented at the conference. Children from Itumeleng Primary School gave a presentation on the greening of their school

grounds, and the development of teachers' handbooks and other materials which would assist the teachers in facilitating and continuing the greening of the school grounds. One young lady, who had attended the 29th EEASA conference in Lesotho addressed, at Tich Pesanayi's invitation, the Wednesday plenary session on the occasion of the release of the SADC REEP book "Learning for a sustainable Future: fifteen years of Swedish-SADC co-operation in Environment and Sustainability Education". She explained what she had presented at the 29th conference, said a few words about her presentation to the 30th conference, and with regard to the "15-year book" she encouraged Conference participants to read the publication by demanding "Are you going to read it?!"

Six young girls from Eiffel Flats Primary School in Zimbabwe gave a very confident and professional presentation to the Friday plenary session on their school projects. Three of the girls from Grade 7 described their audit of the trees in the grounds of their school, distinguishing between indigenous, exotic and invasive species. They were followed by two nine-year-olds and a ten-year old who discussed their research into the propagation of common herbs in their school garden, and the culinary and medicinal uses of those herbs. These six children received an enthusiastic ovation from a full auditorium of EEASA participants.

With over 400 participants at the conference, there was a huge selection of break-away sessions, with seven individual venues, each with three or more papers addressing the following conference streams:

- 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.

SADC REEP's future was addressed in a number of sessions, and together with inputs from the National EE Network Representatives' meeting several useful suggestions were recorded with regard to future funding for the programme.

Evening entertainment included a cocktail party on Tuesday evening, a cultural evening on Wednesday, and a gala dinner on Thursday evening at which EEASA's 30th anniversary was celebrated, and EEASA awards were announced. The MESA (Mainstreaming Environment and Sustainability in African Universities Programme) Chairs, which were funded by SADC REEP, were awarded the EEASA Presidential Award. Dr Irma Allen of Swaziland Environment Authority, and Dr Jim Taylor of WESSA received EEASA President's awards for their outstanding work in EE/ESD in the region.

1.2 National EE Network Representatives' 16th Annual Meeting

All fourteen of the SADC member countries were represented at the 16th annual meeting of National Environmental Education Network Representatives in September 2012. In addition, National Education Department representatives from six countries attended the meeting, which contributed enormously to the value of the meeting, as did the energetic participation of Ms Christobel Chakwana from SADC Secretariat Social and Human Development and Special Programmes. The meeting took place over two days - Sunday and Monday - at a Grahamstown Hotel, and on Tuesday at the Rhodes University Environmental Learning Research Centre. One of the primary topics of discussion was the future of SADC REEP, as the project as currently funded comes to an end in December 2012.

Guests at the annual meeting were:

Directors/Representatives of Education			
Chakwana	Mrs	Christobel	Gender Expert, SADC ODL Project
Kooletse	Mr	Ndondo	Botswana
Menyatso	Mr	Molaodi	Botswana
Bakenga Mbaya	Mr	Rene-Medard	DRC
Ntumba Kafuile	Mr	Pierre	DRC
Chipanga	Mr	Andrew Clement	Malawi
Adrien	Mr	Wilfred	Seychelles
Akwilapo	Dr	Leonard	Tanzania
Lwikolela	Mr	Robert	Tanzania
Vengai	Mr	Francis	Zimbabwe

The National EE Network Representatives were as follows:

Soares	Mr	Nascimento	Angola
Malepa	Mrs	Dollina	Botswana
Mpolesha	Mr	Dany	DRC
Motabotabo	Mrs	Mamasheane	Lesotho
Tikiwa	Mr	Clement	Malawi
Sardoo	Mr	Maxwell	Mauritius
Mwitu	Ms	Juliana	Mozambique
Namutenya	Mr	Martina	Namibia

Sithole	Ms	Jennifer	RSA
Andimignon	Ms	Brenda	Seychelles
Dladla	Mr	Gcina	Swaziland
Tarimo	Mr	Bartholomew	Tanzania
Mwansa	Ms	Chama	Zambia
Kangata	Mr	Steady	Zimbabwe

1.3 Official Opening of the Rhodes University Environmental Learning Research Centre

The formal opening of the ELRC took place at 5.30 on Thursday 13th September, and was attended by government officials, University dignitaries, special guests and an impressive number of past and current PhD and M Ed graduates and students. The establishment of the Centre, on University grounds but adjacent to the Grahamstown Botanical Gardens, was a joint project between Rhodes University, Makana Municipality, and the South African Biodiversity Institute.

The ceremony commenced with a welcome address from Professor Sizwe Mabizela, the Acting Vice Chancellor of Rhodes University, followed by an address by Dr Tanya Abrahamse, CEO of South African National Biodiversity Institute, and a short address by Ms Julia Wells of Makana Municipality describing the part played by the Municipality in the establishment of the Centre.

The official opening was declared by Ms Nosipho Ngcaba, Director-General in the Department of Environmental Affairs.

2 TRAINING

2.1 Master's degrees in Education: Rhodes University

In 2013/14 Rhodes University is offering an exciting new Masters in Education Programme. Masters Degrees on offer include a Masters in Education: **Environmental Education**; Masters in Education: **Science Education**; and Masters in Education: **Geography Education**. These three degrees will be offered using a 'cluster approach' which will allow scholars from the three programmes to interact around critical issues related to Society, Sustainability and Science.

The Course will be run in association with the Makana Regional Centre of Expertise in Education for Sustainable Development and the Murray & Roberts Chair of Environmental Education, internationally recognised programmes working at the cutting edge of education and social transformation. Courses will be structured according to five themes (see attached flyer).

APPLICATIONS CLOSE ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2012.

Application forms can be downloaded from www.ru.ac.za/studentzone/FutureStudents/ApplyingtoRhodes. Applications MUST be accompanied by a 200 word letter of motivation, previous academic record and a curriculum vitae. For more information, please contact Sashay.Armstrong@ru.ac.za

2.2 International Training Programme in Integrated Sustainable Coastal Development

Applications are invited for this ITP in ISCD from residents of Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, South Africa, and Tanzania.

Closing date for application is 19th October 2012, and applications should be submitted to the nearest Swedish Embassy/Consulate. A soft copy should also be e-mailed to the Programme Secretariat. If there is no Swedish Embassy/Consulate in the applicant's country, the application may be submitted directly to the Programme Secretariat.

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ITP Secretariat
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3 EVENTS/OPPORTUNITIES

3.1 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

3.2 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 SADC Publications launched at EEASA Conference 2012

Learning for a Sustainable Future: Fifteen years of Swedish-SADC Co-operation in Environment and Sustainability Education compiled by Professor Heila Lotz-Sisitka. This book marks the 15 years of implementation of SADC REEP.

Future Capacity Building: Capacity Assessment for Environmental Policy Implementation. This report discusses the key findings, conclusions and recommendations of a study that was conducted to assess the capacities of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and its 15 member states.

(Re) Views on Social Learning Literature. A monograph for Social Learning Researchers in Natural Resources management and Environmental Education. Editor Professor Heila Lotz-Sisitka. This monograph was produced as a joint project of the Environmental Learning Research Centre at Rhodes University, the UNESCO Chair of Social Learning and Sustainability at Wageningen University in the Netherlands, the SADC Regional Environmental Education Programme, and the Environmental Education Association of Southern Africa.

Learning Today for Tomorrow. Sustainable Development Learning Processes in sub-Saharan Africa. Editors Dr Justin Lupele and Professor Heila Lotz-Sisitka. This research report was commissioned by UNESCO and supported by SADC REEP, and was initially produced as a contribution to the Association of the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) 2012 Triennial Conference.

Several other publications were launched at the conference, for which details will be included in the next edition of the NewsFlash.

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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