

.ReSCOPE on E in Term 2 of 2009

***An electronic newsletter of the Regional Schools and Colleges
Permaculture (ReSCOPE) Programme that is produced every 4 months.
For comments, contributions and requests for inclusion on the mailing
list contact Mugove Walter Nyika at zipscope@yahoo.co.uk or
rescope@sdpn.org.mw***

In troduction

In this issue we share with you the outcomes of the first session of the strategic planning process that the ReSCOPE Programme has embarked on. We also give details of our next capacity building workshop that will be held in Uganda in September/October. We continue with to share feedback from the participants who attended our first capacity building workshop that was held in Harare in May 2007. Updates on IPC9 and on the Permaculture production trial plot are continued in this issue. We welcome any contributions for the next issue and these should reach us by the end of September. Please give us feedback so that we can keep improving.

Africa Forum 2009

The ReSCOPE Programme participated at the recent Africa Forum 2009 that was held at Sun 'n Sand resort in Mangochi on the shores of Lake Malawi from the 21st to the 26th of June 2009. This was a forum for sharing experiences on HIV and AIDS that brought together participants from the United States and over 20 African countries. The conference, whose theme was Integrated Programming, was organized by Project Concern International. Highlights of the conference for me were:

- The Permaculture designed organic garden within the hotel premises
- The deviation from the standard hotel menu to serve traditional wholesome and organic food throughout the conference period

- The gallery walk to show displays of healthy foods and innovative technologies including a composting toilet
- The motivational speeches and personal testimonies from people living positively with HIV and AIDS
- The tree of knowledge gained at the conference. Participants were invited to share insights gained by writing them on small cards that were then hang on a small tree
- The work with the local school before, during and after the workshop that culminated in the set up of demonstrations of the following on the school grounds:
 - A Kenyan style vertical garden
 - A Lesotho style key hole garden
 - Fuel efficient stoves
 - A Permaculture garden

Risk Based Quality Management Systems (RBQMS)

The ReSCOPE Coordinator has been trained by Hivos in Risk Based Quality Management Systems (RBQMS). RBQMS is a tool for linking organic producers to the market and managing the issues of quality in the production chain. Partners that are interested in this aspect should contact us.

Reaching out to more partners

ReSCOPE partners are convinced that schools have so much potential that they would like more organizations to join them so that there can be a critical mass of participating schools to have wider national impact. To this end we have developed a 2 page concept brief that interested people can read to get an overview of what ReSCOPE is all about. The brief concept note is available from the secretariat.

Kasisi Permaculture Production trial plot

The rain-fed cropping season at the Permaculture production trial plot has come and gone and the harvesting has been done. The team at Kasisi together with their counterparts at the University of Zambia are now busy working on the analysis of the outputs and the data, collation of the data and presentation of the results. The team is also working to fund-raise for the next cycle and to plan for the next cropping season. Watch this space for the results of the first season!

Strategic planning

Two and a half years after the launch of the ReSCOPE Programme in Lusaka, Zambia its time to revisit the form and direction of the organization that was conceptualised as a regional schools land use programme for eastern and southern Africa. From the 3rd to the 5th of June 2009, the ReSCOPE Board members representing 5 of the 6 participating countries and the staff and three invited guests gathered at the SACDEP Centre in the small town of Thika, in Kenya to deliberate on the future of the organization. The three day workshop was very ably facilitated by John Wilson whose links with the Programme extend way beyond the founding meeting of the Programme in December 2006

Objectives

The overall purpose of the workshop was to develop an inspiring and creative way forward for ReSCOPE as it moves into its second phase, based on deep learning from the first phase. The specific objectives were that by the end of the workshop the participants will have:

- Drawn out the key learnings from ReSCOPE's first phase (in particular learnings that usefully inform the future of ReSCOPE)

- Developed a picture of ReSCOPE's various relationships internally and with the stakeholders and the current state of these relationships
- Determined the trends in the context that are of particular significance to ReSCOPE as it looks ahead to the future and explored the implications of these trends to ReSCOPE
- Revisited and refined ReSCOPE's vision and purpose and its values and how it puts these into practice
- Developed a set of strategic objectives for the next three years for ReSCOPE and done some ground work on how these will be achieved
- Drawn up a next steps plan to keep the strategic planning process going

The process

This strategic planning session is just the beginning of a five month process to prepare for the second phase of the ReSCOPE Programme. In this initial 2 day session we looked at the first phase closely and picked out the key learning points from it. We also looked at the current context and picked out the relevant trends and their implications. From all this we prioritised five issues to work on and developed a strategic objective for each which we began to flesh out. We ended the session at Thika with short term plan for the next five months.

In the period to October 2009 we are going to work together to build a concept paper for each objective. We will describe the strategies that need to be employed to achieve each objective as well as to spell out the intended outcomes. At the end of October 2009 we will meet again to share on these stories on the future of ReSCOPE.

The strategic objectives

The meeting agreed on the following strategic objectives to be achieved by the end of 2012:

- ✓ Each participating country will have a functional country platform
- ✓ There will be a pool of ILUD facilitators establishing centres of excellence in schools
- ✓ The Programme will have developed a culture of effective documentation
- ✓ The Programme we will have in place systems and structures that are able to stimulate the innovative growth of the Programme
- ✓ The Programme will have developed strategic alliances and productive relationships with a range of partners

Other outcomes

NAME

Schools Integrated Design Initiatives (SIDI) Up dated to Schools Integrated Environmental Design Initiatives (SIEDI) after the workshop and the debate continues.

VISION

Quality of life in African communities is improved

MISSION

To transform schools into productive centres that are rich in agro-ecological resources for their communities

VALUES STATEMENT

The meeting agreed on the following to be the values that should guide the Programme:

- ❖ Caring for the earth and respect for all forms of life
- ❖ Children as the custodians of the future
- ❖ Integrity, transparency and accountability

- ❖ Partnerships, empowerment, Democracy and Sharing
- ❖ Creativity, innovation and fun
- ❖ Non discrimination

BOARD MEETING

The Board members took advantage of the workshop to hold their meeting. Gertrude Zulu-Shinkanga (Community Youth Concern – Zambia) and Eliud Ngunjiri (RODI KENYA) were elected Chair and Vice Chair respectively. Charles Mazinga (Ministry of Education – Malawi) retained the position of Treasurer and together the three form the Management Committee of the Programme for the next two years.

Integrated Land Use Design (ILUD) Training workshop planned for Uganda

We are organising a capacity building workshop for ReSCOPE partner organization and other interested organizations that will take place in Uganda at the end of September this year. The details of the workshop are outlined below.

Title

INTEGRATED LAND USE DESIGN FOR ORGANIZATIONS WORKING WITH SCHOOLS

Dates

28 September to 9 October 2009. Check in on Sunday the 27th and check out 10am on the 9th

Venues

1. Kulika Training Centre, Lutisi, Kampala – Week one
2. St Judes Family Projects Training Centre, Masaka – Week two

Kulika Training centre is just outside Kampala on Hoima road at Lutisi rural service centre.

St Judes Training Centre is situated just outside the town of Masaka in South Western Uganda.

Facilitators

1. Mugove Walter Nyika – ReSCOPE Programme
2. Judith Nakayiza Byahuranga – Kulika, Uganda
3. Josephine Kizza – St Judes, Uganda
4. George Kayega –Kulika , Uganda

Target group

Training Officers and Project Officers of organizations promoting sustainable land use in schools

Workshop aim

To equip participants with the skills and techniques of facilitating sustainable land use in schools

Workshop objectives

By the end of the 2 week course, the participants will be able

1. To define Permaculture and to describe and explain the ethics and principles of Permaculture
2. To describe and explain the Integrated Land Use Design (ILUD) process and to use it as a tool for the implementation of sustainable land use in schools
3. To identify, promote and harness healthy ecological processes
4. To facilitate the holistic design of the school environment
5. To monitor the implementation of Permaculture in schools and to provide technical support to schools that are implementing Permaculture and related programmes.

Workshop content

- Ethics and principles of Permaculture
- The process of Integrated Land Use Design for schools
- Ecological processes
- Principles of Permaculture design
- Soil improvement
- Water harvesting

- Situational analysis
- Holisticgoal formation
- Whole school design, care and management
- Planning for implementation and monitoring of sustainable land use in schools

Workshop character

Participatory, practical, hands on and hands in the soil with relevant theoretical grounding

Eligibility

Each ReSCOPE partner organisations is entitled to send one participant to this workshop. Organizations wishing to send more participants may do so at a cost of \$500 per participant. Organisations that are not partners of the ReSCOPE Programme may send participants to the course at a fee of \$550 per participant.

All fees payable must be paid before the commencement of the workshop by telegraphic transfer or by bank draft or cash at the venue on the 27th of September.

Responsibilities for the sponsoring organizations

The partner or sponsoring organization will be responsible for the transport of the participant(s) to and from the venues of the workshops as well as for any allowances that are due to their participant(s).

Responsibilities for the ReSCOPE Programme

The ReSCOPE Programme will provide food and accommodation for the participants during their stay at the venue for the duration of the course as well as the tuition.

Health

Participants and or their organizations will be responsible for the health care of participants during the workshop

Certification

Participants who complete the course will be awarded with Certificates in Integrated Land Use Design that are issued by the ReSCOPE Programme. We are applying to the organisers of the 9th International Permaculture Conference and Convergence (IPC9) that will be happening in Malawi in November 2009 for the holders of these certificates to be allowed to register for the IPC9 Convergence.

Pre-registration

Pre-registration is a must and is now open and the forms are available from our addresses above.

ILUD trainers

Over the last few issues of this newsletter we have been featuring some of the participants who were trained in Integrated Land Used Design in Harare in May 2007. We sent these people a questionnaire and this month we feature Mr. George Kayega and Mrs Judith Nakayiza Byaruhanga who are trainers with Kulika in Uganda and have given us some useful feedback. Read on.

Section 2: Harare ILUD training workshop revisited

Question	Responses
11. Which topics covered at the workshop have you found most useful in your context?	Knowing your Elements Soil and Water conservation using Contours. The ILUD process for schools Ethics of Permaculture Running an ILUD training workshop
12. Which topics have you found to be of little use	None None
13. What topics have you wished that they should have been included in that workshop?	Landscaping Appropriate technologies especially practical lessons in making and using fuel saving stoves
14. On a scale or 1 to 10 with 10 being excellent, how do you now rate that workshop in terms of its overall relevance, impact and usefulness	8 8
15. What recommendations do you have for the next workshop?	More practical required on the side of land designs Facilitate in a more practical manner Improve on the remuneration as the cost of things in Harare is alarming

Section 3: Work details

Question	Responses
16. Briefly describe your work in the last ten months	<p>Training and farm support visit to the trained participants</p> <p>A report was submitted to our bosses in Kampala</p> <p>3 Schools – 2 primary and 1 secondary were identified for ILUD but the challenge has been a funding drought</p>
17. What changes have taken place in your work situation since May 2007?	<p>Different life forms are more appreciated for their mutual benefits. Every living thing has a right to continue living.</p> <p>Now have more activities to be done than before – carrying on the normal routine work of Kulika together with ReSCOPE in my work situation</p>
18. What do you intend to do in the next year or so?	<p>To move directly to school communities.</p> <p>Continue to support the ReSCOPE activities sustainably at the 3 identified schools</p>
19. What would you like the ReSCOPE Programme to do to enhance your work?	<p>To be availed with some CD or Videos covering ILUD</p> <p>Fund other ReSCOPE country activities</p>
20. What recommendations do you have for work to promote sustainable land-use in schools in the region?	<p>Good to involve the surrounding communities for sustainability because head teachers come and go but the surrounding community will always be there.</p> <p>Draw up a common ILUD Programme or structure to be used to implement or promote sustainable land use in the region</p>
21. Any other comments?	<p>Most schools have small land holdings and limited resources for items that cannot be mobilised locally.</p> <p>The workshop in Harare was an eye opener on how we can collectively protect and preserve the environment for future generations</p>

IPC9

IPC9 will happen at Kumbali Village near Lilongwe, Malawi during the first week of November 2009. The IPC9 Convergence will run from the 2nd to the 5th of November while the Conference will take place on the 6th of November. These two events will be preceded by an International Permaculture Design Certificate (IPDC) course to be held at Fambidzanai Permaculture Centre, Harare, Zimbabwe from the 18th to the 29th of October. The IPDC will be facilitated by Joel Glanzberg from the United States and John Nzira from South Africa. The two Permaculture practitioners have each got more than twenty years experience of teaching Permaculture on their respective continents.

The theme for IPC9 is *designing solutions for a sustainable future*. The primary focus of the work on this theme will be to develop a Plan Africa for the food sovereignty and empowerment of communities. Issues of food and nutrition insecurity and lack of capacity to fight poverty are at the centre of the challenges facing many African countries and over the last century inappropriate high input solutions have been pushed down on Africa from foreign capitals. Since the early 1990s some exciting work has been done with Permaculture and related approaches in various African communities but the stories from these projects have largely remained untold and the projects have remained isolated with little wider impact.



Figure 1. One of the key outcomes of IPC9 will be to develop strategies for promoting local seeds and traditional foods.

The venue for IPC9 is a large farm on the edge of the town with an African village and a lodge among other facilities. The IPC9 events will be centred on the village and more information about Kumbali is available on the web site www.kumbali.com. IPC9 takes place during the hot season just before the rainy season and so temperatures during the day in Lilongwe will range from 26 to 33 degrees centigrade with the nights being warm and temperatures falling to the lower twenties.



Figure 2. Some of the chalets at Kumbali Lodge just outside Lilongwe
Soon after the Convergence and Conference end a site tour of Permaculture projects will begin in Malawi on the 7th of November and will take the participants through Zimbabwe and finally end in Johannesburg, South Africa on the 30th of November. The trip will take the participants to at least ten Permaculture sites in Malawi and at least five each in Zimbabwe and South Africa. IPC9



Figure 3. Some of the Permaculture projects to be visited will be schools producing their own food using low input approaches.

Lilongwe can be reached by air through Johannesburg, South Africa or through Nairobi, Kenya. The main airlines that service Lilongwe's Kamuzu International Airport are South African Airways (SAA), Kenya Airways and Air Malawi. SAA is a member of the STAR Alliance while Kenya Airways is a member of Flying Blue with KLM and Air France. From Johannesburg one can complete the journey by bus and this will have the added advantages of reducing the carbon miles and an opportunity to see the country side across 4 countries. Travel arrangements can be made through Ulendo travel agents and there you can contact Effie on email: fly5@ulendo.net



Figure 4. Lake Malawi – the lake of stars will be on the itinerary of the 4 nation post conference tour.

Pre-registration for the IPC9 events is now open online at the conference website www.ipcon.org and the forms and further information are also available from the conference secretariat at the following addresses: zipscope@yahoo.co.uk, ipc9malawi@ymail.com , rescope@sdp.org.mw .