



# Green your planet Newsletter



## *Sustainable school food gardens improve life*

Feed the Nation and conserve natural Resources.

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Sustainable school food gardens and environmental greening projects in previously disadvantaged schools is our priority as Green Africa Foundation. Our goal and objectives are in line with department of Education as declared by former Minister of Education Naledi Pando stated that each and every school in South Africa should have a sustainable food garden or environmental greening related projects. Green Africa Foundation in partnership with various government departments, such as Department of Agriculture, Department of Education, schools, community members and private sectors support these initiatives. Our main aim as Green Africa Foundation is to provide necessary and appropriate skills, knowledge and information to learners, educators and community members to take charge of their own development, food security, having sense of belong-

ing, ownership and leave a legacy in those schools.

Organic fresh vegetables, herbs and fruits produced in school premises are supplementing feeding schemes, generating income for the schools and creating jobs for previously unemployed community members. Sustainable food garden projects also create a conducive learning environment and the projects are also integrated into active learning areas or subjects.



Green your environment



### Special points of interest:

- Supplementing feeding schemes through fresh organic vegetables, herbs and fruits
- Empower learners, educators and community members to take charge of their own development
- Empower learners to become responsible South African citizens
- Educate community about climate change adaptation
- Soil is the foundation of life
- Improve balance diet

## *Soil is the foundation of life*

Green Africa Foundation's dream is to ensure that all schools produce organic fresh vegetables to supplement feeding scheme and greening school environment. The main focus is to provide necessary skills sustainable land-use design, Permaculture food garden layout & design, soil preparation, plant & seed propagation, inter-planting, crop rotation, companion planting,

water conservation, harvest & management, natural resource management, sustainable land care, compost making to learners and educators. The produce from permaculture food gardens are supplementing feeding schemes in schools and generate income. We believe in empowering children to take charge of their own personal growth and development.



Feed yourself don't wait

Feeding children is our priority.



## *Why Permaculture in our schools and communities*

Permaculture is offered as a better alternative for developing solutions on food security in the context of the looming crisis of energy depletion and climate change. It offers a better life and an abundant ecological future for Africa. Permaculture encourages systems-thinking and provides tools for supporting communities to make a “soft” transition to green energy descent. Permaculture solution can be applied on any scale, in all climate zones, and improve the environment and the

community. It improves disturbed and damaged environments, harvests water, builds soil, reduces fossil fuel consumption and saves energy. Permaculture designs encourage high yielding sustainable production integrating landscape, people, animals, plants, buildings and community in harmonious low impact living systems. Permaculture proves that by following nature’s patterns, human design successfully preserves and improves productivity by mimicking nature’s systems.

Green Africa Foundation’s business philosophy is guided and underpinned by the concept of Sustainable development, encompassing environmental, social and economic sustainability. Green Africa Foundation is strongly believe that sustainability is a strategy for achieving economic and social development for all, while protecting the natural



## *Green Africa Foundation*

Green Africa Foundation was born to address some of the challenges we are facing nowadays such as Global warming, Climate Change, Environmental and Social Crisis, through training, nurturing communities and most importantly women and children across South Africa and SADC region in the field of

permaculture, environmental greening, skills development & Training, capacity building and food security projects by means of community development. As part of value added Green Africa Foundation training also focusing on Natural building construction, Renewable Energy and appropriate technology; instal-

lation of biogas; promote green economy; rainwater harvesting; Soil regeneration and land restoration; waste recycling and environmental greening as part of combating Global warming and Climate



## *Medicinal herb workshop*

Khanya Africa Development Services is making a mark in the most disadvantaged communities of South Africa by conducting medicinal herb and capacity building workshops throughout South Africa. Community members, educators and learners are being taught on how to establish herb garden, healing

properties of herbs, uses of herbs, processing. Khanya Africa uses participatory methods or hands on approach. By the end of training participants will know how to make cough mixture, rub rub, mouth wash and other orninaments for the benefit of the communities. Recently Khanya Africa Development

Services conducted medicinal herb workshop at Kotankwe Junior Primary School in Polokwane, Limpopo province. It was confirmed by participants that the workshop was a success and project members are already processing and packaging medicinal herbs and sell to the public for income generation.

## Celebrating Mandela Day

Swaranang community permaculture food garden and environmental greening project in Motiba, Polokwane Limpopo province sponsored by Desmond Leech through F TFA and implemented by Green Africa Foundation. The funding covered the installation of an appropriate irrigation system (drip irrigation), plant materials, compost, mulch, fruit and non fruit trees, educational resources, training, garden tools, water tanks. The project comprised of 12 senior citizens who are above 56 and

the oldest are ranging from 76– 83 years.

The senior citizens are fully involved in permaculture food garden and environmental greening project. The senior citizens are able to produce fresh organic vegetables in bulk to support their grandchildren and generate income to support their families.

On July 18, 2014, local community members, councilors, project members,

Project members, Green Africa Foundation and employees of Turf local Radio station celebrated Mandela Day by involved in the permaculture food garden project. The following activities took place during the day were soil preparation, vegetable bed designs, application of compost, mulching, watering and planting. *“What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead” – Nelson Mandela*



Food forest

## Landed on an organic soil

Green Africa Foundation organized an tour to Wegraakbosch Organic Farm-Haenesburg. A total of 57 permaculture project leaders and co-ordinators from Tzaneen, Limpopo province were taken for an educational tour. Representatives from Gender Climate Change SA, individual farmers and Department of Education (National Nutrition

Programme) NSNP joined the tour. The tour took place on the 25 July 2014. Participants were taken to different sites such as compost, nursery, organic food garden, biogas, pig tractors and free range hens. Then participants were also involved in making cheese and yogurt. It was an exciting educational tour for community developers, educators and farmers.

Green Africa Foundation strongly believe in educational exchange programme as part of creating platform for learning, sharing skills, experience, knowledge, information and networking with others involved in similar activities.

## Feed soil, Feed plants, Feed people and sustain life.

Green Africa Foundation teaches Permaculture which is much more than organic agriculture. It integrates buildings and their landscapes, and permaculture projects incorporate all of their elements into a comprehensive and mutually beneficial design. Each element is analyzed to ensure

that it serves multiple functions, and is placed with a strong relationship to the other elements in the system to maximize productivity.

Green Africa Foundation approach in project planning and implementation, is using participatory and holistic approach considering great ecol-

ogy as a whole. This includes observation, consider, plan, and design systems that can support us from short term long term. Thinking holistically is an important aspect of Green Africa Foundation , teaching enabling community to move towards a permanent and sustainable future culture.



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**Green Africa Foundation's slogan**  
**Eat Green, Love green, Think Green**



Green Africa Foundation was established through numerous greening initiatives across South Africa and SADC region. Green Africa Foundation have the most experienced permaculture specialists who have consolidated its rich experience into a formidable enterprise to provide the most needed environmental greening, food security and skills development consultancy to all sectors across the spectrum of industries. Green Africa Foundation is working closely with different key stakeholders in implementing sustainable food gardens and environmental greening projects throughout the country. Green Africa Foundation is committed to community service by providing consultation to subsistence farmers, gardeners, environmental & community developers, school learners, educators and previously disadvantaged communities in skills development, capacity building, training and project implementation.

The organisation engages the participation of the fore mentioned as a strategic approach to the environmental rehabilitation and restoration of mother earth through establishment of natural sustainable food garden forests and environmental greening programs in South Africa and SADC and communities.

Our priority is to provide sustainable life skills in enterprise development, sustainable land use management, natural resource preservation, conservation, management and teach people to use natural resources to produce fresh organic food to create a health community

JOYCE THOSAGO  
 OPERATIONS MANAGER

## Green Africa Foundation



Enterprise Development

Green Africa Foundation believes that the solution to all challenges we are facing nowadays such as global warming, climate change, environmental and social crises is in the hands of people. Permaculture was proven to be one of the effective way to reinforce our existing and unsustainable society. Green Africa Foundation has been creating awareness on environmental, natural resource management, promoting indigenous knowledge in the community, on food security.

The organisation understands the delicacy balance of human sustenance and natures ecological demands. Green Africa Foundation is strongly believe

that sustainability is a strategy for achieving economic and social development for all, while protecting the natural resources on which all life depends on. Our philosophy is guided by **permaculture Ethics: Care of the Earth, Care of people and promote life**. Sustainability and sustainable development is therefore understood in the context of the integration of economic



development, improvement of social structures and sustainable use of ecological resources in order to maintain the integrity of our socio-economic and sustain ecological systems.