



Fundraising for RCEs: views from southern Africa

Presented by Tichaona Pesanayi, KZN RCE

tich@wessa.co.za



**Regional Environmental Education
Programme (REEP)**



RCEs for ESD



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- RCEs in southern Africa have been formed generally by supporting existing (**communities of) practice** in **ESD** for better practice
- Examples of such RCEs include the Swaziland RCE, Makana RCE, KZN RCE, Zomba RCE (Malawi) and Maputo RCE (Mozambique)
- This model is also being followed by upcoming RCEs such as Botswana; Secondary Teacher Training EE Programme, Mutare LA 21 (Zimbabwe)

Sustainability characteristics of Communities of Practice



People Care for the Earth

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Cultivating WESM (Malawi) Communities of Practice Strategy

Building agency and institutional practice

I. DEFINING THE CoP

- B. Shared Domain of interest:
 - Wise management of wildlife
 - NRM
 - EE/ESD
- A. Joint activities binding WESM members together
 - Membership meetings
 - Trainings
 - Materials development
 - Advocacy
- C. Shared repertoire / share practice:
 - EE
 - Capability centered practice
 - Language
 - Materials
 - Newsletter
 - Public participation

II..PROPOSED WESM/SADCC REEP LINKAGE

- WESM approached SADCC REEP for partnership in EE training in Malawi (email, January 2009)
- Several staff members of WESM have been by SADCC and resource materials have been exchanged between the two organisations
- Expertise strengths model EE training, NRM & utilization, Mon, EE materials development for comm

IV..NEXT STEPS

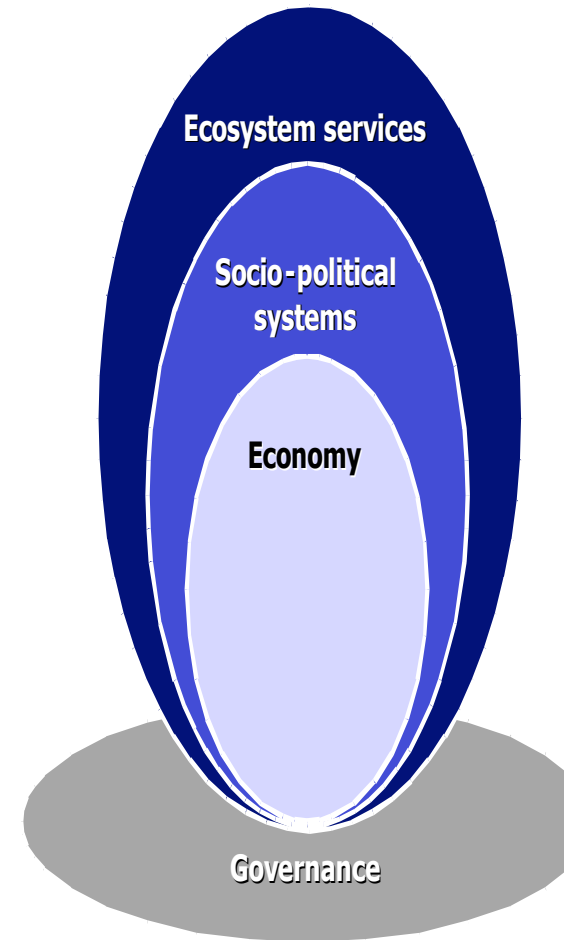
- Maintain discussions on the proposed partnership and on towards the CoP
- Come up with way forward for the two partners.



Source: www.wordtravels.com/.../Countries/Malawi/Map

III...STRATEGIES to cultivate the CoP

- Use WESM partnership proposal SADCC REEP as entry point to partnership formation to extend their expertise ...
- Encourage WESM to work closely with Net Reps and the ESD focal point, and the education NetRep focal point
- Linking WESM to the existing Zomba RC and joint activities.
- Encourage more enhanced networking and partnerships between WESM and MMCT, E. Africa Malawi, ReSCOPE Malawi and MCF



Implications for funding and fundraising



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- RCE members bring **their plans and associated resources** to the RCE forum, where coordination and joint implementation is possible. They are driven by the passion for a common interest.
- For new projects, interested members of the RCE **develop project proposals jointly** to potential funders (rather than competing for money).
- The KZN RCE has developed over the years a relationship with **Sida** to support establishment of 14 RCEs in southern Africa, at least one in each of the member states. This is done pragmatically. So far 3 RCEs have been assisted. Three (3) more promising for 2009 (Botswana, Zimbabwe, Lesotho).
- A seed funding facility (US\$2,500) exists to support workshops. This seed fund is accompanied by proposers' own resources and sustainability plan.

Challenges and opportunities

- Climate change: impacts on health, food security. There is already funding going into these sectors, which we need to tap into.
- Governments signed to UNDESD – governmental support and participation needs to be cultivated
- Private-public partnerships – the corporate sector was conspicuous by its absence at WEEC. We need them, not to fund ESD (alone), but to be champions in and for ESD
- The global financial crunch is probably an opportunity to look at different alternative paths for development and financing

Lessons learnt



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- The **purposes** of forming an RCE will determine the RCE's sustainability. Hence the **formative stage** is critical.
- An unsustainable RCE is a still-birth, as it is supposed to carry out Education for **Sustainable** Development.
- **Member commitment** and passion is the key to resource mobilisation within the RCE
- **Joint fundraising** is possible when there is a common vision

Prospects for the future



- Public-private partnerships
- Capacity building and sharing
- Pragmatic growth combined with conceptual depth and engagement
- N-S-S collaboration and twinning



People Caring for the Earth



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When all the water has been polluted, all the forests gone and all the soil contaminated then we will realise that what we need is not money

Thank you

Merci