Regional Schools and colleges Permaculture Programme (ReSCOPE)

Reconnecting with nature, culture and the past to grow resilient school communities

About Us
Regional Schools and Colleges Permaculture Programme (ReSCOPE) is a network that was founded in Lusaka in 2006 following the pioneering work of SCOPE Zimbabwe since 1994. The network was established to build capacity of local organizations to facilitate sustainable land use that would involve all the key stakeholders. It also facilitates sharing of experiences for sustainable and productive learning centres that are rich in agroecological resources and supports interested partner organizations to use the Integrated Land Use Design (ILUD) process as a tool for school and college communities to develop multi-functional landscapes that help them move towards food sovereignty and improved nutrition. ReSCOPE Programme and its partners also promotes establishment of food forests on previously dusty or bare land.

It is a growing network of country chapters which have been established in Zimbabwe, Malawi, Kenya, Uganda and Zambia to amplify advocacy issues facing young people and the environment.

Background
The ReSCOPE Programme was established to promote the sharing of experiences by partners who are committed to assisting schools and colleges to demonstrate sustainable land use with a view of enhancing healthy environments in and out of school.

ReSCOPE partners work with schools and colleges to promote productive, multi-purpose and healthy environments that are designed to meet the educational, nutritional and other basic needs of the learners, teachers and parents/farmers.

Our Vision
A vibrant network of country chapters with amplified voices for healthy ecosystems

Our Mission
A vibrant regional network that advocates for healthy ecosystems

Our core principles
- Promote deep and thoughtful care for the environment and everything in it, based on a wholesome view that understands the interconnections between all things.
- Promote a need based integrated land design practice that creatively weaves together the building of resilience within the ecosystem while moving communities towards food sovereignty, nutrition and income security.
- Emphasize the identification and creative use of local and indigenous resources and knowledge while rooted in our culture and celebrating intergenerational learning.
- Genuine and wide participation of young people at all levels of our activities.
- Make learning fun, practical and relevant for everyone, while having an integrated approach across the curricular and promoting the inclusive and active participation of whole communities.
- Ensuring systematic and regular reflection and learning from experience, and planning ahead strategically at all levels, in partnership with our stakeholders.
- Ensuring user friendly, regular and systematic documentation and transparent information sharing.
- Always start small, ensure quality and grow organically.
Programme strategy
The ReSCOPE Programme uses the Integrated Land Use Design (ILUD) process as a tool for school communities to develop demonstrations of agro-ecology that meet local needs. The Programme seeks to work closely with relevant government Ministries, NGO’s and CBO’s. The different partners are assisted to establish comprehensive In-country schools sustainable land-use projects and programmes that share experiences at a regional level.

The ReSCOPE Programme provides technical support to government and non-government partner organizations in the participating countries. The experiences of the SCOPE Programme in Zimbabwe which dates back to 1994 and those of other Permaculture and Sustainable Agriculture projects and programmes in the region are used as opportunities for sharing information among partners.

Programme outputs
- Partnerships with organizations involved in Environmental Education, Sustainable Agriculture and Nutrition in schools are strengthened.
- Guidelines for practical and sustainable land-use in schools are produced and shared.
- School and community links are strengthened.
- Food forests and other productive, ecologically stable and multi-purpose landscapes in institutions of learning and communities are created in a participatory way.
- Partnerships with relevant Government Ministries are established.
- Relevant learning packs are produced.
- Information sharing mechanisms for partners are established.
- Capacities of partner organizations are enhanced.
- Joint monitoring and evaluation systems are set up.

Current and previous partnerships
- The Scottish Govt and GEN
- The Seed and Knowledge Initiative
- The Tudor Trust
- Bread for the World
- Welthungerhilfe
- Philippe Sibaud
- The Threshold Foundation
- Permaculture America Latina
- Lush Charity Pot
- We Forest
- Tecovas Foundation
- Friends of Monze, UK
- NORAD

Structure
The ReSCOPE Programme is run by a Board that is made up of one member representing the founder organizations from each of five countries in east and southern Africa. The Regional Facilitator provides a technical support service to the participating countries with the assistance of part time ILUD facilitation teams in each country. Each country has a semi-autonomous chapter that has its own Management Committee and secretariat.

Our partners are local organizations in the participating countries that are involved in, or support the implementation of productive and multi-purpose agro-ecological landscapes in school and college communities in Africa.

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