

## **Training and Outreach Support Services (TAOS)**

### **Training and Workshops**

The main thrust of the Fellow's training duties will involve active leadership in the design, development, logistics and implementation of training activities, materials and documentation for a wide range of training and workshop groups. Participants come from a number of countries, walks of life and backgrounds.

main aims of training at Gobabeb:

Imparting knowledge on desert ecology and desert sensitivity

Differentiation between deserts and desertification processes

Fieldwork to demonstrate the scientific method

- Promotion of sustainable living through use of appropriate technology

Main duties of TAOS:

Communicating with educational institutions or intern students to offer established courses or designing individualized programs

Courses are targeted at a wide range of levels including lower and upper primary, secondary, tertiary, Master's and community members

o Includes basic programs for independent workshops and conferences

Organizing staff involved and program setup

As most courses are too large for one individual to hold, this position organizes and delegates responsibility to other staff members or interns

o Includes budgeting to purchase necessary equipment and supplies

- Leading courses or organizing, advising or assisting another leader

Marketing of future courses

Promotion of Gobabeb training, including publicity materials or traveling presentations

o Goals of expansion include hosting science fair projects, increased interaction with coastal primary and secondary schools, field courses with various Polytechnic of Namibia and University of Namibia departments

### **Modules of Education at Gobabeb (MEG)**

While conducting training, the TAOS fellow will document all courses and compile new training materials and modules for future use at the Centre. The Finnish Embassy in Windhoek is subsidizing a three-year project at Gobabeb to develop and test twelve comprehensive training modules on topics related to arid ecology and sustainable living. The project runs through the end of 2008, but material compilation should remain a major aspect of this Fellowship.

### **Community Outreach**

Some of the training workshops will take the form of community outreach working with the local Topnaar community who live along the Kuiseb River (where Gobabeb is located) and in the nearby town of Walvis Bay. For example, Gobabeb holds sustainable agriculture workshops to share knowledge on arid farming techniques or participates in training community tour guides. Gobabeb was recently the SADC secretariat for the UN International Year of Deserts and Desertification and is continuing such active awareness campaigns in various ways, for example the Centenary of the Namib-Naukluft Park, where Gobabeb is located.

### **Other Duties**

☐☐ In addition to these main tasks, the Fellow will have secondary duties such as intern supervision and developing materials, grants and publications, as projects require.

## **Training and Outreach Support Services (TAOS)**

**The TAOS Fellow will be responsible for achieving results in the following areas:** Training programmes and materials, GTRIP (Gobabeb's Training and Research Internship Programme), Outreach Activities, and General Support.

### **I. Training and Workshops**

The TAOS Fellow is responsible for the development, coordination, and implementation of training activities, materials and documentation for a wide range of training and workshop groups. Gobabeb defines training as the use of teaching tools to improve sustainable natural resource management through enhanced knowledge and decision-making.

Training at Gobabeb is intended to:

- Impart knowledge on desert ecology and desert sensitivity
- Develop knowledge of the scientific method and teach fieldwork skills
- Promote sustainable living through use of appropriate technology

Main duties of TAOS:

- Coordinate with educational institutions to design courses on arid ecology, the scientific method, appropriate technology, and other subjects.
  - o Gobabeb's training department provides services for a wide range of learners, including lower and upper primary, secondary, tertiary, MSc students, and community members
  - o Includes basic programs for independent workshops and conferences
- Organize staff involvement and programme setup by
  - o Leading or delegating responsibility to other staff members or interns
  - o Managing a budget to purchase necessary equipment and supplies
- Market future courses
  - o Promote Gobabeb training, by developing publicity materials or doing traveling presentations
  - o Goals of expansion include hosting science fair projects, increased interaction with coastal primary and secondary schools, field courses with various Polytechnic of Namibia and University of Namibia departments
- Coordinate the development, review, and storage of Gobabeb's training materials, which are developed and tested with a local focus, largely through the Modules of Education at Gobabeb (MEG) project. The TAOS Fellow is also responsible for implementing training with these materials.

### **II. Gobabeb's Training and Research Internship Programme (GTRIP)**

The TAOS fellow is responsible for coordinating the work-based internship programme (GTRIP Placements) and co-coordinating the course-based internship programme (GTRIP Course).

- GTRIP Placements:

This programme is intended to provide practical training for Namibian, SADC, and international interns while providing the station with support for its research and training activities. TAOS duties include:

- o Updating and advertising the list of available positions, based upon station needs.
- o Corresponding with applicants and supervising their application process.
- o Coordinating the selection process, intern arrival, and orientation.
- o Monitoring the success of the supervision structure.
- o Supervising interns when relevant.

•GTRIP Course:

This programme is a long-term training opportunity for Namibian students designed to empower young adults and build their capacity for sustainable management of Namibia's natural resources. There is a single yearly session, January-June, that will be co-coordinated