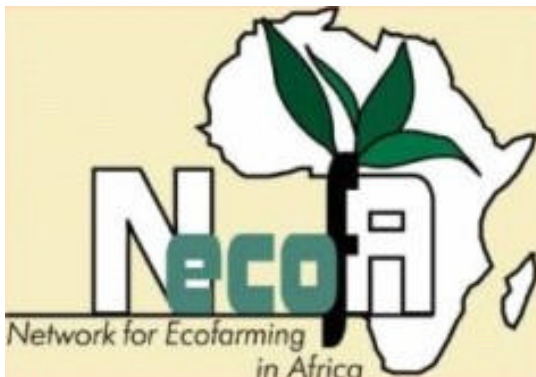


Internetworking for development



NECOFA aims at acting as a forum to support all national and international activities supporting ecologically and socially sustainable land use management in Africa.

NETWORK FOR ECOFARMING IN AFRICA

Short description

NETWORKING FOR ECOFARMING IN AFRICA "NECOFA" (www.necofa.de) – an Internet Networking platform established by the Food and Agriculture Development Centre (ZEL) of the DSE. Today DSE is known under the name InWent. InWent – Internationale Weiterbildung und Entwicklung gemeinnützige GmbH (Capacity Building International, Germany) is an organization for international human resources development, advanced training and dialogue. It was established through a merger of Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft e.V. (CDG) and the German Foundation for International Development (DSE). The Internet portal of InWent offers information on the newly founded institution and provides quick links to the websites of both partners.

NECOFA is designed for the exchange of experience between senior agricultural experts from African countries. They work in governmental and non-governmental organizations involved in rural development, planning, research, education. NECOFA members cooperate with local farmers to develop appropriate technologies that match the site specific ecological, social and cultural conditions

So far, NECOFA country groups are established in 13 African countries with more than thousand member organizations and individual members in most cases, these country groups are recognized at national level as NGOs of public benefit. Besides the support of its members, these groups act as advocates in the promotion of Ecofarming at all levels in politics, research, extension and education. Own small-scale projects and demonstration sites by these groups or of member organizations show the advantages of Ecofarming for the farming community. The national groups are linked with each other in the network NECOFA with the assistance of an International Coordination Office based at the International Centre North South Dialogue based in Witzenhausen, Germany

Soil erosion, desertification, deforestation, famine- This is the reality in African countries. Western agriculture cannot provide solutions to these problems. People are poor, their countries are highly indebted, and ecosystems are totally different. Techniques for ecologically sustainable farming- Ecofarming- therefore were developed in tropical and subtropical countries, and in many cases they were successful implemented. They incorporate indigenous farmers' knowledge and their own way's of experimentation to achieve locally appropriate, sustainable and economical viable solutions adapted to their specific farming conditions. These techniques need broader distribution in Africa, and the tool for this is NECOFA.

NECOFA participants develop and promote Ecofarming within their own organization or institution as well as on national level. Basic elements of Ecofarming comprise e.g. the use of alternative plant protection methods, the integration of animal husbandry and plant protection at farm level, soil retention and recuperation technologies, the use of organic manure and multipurpose plants-elements that allow rural people to maintain their natural resource base and improve soil fertility: In the long run , it may even be capable of offering solutions to Africa's large tracts of marginal land, which must be brought back into production.

Thus internet based communication through the exchange of experience can have a positive impact even on less and least developed areas.

www.necofa.org

Other African Countries are highly welcome to join the network!!!



General Activities

- NECOFA assists national groups and members to sensitise political and administrative decision makers regarding issues of Ecofarming, to elaborate information and extension materials and to realise meetings, information and training workshops
- NECOFA provides a scientific and conceptual advise to its members regarding planning and performance of small-scale participatory projects in ecofarming
- provides a platform of experience exchange, exchange of research results and coordination of new applied research projects to prevent unproductive repetitions
- NECOFA assist in the design of special programmes at country and regional level to address issues of women
- The [Global Campus 21, NECOFA Workgroup platform](#) is the information gateway for discussions, information exchange, advanced professional training and follow-up in the internet

Global Campus 21

Welcome to **Global Campus 21** from InWEnt

www.gc21.de

The knowledge portal for international advanced training and cooperation. Here, experts and managers from all over the world have the opportunity to get further training beyond national borders. They can exchange information and experience, establish contacts and work together on projects.

Learning and communicating without borders - this is the idea behind the virtual platform for cooperation and further education

INFORMATION & SERVICE

PUBLIC CAMPUS 21

MYCAMPUS 21

Information & Service

If you like to get information or you like to find some links and contacts, join this page. Here you can find:

- information about the history of gc-21,
- a network platform with professionals
- an online-trainee-program
- a search-machine.

Public Campus 21

Would you like to test online learning or take part in discussions of a virtual working group? In the Public Campus, you have free access to selected courses, forums & working groups.

MyCampus 21

You like to visit tutored courses on the Global Campus 21? You want to take part in online forums?

The non-public space MyCampus 21 with special online services is intended for an exclusive group of users and requires access authorization.

You are first time visiting the Global Campus 21? You want to explore demo courses?

Please login as: user name "guest"& password "guest".

▶ LOGIN



Group photo with most of the NECOFA country group: coordinators taken at a NECOFA Workshop in Uganda in 2002

NECOFA

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