

GEN-AFRICA

GEN-Africa aims to promote and support the development of sustainable projects within Africa. Our goal is to have a self contained branch, functioning as the African branch of GEN-International.

Be part of creating an effective African Network.

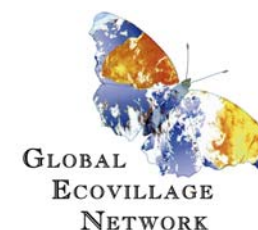
- GEN-Africa connects you to other like-minded individuals and groups in Africa and worldwide, facilitating the exchange of information and expertise.
- GEN-Africa will provide a way for us to become more effective at working together.
- GEN-Africa will provide a user friendly database:
 - information on key people and projects (including contact details)
 - visibility of a wide range of educational training available on the themes of indigenous wisdom, appropriate modern technology, sustainable economic solutions, and life-enhancing social skills for community building
 - possibilities for volunteering, internships and apprenticeships
- GEN-Africa will spread information on special bursary and funding opportunities and make these available to its members
- GEN-Africa can be used as a legal entity through which funding applications can be run

We are called to assist the earth to heal her wounds and in the process heal our own.

Wangari Maathai

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GEN-INTERNATIONAL



GEN promotes the vision of a more just, sustainable and equitable global society through the promotion of models for sustainable community development. GEN-International is an NGO with consultative status with the United Nations and a partner of United Nations Institute for Training and Research, UNITAR. Our ecovillage members can be seen as the research, demonstration and training centres for the wider sustainability movement of which we are a part. We assert the primacy of community at the heart of all models for sustainability.

Within GEN, equal weight is given to the four core dimensions of sustainability: the economic, the ecological, the social and worldviews or values. All four are seen as being mutually reinforcing, each essential to the satisfaction of truly sustainable community development that meets the needs of people and the planet.

GEN works towards the realisation of a more just, equitable and sustainable society through:



NETWORKING – facilitating a sharing of experience and expertise between members of the network



EDUCATION – promoting the development of curricula derived from good practice within ecovillages (Gaia Education, grown out of GEN has created valuable educational materials freely downloadable from www.gaiaeducation.org)



INFORMATION DISSEMINATION – the gathering and distribution of news stories, articles and research from within ecovillages that helps share the models and innovations developed with the wider world



ADVOCACY – promoting policies and practices that will make for a more just, sustainable and equitable society

GEN has members on every continent and constitutes a global alliance of community-based initiatives and networks that are devoted to creating and sharing models for sustainability on every level.

GEN-EUROPE

GEN-Europe actively supports the development of ecovillages and networks in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. GEN-Europe is a membership organisation founded in 1996 and is open to a wide range of projects regardless of their political, religious or cultural backgrounds. One of the current priorities of GEN, and especially of GEN-Europe, is to support the emergence of an independent ecovillage-network in Africa. Much is happening in Africa in relation to more sustainable paths of development, with many new and promising initiatives starting to emerge at the grassroots level. These include educational centres, permaculture projects (both urban and rural), and traditional settlements transforming into ecovillages. GEN-Africa is the platform in which such projects could begin to connect and communicate with one another, to share knowledge and skills, best practices, experiences, and lessons learned. It is also a network for inspiring and empowering many other communities and projects to take part in together realizing a more secure, resilient, and sustainable future for Africa.

WE KNOW THAT THE GLOBAL MOVEMENT HAS MUCH TO LEARN FROM AFRICA!