



INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES



WHAT WAS THE INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES ?

The Institute of Environmental Studies (IES) was established in 1993 as an independent non-profit-making research unit within the University of Zimbabwe. Activities at the Institute of Environmental Studies were initiated in 1994. The Institute acted as a front door to harnessing the resources available throughout the University of Zimbabwe on the environment and sustainable development. The mission of the Institute was "to contribute to the sustainable use of natural resources, poverty alleviation and prosperity of stakeholders by providing education, research, advisory services and networking on the environment. The Institute undertook activities in three main areas: research and development; education and training; and information, consultancy, and networking.

It operated by means of a series of highly decentralized partnerships with other University departments, universities in developed and developing countries, governmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations. It had a regional perspective with a focus on Zimbabwe.

The Institute had a relatively small core staff made up of a Director, Deputy Director, Research Fellow, Administrative Officer, and Senior Secretary. All other staff, including Support Staff were engaged on a contractual basis. During its most productive periods it had over 20 Research Associates and Researchers.



Prof Sara Feresu hosting a Regional Air Pollution Dialogue for Southern Africa in Lusaka, since IES was the Secretariat of the Air Pollution Information Network for Africa (APINA).

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IES AND JF KAPNEK ZIMBABWE

The then JF Kapnek Trust (now JF Kapnek Zimbabwe) and IES had a relationship which extended from the inception of IES in 1993. The JF Kapnek Trust and Swedish Agency for Research Cooperation in Developing Countries (SAREC) provided the stimulus and initial funding for a planning study to establish an Institute of Environmental Studies at the University of Zimbabwe. Following the completion of the study, the J.F Kapnek Trust provided ZWD800,000 funding to support the initial phase (3 years) of establishing the Institute, Therefore the J.F. Kapnek Trust was the inaugural donor of the Institute. Although IES was a department of the University of Zimbabwe, it was also registered as a Trust.

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ESTABLISHING THE INSTITUTE**

The J. F. Kapnek Trust and the University of Zimbabwe were instrumental in establishing the Institute of Environmental Studies Trust (IES Trust). The role of the Trust was to independently manage research and donor funds raised by the Institute. Most project funds were managed through the IES Trust, which provided a considerable measure of financial independence from the University. Accounts were audited annually by independent accountants.

The Institute was governed by a Board of Management, made up of representatives of all faculties of the University, that was responsible for determining the IES direction, strategic plans, programmes, and staffing. The Board of Management also monitored progress and reviewed the Institute's budget; annual work plans and audited accounts. The Board of Management was advised by an Advisory Board comprised of 10-12 persons who assisted in the medium to long term strategic development of the Institute by bringing topical and emerging national and international environmental issues to its notice, enhancing the image of IES at national and international levels and assisting it in identifying and raising funds.



DISABILITY INCLUSION IN IES



ACHIEVEMENTS OF IES WITH REGARDS TO ADVOCACY FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY POLICIES

The achievements of IES with regards to Advocacy for environmentally friendly policies include:

- Promoting responsibility for the environment at all levels in Zimbabwe.
- Ensuring that activities and services are implemented in a way that is complimentary to environmental policies and strategies.
- Complying with all relevant environmental legislation/regulations.
- Reduction of the use of energy, water, and other resources.
- Minimising waste by using reduction, re-use, and recycling methods.
- Identifying and providing appropriate training, advice and information to people and encouraging them to develop new ideas and initiatives.

CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE STRATEGIES AND PLANS

The IES facilitated the Development of Zimbabwe's National Climate Change Strategy and Zimbabwe's National Adaptation Plan.

Zimbabwe's National Climate Change Strategy

The Strategy helps to inform Government on how to strengthen its climate and disaster risk management activities. The vision of Zimbabwe's Climate Change Response Strategy is "to create a climate change resilient nation" while its mission is "to ensure sustainable development and a climate proofed economy through engaging all stakeholders recognizing the vulnerable nature of Zimbabwe's natural resources and society". The goal is "to mainstream climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies in economic and social development at national and sectoral levels through multi-stakeholder engagement."

THE NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN

"TO CREATE A CLIMATE RESILIENT ZIMBABWE"

The adaptation vision for Zimbabwe is "to create a climate resilient Zimbabwe" while the goal of the National Adaptation Plan is "to have climate change adaptation integrated in development policies, strategies, plans and activities."

WORKING WITH CHILDREN FOR CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS PARTICIPATING IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ZIMBABWE'S CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE STRATEGY



Teaching children about the environment is an important part of their development. Not only does it help them understand and appreciate the importance of nature, but it also helps to foster a sense of responsibility for protecting our planet. IES partnered with many institutions such as UNICEF and the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education to produce policies and books in line with this practice.

Community Based Waste Management

IES was responsible for the development of Zimbabwe's Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan and also designed models for Community-based waste management programmes for use by the Environmental Management Agency, local authorities, government agencies, NGO's, and impacted communities. It also partnered with the City of Harare and provided information, knowledge and training necessary to establish an effective waste management programme.

IES LEADERSHIP



PROF BRUCE CAMPBELL
DIRECTOR, IES
1994-1999



PROF SARA BAISAI FERESU
DIRECTOR, IES
2000-2020