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RCE: RCE-GREATER PWANI (KILIFI, KENYA)

# MY EXPERIENCE WITH RCE-GREATER PWANI

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|  | MY STORY  |  |  |
| REASONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN RCE ACTIVITIES: | My passion to serve people both at regional and international levels drove me towards participating in RCE activities. I believe that my knowledge if translated into action it would be of great help to the world. I have always aspired to bring about desired change by expressing my desire to the level best of my knowledge. |  |  |
| CHALLENGES:                                  | Inconsistence in some members has been the main challenge I have faced so far. I has been difficult working with some members with irregular attendance in any RCE activities. Inadequate information flow that will enable me make desirable decisions on sustainable development issues.  |  |  |
| ASPIRATIONS:                                 | Partnering with various experts of like-<br>mindedness in the world is what I am aspiring<br>to achieve. I would really want to be one of the<br>world's environmental champions as early as<br>possible while still in my youth age bracket.   |  |  |
| PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS:              | My goal is to attain my PhD level latest by 29 years, if all goes well. I am looking forward to working with leading world organizations on the respective fields of my profession so that I can inspire and influence other youth in undertaking sustainable decisions in life.  |  |  |
| MEETING PEOPLE:                              | Through RCE, I have had the privileges of meeting and networking with various people both national and international individuals.  Meeting new people has improved my decision making mode and at any time I would warmly welcome any invitation to work with new people from any part of the world, within my reach.               |  |  |
| ACTIVITIES/EVENTS I WERE PART OF:            | Below is a list of all the activities and events I have featured in:-  Tree planting  Kilifi town clean up  Beach clean up  Environmental awareness days  Adopting a forest at the Jomo Kenyatta beach  |  |  |

|                    | <ul> <li>Charity walk to raise funds for needy children</li> <li>Community outreach</li> <li>Environmental marine day</li> <li>Mangrove re-planting</li> <li>Environmental club retreats.</li> <li>Bird counting at AROCHA KENYA</li> </ul>   |
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| SEMINARS ATTENDED: | The National Aids Control Council, Kilifi. Education for sustainable Development, Kilifi. Solid Waste Management seminar, Kilifi.   |
| PROJECTS:          | Through RCE-Greater Pwani, we have successfully established a forest within Pwani University. This artificial forest is referred to as the Wangari Mathai Park, named after the late environmentalist and Nobel laureate, Professor Wangari Mathai. Its aimed at educating people on the best tree planting care and practices                |
| VISITS:            | I have had the privilege to visit various places in my region. Among the places I have frequently visited are children homes where it has always been a nice experience interacting with these children who are brought up without knowing their real parents.  |
| DISCUSSIONS:       | As part of RCE-Greater Pwani, all the Pwani University Environmental Club (under my leadership) meet on every Thursdays to discuss the progress of club. The challenges that are faced during the running of the club are considered for discussions. Also discussed are various initiatives that we can take to bring about positive change. |

## **HOW PARTICIPATION IS CHANGING ME**

Since my enrollment with the RCE, I have seen great improvement in my life. I have gained the skills of how to make desired changes, learned to understand and appreciate the individual needs and interests of regional groups, learned how to resolve conflicting interests for the general welfare of the region and am able to understand group dynamics as it applies to mixed people of different regions.

#### As a student:

My participation in RCE activities has helped me develop a lot of skills that are increasingly vital in my profession. My understanding on various issues has had a refinement through my frequent consultations with different experts. I have learned the following skills:

- Efficient planning and managing time.
- How to challenge assumptions.

My attitude has positively change and am able to volunteer at events and even take risks in tackling critical issues. The self-confidence skills in me, have equally improved.

## My social connections

Socially, I am able to interact with all sets of people who share common interest. However, I have also found individuals who have already made established relationships in my chosen area of study. My participation in various RCE activities has provided me great opportunities for networking, meeting new people normally I would not get the opportunity to meet. I have also had the freedom to explore new interests, take life issues and express my ability to handle, react and evaluate those situations.

## In my study and professional practice:

In both my study and professional practice, my involvement with RCE activities has helped me:

- Improve my engagement with various people.
- Realize the benefits of teamwork.
- Develop stronger communication skills.
- Become well-rounded and probably ideal candidate for employment upon graduation.
- Establish great networking with different institutions.
- Become more organized in any task I take to pursue.

#### On my ability to influence my world:

My involvement with RCE has helped me:

- Establish shared identity with other people around me.
- On how to develop new approaches to resolving differences.
- Develop the skills of how delegate roles and responsibilities.
- Develop a voice and perspectives in relation to different kinds of people.
- Learn how to hold one another and be held responsible
- Nature higher leadership skills in me.
- Achieve rapid recognition within and outside my college.

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| NAME: Hamisi Tsama, Mkuzi              |   |
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| RCE: RCE-Greater Pwani (Kilifi, Kenya) |   |
|  | STORY   |
| ACTIVITY:                              | Towards the end of 2013, I participated in  |
|  | Education for Sustainable Development   |
|  | workshop (for two consecutive days). The  |
|  | organizers of the workshop were RCE-Greater   |
|  | Pwani and WWF-Lamu. The workshop involved   |
|  | selected active students, lecturers and various                                       |
|  | expertise from different profession. We had the                                       |
|  | opportunity to freely interact and freely   |
|  | exchange ideas. We were taught about Ecological                                       |
|  | footprints per person and country, Education for                                      |
|  | Sustainable Development, Metaphors, Eco-cycles  |
|  | of nature and Role of Values. More emphasis was                                       |
|  | put on the importance of ensuring sustainability.                                     |
| OUTPUT:                                | After the training, we were given softcopies of all                                   |
|  | documents that were used during the training.   |
|  | We were further advised to pass on the knowledge to other people where possible. This |
|  | workshop opened up my mind and I could think  |
|  | of multiple productive sustainable ideas. I was                                       |
|  | able to appreciate the wise use of environmental                                      |
|  | resources. I also learned <b>not to be biased</b> when                                |
|  | educating people and this was achievable  |
|  | through clarification of values e.g. Lines, 4-  |
|  | corners, List, Ranking, Open sentencies e.t.c,  |
|  | methopdology e.g. Clear out your standpoint   |
|  | Individually, Discuss in small groups, Report to                                      |
|  | the class etc., Who to gives the report from the                                      |
|  | group e.g. person with:   |
|  | Warmest hands   |
|  | Lightest socks  |
|  | Most familymembers  |
|  | <ul><li>Most laughing</li><li>Biggest number of pets</li></ul>                        |
|  | <ul><li>Biggest number of pets</li><li>Highest number in adress.</li></ul>            |
|  | <ul><li>Woke up earliest</li></ul>  |
|  | Closest to the door   |
|  | Longest travel  |
|  | Shortest pen  |
|  | Longest hair  |
|  | Brightest shoes   |
|  | Most zeroes in telephone number   |
|  | • Etc   |
|  |   |

| APPLICATION:   | I have formed a group of volunteers who from time to time would visit various schools around Kilifi to educate people. The target group we focus on are students and youthful teachers. The feedback we have gotten so far is that the gap that existed between teacher and students has been reduced to some significance. |
|--|---|
| OUTCOME:<br>Personal:  | This initiative has made me become more responsible. I have had the chance to share ideas with different professionals the decision I've taken.   |
| Organizational:  | The campus receives support from the community we educate as they benefit from us. We have had an increased enrollment of students into our club.   |
| NEW DEFINITION OF SUCCESS:<br>Sometimes, such a story changes your<br>understanding of what success is. If it happened<br>this time, then include this here. | Success is, making an investment by applying the knowledge you are equipped with.   |