

## International Coordinators

Welcome to our new coordinators from Kenya and South Africa, see below!

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### Blog

The year 1987 was a turning point in my life. This was the year when I met the Native American Floyd Westerman, and I changed careers. I began to apply myself to 'engineering of Mother Earth': purification of the earth, the air and especially wastewater and rainwater with plant systems.

On December 21, 1992 I set up my own company for environmental cleansing: PURE-milieutechniek bvba ([www.pure-milieutechniek.be](http://www.pure-milieutechniek.be)).

PURE Abwassertechnik in Germany was our mother company ([www.pure-umwelttechnik.de](http://www.pure-umwelttechnik.de)). The research for our technique was made by Dr. Kathe Seidel of the famous Max-Planck Institute in Germany. This was then commercialized by the family Rausch in 1976, the founders of PURE Abwassertechnik and with whom I still work together nowadays. Since 2003 we are embedded in a big family company BAUER in Germany.

During the construction of a modern plant purification system with planted lava filters, we determined that where we had spread the redundant lava sand in the garden, that the plants grew better and looked more robust. I began to examine the phenomena and through literature of the Austrian nature researcher Viktor Schauberger ([www.pks.or.at](http://www.pks.or.at)), I came to the research of Julius Hensel, which lead me to John D. Hamaker. And through John D. Hamaker's work, I learned more about mineralizing the earth and your wonderful organization.

The water and marsh plants we work with are being utilized for environmental cleansing for three years in a ground substrate that exists from mineralized loam and domestic compost. If needed, our purification systems are being fed with lava-basalt dust, a treatment which has a very positive influence on the growth of the plants and therefore also on their performances.

Our intention is to restore the circular courses in nature and to heal the earth and the water (i.e., waste water purification with overgrown plant filters, and use the produced biomass as cattle forage, as usable raw material: the effluent for the irrigation and making green of the deserts!)

I also want to devote myself in Belgium to the spreading of the knowledge about remineralising the earth.

Alberto Machado, Brazil

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<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4aL0Pk3Y6uM>

Blog

"Não é o mais forte da espécie que sobrevive, nem o mais inteligente; é o que melhor se adapta à mudança." -Charles Darwin

"Let Food Be Your Medicine" -Hippocrates

"The purpose of agriculture is not the production of food, but the perfection of human beings." -Masanobu Fukuoka, One Straw Revolution

Comecei a usar o Pó de Rocha , em 1998 apos ler o Livro Pão de Pedra , e verifiquei que em pastagens era um material barato e extremamente eficaz ao contrario do que li de referencias aqui no Brasil e a ação e muito rápida e eficaz , depois das primeiras experiências fui entender como escolher uma boa fonte deste material e assim utilizar em vários

locais para uso agrícola .Apesar de termos dificuldade de fazer analises mineraiis de vários elementos químicos presentes nestas rochas devido ao alto custo desenvolvi um sistema que basicamente e uma regra de três princípios que este Pó de Rocha deve seguir : O Mais Perto do local de Uso , o Mais Escuro , O Mais Fino .

Dessa forma socializa-se a informação e usado com precaução não existe risco ambiental , e não interfere negativamente na saúde do Solo,Planta e Animais via forrageiras .Hoje acredito que temos a mão um das mais baratas e eficazes fonte de nutrientes que a Natureza nos oferece , alem de ser na maioria dos casos um passivo Ambiental para as Pedreiras e tendo em mente que estamos somente recolocando de volta ao solo elementos mineraiis que foram lixiviados ao longo dos anos seja pela própria Natureza ou pela ação do Homem e suas praticas Agrícolas , o Texto Bíblico Das Cinzas as Cinzas traduz bem como a remineralizacao faz parte dos Ciclos Glaciais do Planeta Terra

Assunto: A FARINHA DE ROCHAS MB-4 E O SOLO, Solon Barreto

Aplicando o Pó de Rocha

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Blog

For the last five years a group of friends and I have been building up a 4 hectare organic farm in the north of the Czech Republic. We do everything including the farm work, all building by hand no tractors, no power tools), so it is a slow but a great learning process. We are vegans and keep no domestic animals and use no animal manure except what the wild animals leave.

Our soils are heavy with a pH around 7.4 and quite rich in calcium. The climate is relatively dry, around 400mm/year rainfall. We belong to the most northern region of commercial wine and apricot growing with relatively warm summers and frosty winters.

Healing the soil has always been among my favorite interests, and I am especially fond of studying nature's own recovery after human exploitation- succession. When we started at our land five years ago, the soil was in an extremely bad condition. I experienced that the absence of tilling and leaving the previously plowed land to become a meadow was

the fastest and most efficient way of getting structure and vitality back to the soil. Today the soil cannot be compared to what it was when we started, but still I suspect there to be a trace element deficiency. Some plants get red leaves in late summer, and some just don't grow even when adding compost and watering. That is why I decided to try rock dust, and when searching for it I found out that no one is using it here and all dust produced (as by-product) in Czech quarries goes to the dump. What a waste! I want to change that.

I have recently gotten 20 tons of basalt rock dust and dumped it on our farm. About half I am spreading by hand on all our land, and the other half goes on the land through the compost, little by little. I am working on organizing trials of rock dust on other organic farms, and will be helpful with everything I know to those wanting to remineralize their soils.

Niklas Fred, Finland

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## Blog

I'm a 31-year-old wanna-be farmer from Helsinki, Finland. Presently I only garden a small allotment near where I live with my family, but would one day wish to have a real farm of my own. My family consists of my lovely wife, two little rascals aged 3 and 5, and our Spanish ex-stray dog called Elvis.

I see remineralization as maybe the most natural and simple way of taking care of the soil that gives us everything we and our society needs. The process is exactly the same which Nature herself uses when vitalizing soil; we just speed it up a little. I'm not personally sure what's going to happen with the climate, if it's going to get freezing cold or scorching hot, but either way it's going to be a disaster of unheard proportion to human society. Using remineralization on farmland can help us produce more food on the land that's already been converted to cultivation, and in the just as necessary wild habitats it can help to deal with the surplus carbon dioxide by helping plants thrive like they were meant to do.

I've noticed that many forms of industry produce a lot of perfect stonedust for remineralization, yet it's considered a problem by them that's just dumped away like any other trash! If we could get this "waste" spread to fields and forests, it could make a real difference in a short time.

I think that many people have a hard time believing that material made from rocks could help plants grow better. Spreading this basic information is vital to the movement. I'm very proud that I can be a part of RTE's work, and wish that everyone who gets interested in the idea gets connected to others here in RTE to spread the word.

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Blog

Our focus is on nutrient rich food production; we believe in remineralizing soils and crops using minerals from the ocean, based on our own experience and study of Dr. Maynard Murry. We did several tryouts and professional research. We have no experience with other ways of remineralizing soils, such as using rockdust.

Our growing technique, like NFT, is another part of our business with a focus on durable, sustainable, and water saving growing techniques.

We are happy to be a member of your organisation and cooperate with you in PR, research, and networking.

Abraham BO Ekajulo, Kenya

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Blog

My

name is Abraham BO Ekajulo. I've been devoting my full efforts in planning, researching, identification and implementation of sustainable development projects with Revive Community Africa (RECOAFRICA), a Kenyan based non-governmental organization that endeavors to develop efforts to transform and diversify the marginalized and the most poor communities. I also have extensive management experience of over ten years working with the Coffee Board of Kenya until 2004 when I left to join RECOAFRICA.

I was happy to learn that RTE's focus was to remineralize the earth with more sustainable and healthier alternatives.

The challenge of development is to improve the quality of life of the masses through increased income, better education, higher standards of health and nutrition, less poverty and a cleaner environment. A key remedy for poverty and environmental management is sustainable livelihood practices in natural resource exploitation and exploration where earlier practices have destroyed all mature indigenous trees, soil degradation and lack of alternative livelihood.

I have been involved in the conservation of natural resources since my childhood. I have used both contemporary and traditional approaches in sustaining the environment. Recently I was undertaking a project where park forests are established in yearly phases for the period a tree takes to mature and limiting the harvesting of a given park to a particular year to ensure a constant land area is under forest cover. I was also coordinating trainings on afforestation, soil and water management targeting community-based organizations, research agencies, government agencies and the stakeholders.

My vision has been to have all marginalized and poor communities enlightened, empowered, progressive and resourceful, making them realize their full potential in society and to improve their quality of life.

Striking a balance between livelihood opportunities and environmental conservation has been a perpetual dilemma in the communities that depend on subsistence agriculture and wood fuel for their survival. To reduce human /environmental conflict, therefore, my aims are:

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Research,  
develop and document policies and strategies as well as new concepts  
and methods that will help improve agriculture, reforestation, soil  
and water management

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Support  
activities that are aimed at creating economic incentives for the  
conservation of natural resources.

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Support  
activities which ensure financial sustainability and the  
strengthening of biodiversity

-

Help  
set up pilot sites for training, demonstration and scale up

-

Undertake  
collaborative initiatives with research agencies, governments and  
stakeholders

-

To  
advocate environmentally sustainable approaches to development  
across the portfolio

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Strengthen  
biodiversity and environmental governance, energy and water  
security, agriculture and food security

I  
am happy to join and be part of the team that is determined to walk  
our talk and to be there in perpetuity for the benefit of the  
community as we labor to transform our environment into a shining  
example of a wealthy continent for the coming generation. I believe  
when communities are strengthened in biodiversity, they will perceive  
and embrace the long term economic benefits of their environment and  
they will take care in sustaining and protecting it.

Jacques Snyman, South Africa

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Blog

In 2001 I rediscovered plants and nature after being a self-proclaimed city slicker for many years. To make a long story short, this re-awakening led to a huge paradigm shift, and after some serious soul searching, I left the business world to go gophering on an organic farm in June, 2002.

Six months in the southern Drakensberg mountains of South Africa proved to be the ideal base to cut my teeth on organics. The family patriarch was only too willing to share his knowledge and dispense wisdom. That, allied to access to his extensive library of precious books built up over 50 odd years, opened my eyes to really exciting concepts.

The issue of depleted soils came to my attention and was a huge shock! For many years I firmly believed that healthy eating habits would supply my body with all its needs. Now it came to light that not only is the supposedly healthy fresh produce nutritionally inferior due to soils depleted of minerals and trace elements, but the foodstuffs are also tainted with herbicides, pesticides and other poisonous residues!

After six months of playing with organic cattle and running a mill, stone grinding the finest organic flour one can imagine, I did a Permaculture Design Certificate course. Armed with this and my recently acquired organic experience, I joined forces with long time friends in 2003, who synchronistically had started marketing volcanic rock dust as an organic plantfood.

The granddaughter of Octave d'Hotman de Villiers, a renowned agronomist who dedicated most his life to researching soil fertility, is one of the company directors. Her desire to respect his death bed wish that his work must be continued led to Turbo Grow Earth Food Products being born.

Drawing on my past marketing experience, allied to my new knowledge, I embarked on marketing and promoting the product to nurseries, training their staff and doing talks for garden clubs and the like. Over the next three years, I consulted and met with farmers, agriculturists, growers and horticulturalists, applying rock dust to all kinds of crops, from turf grass through to sugarcane, with varying success.

In 2006, I relocated to another province and was a founding member in establishing a company called Lekker Organics (&ldquo;lekker&rdquo; being a South African word meaning tasty or nice). The main business model revolved around producing organic soil ameliorates, consisting primarily of vermi-compost and rock dust, and growing organic seedlings. The seedlings and soil ameliorates were then destined to be distributed to emerging organic farmers to do the growing, with us processing the organic produce in our packhouse and marketing it on.

During this time I did a Certificate Course in Sustainable Agriculture, facilitated by Graeme Sait of Nutri-Tech Solutions, an Australian biological agriculture company. A lot of information came together from the insights garnered and knowledge shared during this course, and I finally had identified all the parameters needed to achieve consistent (and instantaneous) results with rock dust applications.

Currently I am involved with several projects involving permaculture and organics, both in my personal capacity and as a consultant.

Michaela Devi Genaine, Spain

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## Blog

Although I am of Swiss origin, I have been living in Spain for 18 years. I moved to this country with my family when I was 8 years old, and have since then been involved with a broad spectrum of alternative projects, as well as being a pioneer of homeschooling. I am currently living in the Prades mountains near the Mediterranean Coast and I have initiated and am currently involved in several projects at The Earth Sanctuary ([www.earthsanctuary.net](http://www.earthsanctuary.net)) where among other activities, I practice sustainable gardening, ecopsycology, art and psychosynthesis. I am fluent in English, Spanish and French.

The practice of remineralization is not only an important step for ecological responsibility but also at another deeper level. It reconnects us with the Earth and gives us the feeling that there is still a solution to recover the harm that we humans are doing to our only home, our only planet, by re-establishing the balance of the natural world. This task is a titanic one but more and more people are called to take care of the environment, and practice as planetary healers. I consider remineralizing the earth as a really good medicine for restoring Gaia's health and therefore to improve the life of humans in every way.

I am currently looking for my own source of minerals to remineralize here at the Earth Sanctuary and I am expecting to create pilot projects in the near future for the rest of Spain. The land has an important number of trees, and of ecosystems which makes the research on remineralizing for a diversity of soils even more interesting.

To find viable mineral sources in this country would be a very important step towards sustainability and independence from chemical fertilizers, but also to give ecological agriculture a new direction. I am sure that to bring the information on remineralizing the earth to the public and make it known through the media, would encourage interested people like farmers and ecologically oriented individuals or on a bigger scale, garden centres and conservation groups to take action.

We will be organizing meetings for the public, coordinators and professionals for remineralizing the earth, as well as initiating specific research/practice here at The Earth Sanctuary.

Michaela is currently translating the website into Spanish. This is an exciting project, one we have dreamed of for a long time! Thank you, Michaela! -Joanna Campe

Lars Angstrom, Sweden

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## Blog

As a former Member of the Swedish Parliament, I have seen with concern how the leached soils produced food with less and less content of those for mankind so important minerals and trace elements. Swedish wheat contains only half of the iron it had when I was born in the 50's. Today we must eat 11 tomatoes to obtain the same amounts of minerals as we did from one tomato 1940. The list of examples could be very long.

The scientific community feels more and more that many of today's diseases such as diabetes, allergies and immunodeficiency diseases arise from mineral deficiencies. Children with ADHD are, for example, given mineral pills to cure the symptoms. At the State University of Agricultural Sciences the scientists fears that the mineral content in the soils is becoming so low that even with artificial fertilizer we will not be able to keep yields up. The modern agricultural appears to be in a dead end.

Against this background, I and my wife who is a gardener, visited Moira and Cameron Thompsson at the SEER center in Scotland to take part of their research. The results of ten years of research and practical experiments are very impressive. We decided to take home a truck with 26 tons of SEER:s Rockdust to Sweden as the Swedish rocks usually contains very low levels of minerals and trace elements compared to the Scottish basalt. To make the transport CO2 neutral we payed for certificates.

We have arranged seminars and lectures on remineralization of the soils and and distributes SEER:s Rockdust through our own Shop [www.wiksundstradgard.se](http://www.wiksundstradgard.se) and by retailers across Sweden. The demand and interest has risen and we have after less than a year distributed 52 tons of SEER:s Rockdust tom many hundreds of people. The results in our own garden and at our customers gardens speaks for it selves.