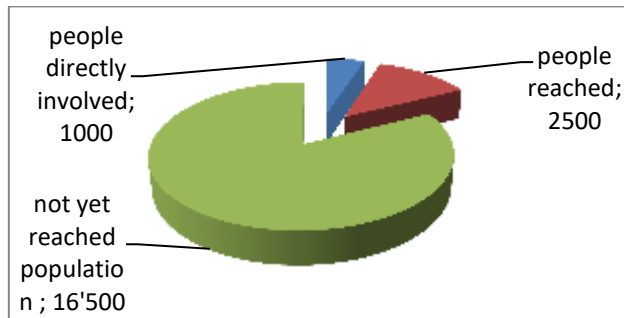


## PORET report 2021 overview of achievements

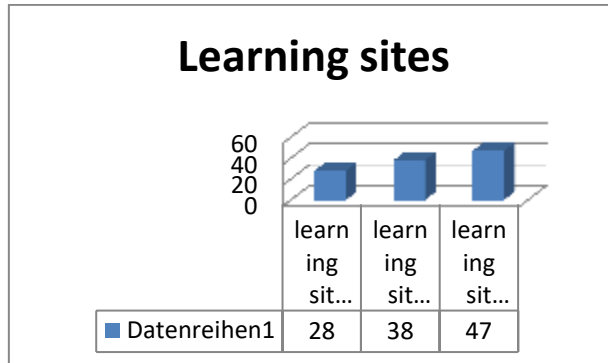
**Memo** original: 03.03.2022 , Version: 26.05.2022

### PORET in 2021:

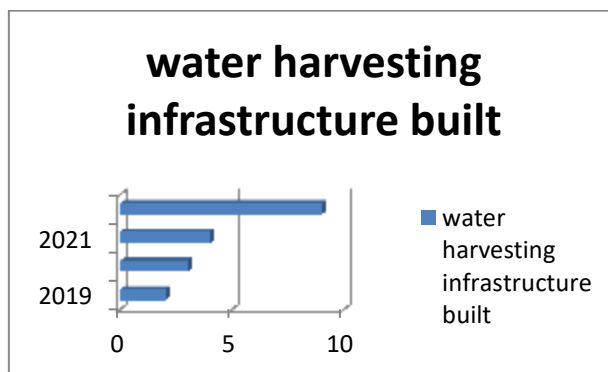
- ✓ **sensitized, trained and supported** directly about 1'000 and indirectly an estimated total of 2'500 **participants from local farming communities** (with a total population of about 20'000 people) with skills, knowledge on agroecology.



- ✓ PORET and local Permaculture Clubs (450 member households) implemented in **28 villages** through individual and club activities focused on **47 (9 more than 2020) learning sites and agroecology community projects, 21 field days, 30 village seed fairs.**



- ✓ Trained and advised farmers how to build **water harvesting schemes a capacity of almost 4 Mio litres** PORET outreach officers visited x-number of farmers/households and drilled 2 boreholes in the communities.



- ✓ ran a **Holistic Land and Livestock management project** in 6 villages (see separate report).



**6** villages with HLLM

- ✓ involved **more than 100 young people** directly in agroecology practices of youth and interacted with 3 local schools to establish climate curricula contents on agroecology, climate change adaptation (see separate report on climate heroes)



**100** young people involved



**3** schools

- ✓ interacted with government services like veterinary services and agritex (agrarian) extension officers



**2** government service departments

- ✓ recruited and continuously trained 14 mostly young people as peer trainers



**14** volunteers trained as trainers

- ✓ offered 2 **Permaculture Design Courses** with a total length of 7 weeks for a total of 60 mostly young participants. These PDC's are up to international standards, but have seen innovative adaptation to local context: a substantial part of the training has been done both inside the training center and in practicals in the communities.



**2** PDCs

- ✓ did a small number of exchange visits with other agroecology projects/initiatives and high level agroecology practitioners and participated in 10 sensitisation engagements ranging from radio shows, to very high level stakeholders, including the First Lady, Minister for Provincial Affairs, and the highest ranking regional traditional authority, Chief Mutambara.
- ✓ Created new gardens and agroecology/food forest sites in the 20 ha PORET Center, where it also propagated more than 7'000 plants, planted more than 3'500 trees and harvested more than 50 kg of different seeds.



**new gardens, propagated more than 10'000 plants and trees**

- ✓ The Center received more than 200 guests for overnight stays and multiday agroecology activities.

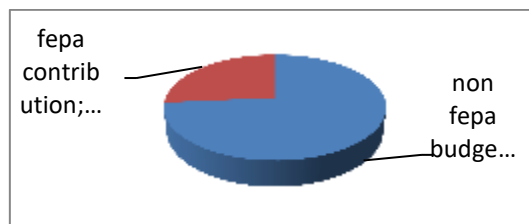


**200 visitors**

- ✓ The center was also extended with 15 new huts for accommodation, a community learning hall, and bought a 30 seater bus as a «classroom on wheels» and two additional motorcycles for extension work



- ✓ employed 10 staff and engaged 6 advisors and consultants
- ✓ total running cost in 2021 was roughly USD 250'000. This includes a huge number of volunteering with unpaid hours.



- a baseline survey with 77 households in 28 villages has been done.

### **Major learnings and developments**

- 2020/2021 raining season was good and produced good yields and grass cover.
- the training center is now quite established: it is no longer an vision in the bush, but has become a built and managed environment. The center generates its own income stream, independent of donors, which has been re-invested in the structures. A rough business plan needs more finetuning as it is being tested under real life conditions.
- Demand for PORET services easily outgrows the (already) sizeable growth of PORET as an organisation. It is a challenge to have the wo:man-power with the right attitude and to equip it with the skills needed for the participatory community building approach and the agroecological knowledge. Volunteer training is already an important initiative and has further potential, but also requires structures.
- PORET visibility has become high, with the wife of current president visiting and some political repercussions (positive and negative)
- training schedule is now quite established and can be planned well in advance. At the same time, PORET continues to innovate agroecology training in the local context.

### **overall assessment of impact**

PORET is on track of a very ambitious trajectory to become a local and regional training center that is lighthouse for awareness and learning that agroecology enables survival and food security even in this marginal land which is already heavily impacted by climate change; and an exemplary practice on how participatory, community-rooted and grown approach brings wide-spread change and even a sustainable turnaround.

This report has been compiled by fepa based on information provided by PORET.