

# SHUMAS INTERGRATED ORGANIC FARMING CENTER

*(Training and Demonstration Center) - IOF*

## **1) The IOF Regular Course Programme 2008/2009**

The 10-Month Programme is split into 4 blocks (terms) of varying duration between October 2008 and August 2009. These blocks and the corresponding breaks have been arranged following the Agricultural Calendar to allow beneficiaries the possibility of engaging in farming activities and practising the techniques acquired while still undergoing training. The breaks will also be used for Research (Project Work) by trainees and follow up by SHUMAS project staff.

**Frist Term (Block 1):** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2008 (**10 weeks**)

during this period, participants will be drilled with introductory courses like Understanding Rural Life and Communities; Rural Development Planning; Gender; SA and Food Issues. A short break after this block allows course participants to start land preparation on their farms and enjoy end-of- year festivities with their loved ones.

**Second Term (block 2):** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2009 (**8 weeks**)

This block will focus mainly on aspects of IGAs, nutrition, crop production, Biogas and Project work. The break that follows will allow participants to return to their farms, complete land preparation/ planting and do their projects

**Third Term (Block 3):** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2009 (**10 weeks**)

This block covers essentially Swine Production, Food processing and Natural pest control. A short break after this block (3 weeks) allows participants to return and carry out maintenance operations (*weeding, moulding and pest control*) on their farms. A follow up visit will also be effect to each trainee by SHUMAS staff during this period.

**Fourth Term (Block 4):** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2009 (**4 weeks**)

This block will be used to complete the Animal courses (*Poultry, Cattle, Small Ruminants*) and crop production courses. Presentation and evaluation of Projects and a final course evaluation will also be carried out. This term ends with the graduation ceremony.

**For the first two years ONLY 35 candidates (participants) will be admitted every year as Regular participants.**

## **2) The IOF Non Regular Course Programme(Short Courses) 2008/2009**

**Non- regular courses** (*short courses*) in the IOF Center will be organized during the breaks, while trainees return to their villages for farming. A few chances will be granted to people to come in for just some specific courses for a few days/weeks etc under the ambit of short courses.

Seminars, workshops and conferences will also be organized in the IOF Center

## **3) Other activities in the IOF Center.**

Many more activities will be taking place within the IOF Center. This will include;

- promotion of eco-tourism
- research on sustainable agricultural practices
- volunteerism for nationals and Non nationals
- Retreats and promotion study visits and experience sharing etc.

**PLAN FOR THE REGULAR COURSE AT THE SHUMAS- IOFC IN BAMZENG KUMBO.**

1. Block Courses (*on the regular course*)

- **First Block:** *October- Mid December 2008 (10 weeks)*

Month	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
October	Understanding Rural Communities	Understanding Rural Communities	Gender and Development	Rural Development Planning
November	Sustainable Agriculture	Sustainable Agriculture	Crop and Vegetable Production	Crop and Vegetable Production
December	Food issues	Food Issues	<b>Break<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Break</b>

- **Second Block:** *January to Early March 2009 (8 weeks)*

Month	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
January 2009	Nutrition and Development	Nutrition and Development	Income generating activities	Income generating activities
February 2009	Renewable energy sources ( <i>Bio gas,hydro,solar,wind etc</i> )	Renewable energy sources ( <i>Bio gas,hydro,solar,wind etc</i> )	Project Work	Project Work
March 2009	Sustainable agriculture	Sustainable agriculture	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>

- **Third block:** *Mid April to June ending 2009 (10 weeks)*

Month	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
April 2009	Break	Break	Animal Production (Swine)	Animal Production (Swine)
May 2009	Project Work	Project Work	Food processing	Food processing
June 2009	Natural Pest management	Natural Pest management	Income generating Activities	Income Generating Activities

- **Fourth Block:** *Mid July to Mid August 2009 (4 weeks)*

Month	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
July 2009	Break	Break	Poultry Production Course	Other Animal Courses
August 2009	Other Animal Courses	Presentation of project work Final exams Graduation		

*Courses will be 60% practical and 40% theory and field visits will also be organized.*

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<sup>1</sup>.