

## International Student Exchange 2016 – 2019

### Student Feedback Questionnaire

The purpose of this questionnaire is to evaluate the lessons learned of the AIR international student exchange.

By filling out this feedback report, you agree that your picture and experience will be published on the homepage of the AIR project. <http://www.air-project.org/>

Name of student:	GLADYS MUMHURE
Gender:	FEMALE
Age:	32
Degree:	Master of Science in Renewable Energy
Hosting university:	University of Zambia
Sending university:	University of Zimbabwe
Period of exchange:	14 days
Field of study/major:	Solar PV and Economic Analysis
Field of interest during exchange:	Solar Module testing
Further graduation plans (e.g. PhD program):	PhD 2019

Please tick the appropriate box	I strongly agree	I agree	I neither agree nor disagree	I disagree	I strongly disagree
<b>Program</b>					
I gained insights into the practical implementation of RE in the host country (sight visits etc.)		✓			
I gained knowhow in field of my study		✓			
The courses were helpful for my further research		✓			
The agenda was well structured			✓		
<b>Organization</b>					
The journey preparations were well organized	✓				
The support during the exchange was good		✓			
The post processing of the exchange was well organized		✓			
The reimbursement process		✓			

was satisfactory					
The accommodation was pleasant			✓		
Local transportation was well organized		✓			
I socialized with local students			✓		
I recommend the exchange	✓				
Others:	<p>What would you like to be changed/ be improved for the future?          Agenda should be shared with the visiting student so that it is clear of what the student is expected to do and so that the student can also suggest activities prior to the exchange visit.          Generally it was good and really enjoyed my learning.</p> <p>Did you experience any difficulties during your exchange?          I did not find any difficulties during my stay, it was an awesome stay.</p>				

*Please write a report about your student exchange including organization, agenda, experience, lessons learned, suggestions for improvement, and tips for other students (max. 590 words, Arial 12)*

The exchange program is a well organised initiative in which students pursuing their studies on renewable energy can learn and broaden their understanding of renewable technologies from different contexts. The main agenda for my exchange visit was to learn how students learn in Zambia and to share their projects' prospects as the students would be starting to work on their projects in the beginning of 2018. Unfortunately, the time of my visit could not allow socialisation with the UNZA students because they were out of school. I only managed to meet one student who is also a member of staff at the university and we shared some information on our learning.

During my visit I attended a two-day course on solar PV and light emitting diodes and I drew significant lessons from there. To mention the major, it was learning the process in the manufacturing of such appliances and how we can calculate reduction of carbon emissions through the use of light emitting diodes. It was also a very important course as part of my studies in the Master of Science in Renewable Energy. It unpacked the realities of solar panels and light emitting diodes which are some of the major components on renewable energy technologies when it comes to power generation and energy efficiency. The main barrier with the developing countries is lack of innovation towards production of such technologies. There is the need for investment in capacity development so that manufacturing of such components is possible and we can make use of the local climatic conditions for better and improved performance of such systems. The government of such

countries can view such initiatives for sustainable development and growth in the energy sector.

It would have been great if I had the opportunity to visit a renewable energy plant in the country but I suppose logistically, it was not possible during my stay. However my meeting with the Technology Development and Advisory Unit at UNZA gave me some insights on what could be on the ground with special reference to the solar projects, mini hydro power stations and the wind projects that are coming up with a wind resource map for Zambia. It was a beautiful experience working on the computer controlled photovoltaic solar unit which was different from the manual way I had done it in Zimbabwe.

I would like to encourage students to take part in this program and to be willing to give as much information to others so that they can learn more. Students must not look down on themselves, they have great minds that can give answers to some questions. I also encourage female students to participate and to be part of this initiative to improve on their learning endeavours. I think the AIR Project can be improved if there is dialogue of students amongst member countries throughout the period of study so that learning is continuous and is not only during the exchange visit.

