

Dear former fellows and other friends of the Land Restoration Training Programme

At the end of the year, it is time to look back and review the milestones reached, lessons learned, and all the good memories. The year 2009 was a good year for the Land Restoration Training Programme (LRT).

In 2009, a full six months training was offered for the second time. On April 14th and 15th, six LRT fellows arrived in Iceland and stayed until the beginning of October. Two fellows came from Uganda and one from each of the following countries: Ethiopia, Ghana, Uzbekistan, and Mongolia. The six months training was successful. The 2009 fellows and the whole LRT team were pleased with the programme.



On April 1st 2009, Hafdís Hanna Aegisdóttir became the Project Manager of the LRT programme. She has been the vice-Project Manager since April 2008 but replaced Ingibjörg Svava Jónsdóttir, who had been the Project Manager from the beginning of the programme, and is now a professor in ecology at the University of Iceland. The LRT team wishes Ingibjörg Svava success in her new career and thanks her for her pioneer work for the LRT. While the 2009 six months training ran, Sigríður Dalmanndóttir worked for the programme and took very good care of the fellows. On October 1st, two people took over Sigríður's position. Berglind Orradóttir is the current vice-Project Manager and Thorbjörg Valdis Kristjansdóttir is the LRT Office Manager.

In the beginning of December, a workshop was held to review and enhance the LRT curriculum. Workshop participants shared their experience of LRT and many good ideas germinated that will be used to enhance our programme, and the workshop also strengthened the commitment of the group of people involved with LRT. During the workshop, a new LRT homepage was launched at www.lrt.is

The LRT programme has now finished its 3-year pilot phase. We feel that the programme is now ready for a new and bright future as a fully flown UNU training programme.

To our former LRT fellows:

Please visit our homepage and keep in touch with us. Let us know how you have succeeded in implementing the things you learned in the LRT programme as well as the things you learned from each other; both failures and successes. We hope you and your families are well, and we look forward to keeping in touch with you in the future.

Best wishes for the Festive Season and a Happy New Year

Hafdís Hanna Aegisdottir, Berglind Orradottir,
and Thorbjorg Valdis Kristjansdottir

