Vets in Not the Usual Monday

By Zolile N. S. Odupoy

Life in a Veterinary organ starts with laboratory examination of samples for disease causing agents, but not the Monday of 15th May, 2017. It began with planting of trees! Planting trees keeps a legacy and a hope in the name of protecting environment and giving joy to wildlife. The vets know better. Some were a little bit more chatty than usual as we headed to the appointed location to find those that had arrived earlier than us already busy going on with the business of that morning.

A healthy environment is an integral part of healthy living, and what better way to inject a dose of health than planting trees. As part of community service and working together as a team, the Veterinary Services Research Institute management took part in leading the staff, interns, casuals and students on attachment on a cool Monday morning in planting trees at a section of the institute.

The exercise of planting trees at Veterinary Research Institute (VRI), led by the Institute Director Dr. M. Maichomo, the Center Director Dr. E. M. Ouma, Human Resource, and Administrator Vivian Tanui, was coordinated by the Farm Manager Mr. F. Musumba, on the Monday of 15th May, 2017 and aimed at conserving our environment. We walked up the little hill each carrying a number of tree seedlings that would soon find a home in the already prepared holes wondering how many one would be able to plant before getting tired.
First thing first: a word from the Boss, Dr. M. Maichomo, ‘That’s what we shall do, and this is how we shall do it…. ‘ the Institute Director, ‘make sure the seedling is well covered!’

Center Director Dr. E. M. Ouma taking part

Mr. F. Musumba, the Farm Manager, estimated that approximately 3,100 Eucalyptus Grandis tree seedlings were planted. These are good for timber, firewood and are fast growing.

Taking care of the environment is not only about planting the trees but also cleaning it yourself when the exercise is over. Thankfully the staff were aware of this and made sure the seedling bags were collected.
While thanking the staff for participating in the tree planting exercise, the Center Director acknowledged it was a tedious activity but also showed the staff would come together and work as a community. He also informed the staff that the next tree planting day, would cover the section that had remained.

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