



New Forests Project

A Project of The International Center
www.newforestsproject.org

September 2011 Update

Small grants

In April 2011, the New Forests Project (NFP) awarded a total of eight small grants to support the reforestation efforts of small non-profit organizations in Uganda, DR Congo, Kenya, Sierra Leone and Cameroon. Five grants funded trainings for local people and three grants funded the purchase of equipment. A summary of the reporting documents received from all beneficiaries will be posted briefly in our website.



Workshop participants, June 2011,

Haiti

Chokogou

NFP's work in Haiti continues to grow!! We have been able to secure funding for a second Maya Nut, or "Chokogou" project. The Maya Nut tree, is being reintroduced in the country and has the potential to help rural Haitian communities in order to solve out major difficulties in deforestation, malnutrition and food insecurity. This tree produces a nut that is extremely nutritious and can be incorporated into local food. Women can greatly benefit from the harvest and commercialization of the tree's seeds, seedlings, fodder, flour and other products. The tree has great potential to aid in reforestation because of its value as a seed producing tree. The first project has been delayed since April because of problems in importing the seeds form Mexico. The seeds are expected in September and as soon as they arrive they will be sown. The projects will also train 40 women each about the benefits, use and cultivation of the tree.

CEDEF, DR Congo

Agroforestry and Alternative Sources of Food and Income

Our project to reforest critical watersheds, implement agroforestry practices and alternative sources of food and income is moving forward in Terrier Rouge. So far, nurseries have been established and mango, citrus and agroforestry species are being grown; fish ponds that will provide alternative sources of food and income are being constructed; and local people have been trained on compost production for home gardens. This project is a one year-project that has been fully funded by NFP and that will benefit forty families and 200 farmers. A total of 14,000 trees are expected to be grown and planted.

Seed Orchards for Local Seed Production



Working at the seed orchard's nursery,
FOECONS, Cameroon

Our partner in Cameroon, the Forestry and Environmental Conservation Society (FOECONS) has recently completed the planting of the seed orchard funded thanks to NFP's support. The seed orchard comprises six hectares of land where approximately 7500 trees of twelve different agroforestry species have been planted. The seed orchard is expected to become self sustaining once the trees begin to produce seeds because excess seeds will be commercialized and because bee hives have been constructed around the orchard and honey production is expected to be high

thanks to the large numbers of flowering trees.

Seed Shipments

In an effort to expedite seed shipment, our latest one was done through a new supplier and with a new shipping carrier. This significantly reduced shipping times and makes it easier to track the deliveries allowing our beneficiaries to fulfill their sowing and planting plans in a timely way. Additionally, it reduces seed exposure to harsh conditions during shipments, increasing seed viability.

Almost sixty kilograms of seeds were shipped in our last order, mainly to countries in Africa, but also to one organization in Cambodia where we are in the process of starting a new project in an effort to expand our program to Southeast Asia.

NFP and the International Year of the Forests

2011 is the United Nations International Year of Forests. For almost 30 years the New Forests Project (NFP) has been supporting efforts in developing countries that protect forest resources. NFP's work helps reduce pressure on natural forests and restore degraded ones. The tree species provided by NFP are used for agroforestry practices. When low-income farmers grow trees on their land, they can obtain products that otherwise would have to be harvested from native forests (i.e. fuelwood). Thus, this approach increases their land productivity and reduces the need of cutting down natural forests for agricultural expansion. NFP trees are also used in the first stages of forest restoration due to their fast growth and capacity to restore soil fertility they create the environmental conditions that are needed for the establishment of other longer-lived, slow-growing native tree species.

If you have further questions, please contact:

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