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NEW FORESTS PROJECT UPDATE

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Clean Water Initiative

The Clean Water Initiative has continued to reach out to impoverished communities in Honduras and El Salvador by implementing new and efficient strategies for water sanitation.

In El Salvador, New Forests Project funds have been allocated for the purchase and delivery of disinfecting devices especially designed for small rural communities. NFP has also invested in training water operators and community associations, which add to the long term sustainability of the Chlorine Bank Program. Disinfecting devices and chlorine tablets have been supplied to a network of 70 rural communities, benefitting 68,404 people. It is estimated that during the remainder of 2009 and into 2010, the Chlorine Bank program will expand its services to new 150 communities in El Salvador, serving 114,340 additional people.

In Honduras, the Clean Water Initiative is increasing its water and sanitation services in the municipal District of Choloma, Honduras. This will benefit 2,000 families that otherwise would have limited access to safe water. The program has improved by training community members, called Sectorial Coordinators, who can take over

some of the responsibilities traditionally performed by our water technicians or “Circuit Riders.” A major component of our improved Circuit Rider Program includes raising the money locally to pay for the Sectorial Coordinators’ salaries. Local water associations will be responsible for paying between 25 and 75% of their salaries by adjusting the fees of the water services. Upon the release of this update, the programs had reached 20,000 people from 19 rural communities.



Lenin Hernandez, one of our water technicians, during a training session in Souther Honduras.

In order to increase the NFP network and promote the organization’s visibility, Erick Toledo, director of The New Forests Project, participated in the International Research Colloquium of the Network to Promote

Household Water Treatment and Safe Storage in Dublin, Ireland on September 21-23, 2009. This network was created during a 2003 meeting of the World Health Organization (WHO) in order to scale up effective water & sanitation programs, fill research gaps, and increase information availability. Erick presented the results of a research project developed with the John Hopkins School on International Health, entitled "A Novel Mechanism for Water Disinfection for Providing Clean Water in Rural Areas." This study was published in the Journal of Population, Health and Nutrition in 2005.

World Seed Program

Seed Shipments

In January 2009 the transition to completely decentralized shipments was completed when the last remaining seeds from the United States were shipped out. Since



Children in Guatemala holding seedlings grown from NFP seeds

then, and throughout the year, all shipments have occurred directly from our supplier in India to partner organizations in developing countries. This has significantly reduced shipment costs, increased the amounts of seeds shipped and allowed us to better track the arrival of seeds and the success of tree planting efforts.

Local non-profit organizations are now receiving five or more kilograms of seeds and redistributing them to local farmers and villagers. The organizations also provide them with technical assistance and advice on tree growing and planting. By the end of the year the World Seed Program will have shipped over 140 kilograms of tree seeds, which equates to over 4 million seeds shipped.

Financial Support

We are now providing small grants in two formal areas:

- * Training in reforestation and agroforestry
- * Purchasing of reforestation equipment.

This past summer we allocated over \$4,600 to support five reforestation and agroforestry projects. Funds were transferred to Nigeria to purchase equipment to set up a nursery to reforest 18 kilometers of rainforest along the Otamiri River. In Haiti's North-East department our support is being used to plant 6,000 fruit and agroforestry trees, reforest 12 hectares of land and train 150 farmers and students on reforestation techniques. Three other projects in Nigeria, Tanzania and D.R. Congo have provided training to local people. By the end of 2009, financial support provided by the World Seed Program will have trained over 500 people in reforestation and agroforestry.

Additionally, because seeds cannot be mailed easily to Kenya, the World Seed Program is providing funds to two organizations working in the Mount Kenya and Mau forests to purchase seeds locally to advance their reforestation efforts.

NFP Trip to Africa

In June and July, NFP intern Sarah Boeckmann traveled to Cameroon and Kenya to visit three NGOs that have

received support from NFP. In Cameroon, she visited the Forestry and Environmental Conservation Society and the Center for Nursery Development and Eru Propagation. In Kenya, she visited Save Mount Kenya from Extinction Group, as well as several staff members of the World Agroforestry Center.

In both countries, Sarah met with NGO staff members, traveled to project sites and talked with local leaders and people working on reforestation. She concluded that all three groups have been successful in their reforestation work so far by providing support and technical assistance to an impressive network of small-scale farmers in their communities. Sarah developed a set of conclusions and recommendations on how to best expand support to these groups.



One of the groups visited by Sarah in Mount Kenya standing in front of their tree seedlings.

Fundraising

The NFP would like to thank all of our institutional and major donors for their continuous support of both the Clean Water Initiative and the World seed program.

This year the CWI received the following grants to support new initiatives in Honduras and El Salvador: Atkinson Foundation (\$10,000), Alcoa Foundation (\$15,000),

Conservation, Health and Food Foundation (\$20,000), Cottonwood Foundation (\$1,000), the Latin American Fund (\$728.54) and \$25,000 grant from Ed Rawson, a long term supporter and Trustee of the International Center.

The Chlorine Bank received an in-kind contribution from PPG, Inc. (valued at \$26,000), as well as grants from Arch Chemical (\$10,000), the Chlorine Chemistry Foundation (\$10,000), and the Rose Family Foundation (\$5,000).

The WSP participated in the Global Giving Open Challenge during August and September and raised \$865 in online contributions. Also, our mini proposals raised \$6,100 this year!

In addition to all of these gifts, we expect this year to raise over \$100,000 this year from our direct mail program!