



New Forests Project

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New Forests Project Update November 2010

WORLD SEED PROGRAM REPORT

SEED SHIPMENTS

We are currently coordinating our last seed shipment of the year. We are expecting this shipment to exceed 50 kilograms of seeds and will include shipments to the following countries: Uganda, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Cameroon, Togo, Senegal, Guinea, Afghanistan and Honduras. By the end of 2010 over 150 kilograms will have been shipped to our beneficiaries across developing nations.

SEED STANDS FOR SEED PRODUCTION

We have finalized and mailed our beneficiaries the document titled "Tree Stands for Seed Production". The purpose of this document is to encourage local organizations to establish and manage tree stands specifically to produce and harvest tree seeds. The objective is to generate local production of tree seeds and reduce dependence on shipments from abroad. We have received very positive comments from several organizations interested in implementing such methods. We are currently looking at ways to finance the tree stands, which have the potential to become self-sustaining since they can generate income from selling extra seeds and from apiculture activities implemented around flowering trees.

HAITI

We have almost finalized the details for our reforestation efforts in Haiti's Northern provinces with two local non-profit organizations IDDH (Initiative for the Sustainable Development of Haiti) and AKV (Haiti Conservation Green). Apart from plans to expand their work with school gardens to include tree nurseries and reforestation activities, we will also seek funds to implement aquaculture and community gardens, as a way to generate alternative sources of income and discourage cutting down trees planted for environmental purposes. We will be submitting the proposals to two US-based foundations (should we give names?) before the end of the year.

CLEAN WATER INITIATIVE REPORT

The Chlorine Bank Program was recently selected from a pool of 456 projects submitted this year, as one of the ten Innovators for the LAUNCH: Health Forum and Accelerator. The LAUNCH program is a unique initiative created in partnership between the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), NASA, the U.S. Department of State, and NIKE, Inc. The idea behind LAUNCH is to identify, showcase and support innovative approaches to humanity's sustainability challenges through a series of forums, each focused on a specific sustainability challenge.

Erick Toledo introduced the Chlorine Project to this forum that took place at Kennedy Space Center in Orlando from October 28th through November 2nd.

A written profile of the Chlorine Bank Program was also included in the LAUNCH Program (launch.org), as well as the production of a video profile.

The Clean Water Initiative is very excited to team up with our partners in Honduras and El Salvador, AHJASA and ASSA, since we see LAUNCH as a great opportunity to bring visibility to provide water and sanitation services to countries in the developing world.

The Initiative was possible thanks to the support of the Atkinson Foundation, Conservation, Food and Health Foundation, Cottonwood Foundation and The Wallace Genetic Foundation.

Appropriate Technology for Water Disinfection

Since its creation in 1999, the Clean Water Initiative has been a leader in the dissemination of affordable and appropriate technology within the water and sanitation sector in Central America. Through the Circuit Rider Program and the Chlorine Bank Project, we have installed, maintained and monitored locally built devices using materials available in any hardware store. Leading technology promoted by the Clean Water Initiative includes the following:

- Tablet feeders are made using 10-20 gallon buckets, PVC pipes and valves. These versatile, inexpensive (US\$20-40/unit), easy to use devices are designed to operate in traditional gravity distribution systems, using a chlorine tablet or granulated chlorine. This is an ideal technology for countries like Honduras, where over 80% of the water systems are gravity fed.

- Flocculation systems are 1,000 plastic drums with PVC pipes (\$30-40/unit). They are designed to treat turbid water using a similar product developed by Proctor and Gamble (called PUR) for water disinfection in developing countries. They provide enough drinking water for a single family.
- Pottery filters are made using clay and other materials available in the region. They are a low-cost (\$15-20/unit), slow flow disinfecting device designed to treat enough water for a family and are sold in communities with no access to water infrastructure.

Public Private Partnerships in Health and Economic Development

The Chlorine Bank program directly addresses two of the most significant public health and economic issues in Central America. It addresses public health by helping to prevent the spread of gastrointestinal illnesses, the second leading cause of death in children under 5 in the developing world. It helps deal with current economic problems, because it creates economic and job opportunities in an otherwise depressed rural environment.

The Chlorine Bank Project is also a good example of public/private partnership between the water and sanitation sectors. This works well with collaboration from non-profit organizations.

The Clean Water Initiative is proudly the leading coordinator of this partnership. The program is successful thanks to the effort of over 5,000 volunteers from 950 rural water associations affiliated with our partners in Honduras and El Salvador (AHJASA and ASSA). This program also could not be achieved without the technical, financial and in-kind support of various corporations including Arch Chemicals, PPG, Inc, and Stellar Manufacturing.