



NFP Update

January-April 2011

NFP Continues Efforts in Haiti

Last year the New Forests Project (NFP) was able to secure \$8,000 to implement a larger project in Haiti. Starting in June 2011, NFP's partner organization, Initiative pour le Developpement Durable d'Haiti (IDDH), will work in the Commune de Terrier Rouge, North-East Department, to implement agroforestry and sustainable rural practices. Reforestation efforts will include establishing 5 school nurseries and one village nursery, growing 14,000 trees as well as reforesting the shores of a lake and distributing trees to local farmers. Furthermore, alternative sources of food and income to discourage cutting down trees will be implemented and will include establishing 3 fish ponds and 30 school gardens.

NFP has also provided financial support to IDDH for a new initiative, the re-introduction of Maya Nut Tree (*Brosimum alicastrum*), or "Chokogou" in Creole. The Maya Nut tree, currently extinct in the country, has the potential to help rural Haitian communities solve major difficulties in deforestation, malnutrition and food insecurity.



Tree nursery of one of our beneficiaries (Ayiti Konse Vet) in northern Haiti

The tree produces a nut that is extremely nutritious and women can take great benefits from the harvest and commercialization of the tree's seeds, seedlings, fodder, flour and other products. The first seeds are being imported from Mexico and as soon as they arrive, IDDH will carry out workshops to train 40 women about the use and cultivation of the species and start a nursery to grow the trees. NFP is also in the process of securing financial support for its other Haitian partner, Ayiti Konse Vet to implement a second Maya Nut Program.

Small Grant Activity

NFP has recently allocated funds that will provide 8-10 small grants for its beneficiaries in Africa to organize training activities on reforestation/agroforestry for local people and to purchase reforestation equipment. The NFP is now in the process of reviewing the applications and funds will be allocated in May 2011 and transferred to relevant beneficiaries.

Financials

NFP has just received \$37,000 from the Mary C. Drazy Charitable Fund. Use of funds has not been allocated yet but will include increasing programmatic activities as well as covering current program expenses. In the past few months NFP has submitted proposals to SG Foundation and Boston Foundation. Proposals are also about to be sent to Cottonwood Foundation and All People Be Happy Foundation.

NFP: Efforts in Cameroon

NFP's efforts to implement tree stands for seed production in Cameroon are successfully moving forward. NFP has partnered with the Forestry and Environmental Conservation Society (FOECONS) to accomplish this mission. With NFP's financial support, FOECONS established five tree stands in three localities of Northwest Cameroon in 2010. The stands are growing well and some species in the stands produced their first



One of FOECONS first tree stands for seed production

flowers last December; the first seeds are expected in June. With support of the NFP, FOECONS was also able to secure funding from a U.S. foundation for the implementation of its first seed orchard. FOECONS has started organizing preparatory meetings and obtaining the legal rights to carry out this project. Approximately 7500 trees of 12 different agroforestry species will be planted in six hectares of land. The plantation will be managed so as to maximize flowering and seed production. Beekeeping activities on the site and the selling of surplus seeds will make the project sustainable.

All these efforts will help satisfy the demand for seeds in the Southwest region of Cameroon. The demand for agroforestry tree seeds is very high in the region since many local organizations are implementing agroforestry practices to restore their land and increase productivity. Projects are held back due to lack of local seed production and the fact that shipments from abroad take up to six months to arrive, or get lost in the mail.

Seed Distribution

In January 2011, a total of 58 kilograms of seeds (or over 1.5 million seeds) were shipped from India to our beneficiaries. Organizations in the following countries will be receiving the seeds and distributing to local people and non-profit organizations: Uganda, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Cameroon, Senegal, Togo, Guinea, Honduras, Guatemala, Haiti and Afghanistan.



NFP trees growing in Surkhrud, Afghanistan

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