



New Forests Project

A Project of The International Center
www.newforestsproject.org

June 2011 Update

Small grants

The New Forests Project (NFP) recently awarded a total of eight small grants to support the reforestation efforts of small non-profit organizations in Africa. Five of these grants are for reforestation training sessions in Uganda, DR Congo, Kenya, Sierra Leone and Cameroon. The remaining three grants, one in Uganda and two in Kenya, will fund the purchase of equipment needed to establish tree nurseries and grow, plant and care for the trees. Funds have been transferred to the different organizations that are in various stages of implementation. A summary report will be posted on our website once we receive feedback from all projects.



Kasese Tree Planting Project-Uganda
Distribution of NFP seeds

Haiti

In June, our partner organization, Initiative pour le Developpement Durable d'Haiti (IDDH), began implementation of the NFP-funded project that will reforest watershed areas, promote agroforestry and generate alternative sources of food and income in rural communities of the North-East Department. The project will involve 200 children in tree growing activities, plant 14,000 trees, and establish 3 fish ponds and 30 family gardens. Immediate work includes meeting with community members, providing training on reforestation and agroforestry,

sowing seeds and caring for seedlings, producing compost for home gardens and building fish ponds.

NFP's project to support the re-introduction in Haiti of the Maya Nut Tree (*Brosimum alicastrum* or "Chokogou" in Creole) has been postponed due to delays in the importation of seeds from Mexico because of natural changes in the seed cycle. Seeds are now expected to arrive in Haiti by the end of June. Once they do so, IDDH will carry out a workshop to train 40 women on the use and cultivation of the species and start a nursery to grow the trees. Local communities are expected to greatly benefit from the nutritious qualities of the seeds and their products, as well as from the commercialization of seeds, seedlings, fodder and flour.

Cameroon: Local Seed Production

The first five tree stands funded by NFP and implemented by the Forestry and Environmental Conservation Society (FOECONS) have started to produce seeds in the past month. The trees are being managed to maximize seed production and are expected to produce significant yields by 2012.

FOECONS is also moving forward with the seed orchard funded thanks to NFP's support. Approximately 7500 trees of 12 different agroforestry species will be planted over six hectares of land. Nursery work is almost completed and seedlings will be planted out in the field in August. Local tree species are also going to be included in the seed orchard and FOECONS is in the process of collecting the seeds of these species as they become available to grow them in the nursery.



NFP seeds ready for distribution in Cameroon (FOECONS)

NFP's recently produced guide "Tree Stands for Seed Production" is providing useful guidance to partners in the field on how to produce agroforestry seeds locally. All this will help improve local availability of seeds, one of the major constraints in implementing agroforestry practices in many African countries.

Seed Shipments

NFP is processing its latest seed shipment to go out in early July to beneficiaries. The shipment will include close to 50 kilograms of seeds mailed to organizations in ten African countries.

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. fuel wood). This approach therefore increases their land productivity and reduces the need to deforest 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-living, slow-growing native tree species.

If you have further questions, please contact:

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