



New Forests Project

A Project of The International Center
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NEW FORESTS PROJECT – APRIL 2012 UPDATE

Haiti Program



IDDH's tree nursery

to farmers and villagers to plant on their land. Home gardening activities have included training 26 farmers and 7 women on home garden cultivation and compost production, distributing seeds and tools; and installing a watering system. A total of 400 square meters are currently under cultivation. Finally, two fish ponds have been constructed for aquaculture activities and will be filled with water and sown with fish by the end of April.

Last June, New Forests Project (NFP) funded a one year effort in the Commune of Terrier Rouge, North-East Department that is implementing reforestation and sustainable rural practices to benefit forty families and 200 farmers in the area. NFP's partner organization, Initiative pour le Developpement Durable d'Haiti (IDDH), has established a tree nursery and supervised the growing and planting of 8,000 tree seedlings around Lake Devezyen, as well as distributed another 3,000 seedlings



Watering the homegardens-IDDH



Moringa trainins in Haiti-AKV

With funds from Cottonwood Foundation, NFP funded the implementation of a Moringa Tree project in Port Margo, Northeast Haiti. The project, implemented by Ayiti Konse Vet (AKV) has trained 40 local farmers on the benefits of the Moringa tree, has set up a tree nursery and will distribute seedlings to farmers to establish tree plots for fodder production that will be used to feed rabbits. Cottonwood funds had initially been allocated to introduce Maya Nut trees in the region but difficulties in the importation of seeds from Central America, which were beyond NFP's control, led to the re-allocation of funds for this new purpose.

NFP is also developing a new project with IDDH that will promote the establishment of tree plantations to provide fodder for rearing goats in enclosed quarters. The trees will therefore have and economic value as fodder trees while simultaneously providing environmental services.

Finally, NFP is participating in an effort to bring the Green Belt Movement to Haiti. The Greenbelt Movement was founded in Kenya by Nobel Peace laureate Wangari Maathai over thirty years ago, who sadly died last year. The Movement has been extremely successful in Kenya, and other countries in Africa, in promoting reforestation by empowering communities, especially women, to protect the environment by planting trees. NFP is working along with other organizations and individuals in adapting and bringing the methodology to Haiti and exploring the best way to implement similar efforts that will work for Haiti.

Small grants

We are in the process of reviewing over thirty applications for small grants that have been submitted by organizations in Africa and Latin America. Local organizations can apply for grants to train local people in agroforestry and sustainable resource management or to purchase equipment to set up tree nurseries. NFP staff is hoping to be able to support about a third of applicants and is planning to notify those selected by the end of April.

Seed Shipments

In February, our first shipment of the year went out to local organizations in Haiti, Sierra Leone, Cameroon, Guinea, Honduras and Guatemala. A total of 35 kilograms of seeds (over 1 million seeds) were mailed. Through a new shipment mechanism, seeds are reaching beneficiaries much sooner, greatly facilitating planning and project implementation; as well as protecting seed viability. We are in the process of coordinating our next seed shipment, expected to go out by the end of April.



Watering NFP seedlings in Uganda-KUWA



Opening a NFP seed shipment in Uganda-KUWA

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