

ACTIVITY REPORT 2013



IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY THROUGH SUSTAINABLE LOCAL FARMING

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OUR MISSION

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation aims to promote projects in the areas of sustainable agriculture, food security and self-sufficiency, particularly through education and direct support to farmers, with a specific focus on developing countries in Asia, Latin America and Africa.

The goal of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation is also to highlight the global issue of food insecurity, and the challenge facing humanity to double global food production in a sustainable way.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

HELPING ALLEVIATE HUNGER AND POVERTY BY BRINGING SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS TO SMALL FARMERS

In January 2013 I created the Louis Dreyfus Foundation to support small farmers in developing countries. It is a cruel paradox that while small farmers produce the majority of food consumed in developing countries, half of these farmers can't grow enough food to feed their own family.

In the first year of the Foundation's existence, we defined the right course of action to directly help small farmers to make real steps towards self-sufficiency.

Supported by the Advisory Committee that selects the Foundation's projects, the members of the Board chose 13 initiatives that favor micro-farming or education. The Foundation has already rolled out 8 of these initiatives, mostly in Africa and Asia. The aim of these programs is to use innovative and environment-friendly methods to stimulate the development of sustainable agriculture for small farmers.

In our first year we also worked hard on practicalities, taking care to structure the emerging activities of the Foundation. A well-organized framework is absolutely necessary to select, follow up, control and complete programs and projects, and to reach out to various stakeholders working in farming and development. With that framework now in place, we can ensure that we are meeting our administrative, legal and financial obligations.

I am convinced that with humility and professionalism, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation will pursue its ambition for years to come, and thus improve the lives of small farmers in developing countries.

Margarita Louis-Dreyfus

President of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation



THE LOUIS DREYFUS FOUNDATION



13 projects selected, of which 8 programs rolled out in 2013

IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY THROUGH SUSTAINABLE, LOCAL FARMING

THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE

The first Millennium Development Goal (MDG), set out by the United Nations, aims to halve the number of people suffering from hunger and poverty by 2015.

According to the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), almost 842 million people – or 12% of the global population – are chronically undernourished, the vast majority living in developing countries.

In this context, initiatives aiming to promote agricultural growth are considered to be particularly effective in reducing hunger and malnutrition in developing countries, in particular those involving smallholders, and especially women.

One of the biggest challenges facing the planet will be to feed 9 billion people by 2050. The contribution of all stakeholders is therefore essential to combat food insecurity.

Key figures

5 January 2013

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation is established

2 continents

Active in 2 continents: Africa and Asia

8 programs rolled out in 2013

123 000

About 123 000 people benefit from the Foundation's programs and projects, both directly and indirectly

€4.5m

More than €4.5m allocated to the development of programs and projects in 2013

FOCUS AREAS

Supporting sustainable agriculture is an absolute necessity nowadays, given demographic growth, the impact of climate change, and the issue of water scarcity. As part of the aid and education programs that the Louis Dreyfus Foundation is putting in place to support food security, the Foundation is encouraging the use and transmission of agricultural techniques that have a double benefit: respect for the environment, and a positive impact on farming production.

The Foundation sponsors two types of programs:

Local farming programs

The Foundation works hand-in-hand with small farmers, helping them help themselves by supporting the steps they take towards self-sufficiency by: improving their production techniques; developing their knowledge; diversifying their crops; and increasing the quality of their harvests.

Educational programs

In addition to supporting concrete educational initiatives related to farming, the Foundation also funds scholarships and grants for students from developing countries.

THE LOUIS DREYFUS FOUNDATION

IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY BY SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE, LOCAL FARMING



GOVERNANCE

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation is managed by the Board, and counseled by the Advisory Committee. Projects are carried out by an operational team.

The **Board** takes all decisions in the interest of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation, and meets regularly to oversee all the Foundation's efforts. The members approve the endowment budget, assess programs and projects, and validate the strategic direction.

The Board members are:

- Mrs. Margarita Louis-Dreyfus: President of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation, Chairperson of the Supervisory Board of Louis Dreyfus Holding B.V.; Deputy Chairperson of the Supervisory Board of Louis Dreyfus Commodities Holdings B.V.
- Mr. Jean-Pierre Bechter: Supervisory Board Member for the Dassault Group, Member of Le Figaro Board.
- Mr. Mehdi El Glaoui: Supervisory Board Member of Louis Dreyfus Holding B.V.; Supervisory Board Member of Louis Dreyfus Commodities Holdings B.V.
- **Mr. Serge Schoen**: Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Louis Dreyfus Commodities Holdings B.V.
- **Pr. Gérard Tobelem**: Former President of the French Blood Bank (Etablissement Français du Sang); President of Theradiag.

The role of the **Advisory Committee** to the Board is to identify initiatives that the Foundation could support. The Advisory Committee is composed of personalities selected for their experience and their ability to take the Foundation forward.

The Advisory Committee members are:

- Sir Ronald Grierson: Honorable President of the Advisory Committee of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation.
- Mr. Alok Adholeya: Director, Biotechnology and Management of Bioresources Division, The Energy and Resources Institute.
- Mr. Erik Anderson: Senior Advisor, Louis Dreyfus Commodities.
- Mr. Jaime Carvajal: Special Partner of Advent International Advisory.
- Mr. Jean-Paul Delevoye: President of the French Economic, Social and Environmental Council (CESE).
- Dr. Philippe Douste-Blazy: Cardiologist, Professor in Medicine; Deputy Secretary General and Special Advisor to the United Nations Secretary General in 2008; President of UNITAID; former French minister and former European Member of Parliament; former mayor of Toulouse and Lourdes.

• Mr. Robin Woodhead: Chairman, Sotheby's International. Sandrine Twéran-Mathot, Managing Director of Louis Dreyfus Holding B.V., is Director General of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation. In addition, one person works full-time for the Louis Dreyfus Foundation.

PROJECT LIFE CYCLE

Some of the initiatives undertaken by the Louis Dreyfus Foundation stem from suggestions submitted by employees of Louis Dreyfus Commodities, which is present in over 100 countries across the world.

In addition, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation calls for and receives proposals from external entities. These are mostly specialists in the field of sustainable development or working in the farming sector – for example, charity groups, institutions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Projects are selected according to a matrix of criteria defined by the Foundation. This matrix is used to evaluate each initiative according to its area of intervention, location, level of urgency, impact on beneficiaries, innovative qualities, action to preserve the environment and effect on the agricultural value chain, and to the nature and skills of the people involved in the project.





THE LOUIS DREYFUS FOUNDATION

IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY BY SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE, LOCAL FARMING

MAP OF PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS



PROGRAMS SUPPORTING LOCAL FARMING



CONTRIBUTING TO FOOD SECURITY THROUGH SUSTAINABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION IN KENYA

OBJECTIVE

In certain parts of Kenya, wood collection for use as a source of fuel for heating is a time-consuming and heavy task that harms the environment and reduces time spent working the land.

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation identified an energy production system that is efficient, easy to put in place and inexpensive. Flexi Biogas is a natural anaerobic digestive process that takes place inside a flexible tube and produces methane gas from animal dung mixed with specific bacteria. In a matter of only a few days, the process generates a constant and reliable source of energy.

IMPACT

Without the daily chore of collecting firewood, rural farmers have more time to spend on developing subsistence agriculture, and use the by-product of the Flexi Biogas process as a natural fertilizer to boost their harvests. Other appropriate technologies such as solar kits, seed dryers and incubators can also accompany the Flexi Biogas systems.

Flexi Biogas has a positive impact on the environment in a region particularly impacted by deforestation, while providing a reliable, non-toxic source of heating and electricity that benefits the health of local inhabitants and enables the young to be educated.

After a successful initial phase, mostly in the Meru region of central Kenya, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation is now financing new installations in four other zones around Kenya, and developing a similar project in Rwanda.



Key figures of the Program

18 systems

18 systems installed for smallholders' families

3 systems

3 collective systems financed for organizations helping people in needs

400 beneficiaries

Over 400 people have benefited from the program

1 ton

1 ton of wood saved each year, per person

5 months

The program was put in place in just 5 months

The program grows

The program has been extended to approximately 1500 to 2000 people. New systems for families and organizations are being installed in both Kenya and Rwanda





Jerica Muchai Beneficiary, Meru region, Kenya

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I have three children, but I also look after 14 other children. Each month *I* used one ton of wood for cooking food. I found it really difficult to have enough money to meet the needs of the children and pay for their schooling. But now that the Flexi Biogas is installed, I can easily buy food thanks to the savings I have made from not needing to buy wood for heating. And using the incubator supplied with the equipment for the Flexi Biogas, I have also started to breed chickens, which means I can pay for the children's schooling. I also use the natural fertilizer produced by the system for my vegetable garden. The results are so good that I can sell any excess vegetables that we don't eat.

Lucy Kanyua Beneficiary, Meru region, Kenya

I have a small corn plantation, as well as beans, bananas and potatoes. Because of the high prices for fertilizers, I couldn't buy enough to improve my harvests. But with the Flexi Biogas I can spread the by-product of the system on my plantations. Since the new system arrived I don't have to buy wood for heating any more, and I no longer suffer from the constant headaches and coughs caused by the smoke in my home. My children are no longer exposed to harmful carbon-monoxide and respiratory diseases. What is more, the solar kit provides light so they can do their homework in the evening.

Hellen Mburugu Beneficiary, Meru region, Kenya

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I spent a lot of time looking for wood for heating. I also suffered from the smoke that I inhaled when I was cooking food. Today, I can spend the time saved thanks to the Flexi Biogas system on farming to increase my revenue. I can also knit more, even at night time, thanks to the solar-powered lighting. The whole family now benefits from a better quality of life.

PROGRAMS SUPPORTING LOCAL FARMING



EMPOWERING VULNERABLE FARMERS IN GHANA

OBJECTIVE

In northern Ghana, hundreds of women – and a small minority of men – are banished from their villages, forced to live in camps and live off meager harvests with their families.

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation launched a program to help these marginalized farmers with enough resources to feed their families. The Foundation supplied seeds, fertilizers, equipment and any other necessary material for a full farming cycle. In collaboration with the Ghanaian Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA), the Foundation also organized training in farming best practices throughout the entire production cycle.

IMPACT

The Foundation gave each person a plot of land, a hen coop and hens. The program also provided agricultural training – with the overall aim to help farmers become self-sufficient with regards to feeding their families. A further benefit is better preservation of the environment, because farmers no longer burn their weeds.

At the end of the season, the corn harvest had risen by 275%, millet and Guinea corn by 100%, and cowpea and soy by 44%. This big increase in crops resulted in self-sufficiency for the women farmers.

Following the success of this program, the Foundation could extend it to a new group of people.



Key figures of the Program

2 zones

2 intervention zones

100 people

100 people directly benefited from the program and about 300 people indirectly

250 hectares

250 hectares of corn, Guinea corn, millet, cowpea and soy were planted

300 tons

Nearly 300 tons of produce were harvested

100 hen coops

100 hen coops and 1000 hens were distributed

8 months

The program was put in place in just 8 months



Garunpaga Danaa Beneficiary, Gnani camp, Ghana



At first, we worked very hard to cultivate our fields. But with the farming materials provided by the Foundation and the training given by the MoFA agents, I realized that even at my age I was able to farm. I have five grand-children and am happy to see that they won't be hungry any more. Two of my hens are laying eggs and I hope they hatch more chickens to increase my stock. Azara Nabor Beneficiary, Gambaga camp, Ghana



When representatives from the Foundation brought us together to talk about the project, at first we were skeptical, because in the past we've heard many promises that have never been kept. But now, I not only have enough food to feed myself, I can sell the excess to earn a bit of money to buy some basic products. I also want to give some of my surplus harvests to people that don't have enough to eat. My birds are very healthy and with the support of the veterinary officers from MoFA, I hope they will multiply.

PROGRAMS SUPPORTING LOCAL FARMING



PRODUCING SUSTAINABLY BY USING AGROFORESTRY TECHNIQUES IN THAILAND

OBJECTIVE

Northern and eastern Thailand, particularly susceptible to uncertain weather conditions, are among the poorest regions in this country.

In order to support small local rice growers, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation called upon the expertise of 'Pure Project'. Setting out to create a natural ecosystem favorable to rice growing, the first step was to plant trees in the rice-producing zones. Working with a group of pilot farmers, the Foundation also trialed new micro-farming production methods. Finally, a food self-sufficiency program was initiated to benefit several families.

IMPACT

350 farmers benefited from the implementation of the agroforestry model, which preserves soil, water and biodiversity. The trees generate a micro-climate and improve farming production capabilities.

The Foundation tested a rice production technique called the System of Rice Intensification (SRI). SRI produces similar quantities of rice, but limits water usage compared to traditional methods, thus optimizing rice yields in areas impacted by drought.

The food self-sufficiency program encourages the farmers to diversify their food sources by: buying small livestock (poultry, frogs, etc.); introducing new harvests, such as vegetables or aquaculture; and using natural resources available locally.



Key figures of the Program

20 000 trees

20 000 trees planted

350 farmers

350 farmers benefited from the agroforestry model, and 1400 people benefited indirectly.

10 pilot farmers

10 pilot farmers involved in testing the SRI technique, across 4 different zones

11 families

11 families involved in the selfsufficiency program and 105 families engaged, to acquaint them with the program

50 hens

50 hens, 1000 fish and 1000 frogs distributed through the food self-sufficiency program

8 to 12 months

8 months to put the agroforestry and SRI programs in place, and 1 year to put the food selfsufficiency program in place

M. Pakpoom Inpan Beneficiary, agroforestry model, rice producer in Surin, Thailand



I plant trees because I'm aware of global warming and the impact on rice culture. We can also use trees for building houses. And because they are valuable, our children can inherit the trees. I really like the forest, but I don't have enough land. By planting trees in the rice plantation I have small rice fields with a forest all around them!

M. Samraj Tongaim Beneficiary, SRI pilot farmer, rice producer in Surin, Thailand



I've been using the SRI method for five years on really small areas, mostly to preserve seedlings that I replant the following year. It's the first time that I've experimented on a complete rice plot. I want to try this technique initially to improve my harvests, but also to reduce the cost of inputs. If the trial works, I'd like to extend the method to my two other rice fields. I think I'm going to learn a lot, and I could then share my experience with other farmers.

M. Suwan et Mme Bangorn Sangboon Beneficiaries, food self-sufficiency program, Donjiang, Thailand



In the past I planted tobacco, but I've been unemployed for the past seven years and now I work as a volunteer for the community. We plant trees because we're old and it's difficult to get work. By being a part of the food self-sufficiency program we want to improve how we live and eat healthy food that comes from our garden. We've reduced our spending on food, and gardening helps us keep healthy. We want to learn the best way to look after our fish, our frogs and our hens, and to efficiently produce vegetables. We really appreciate the help, which has enabled us to start these new activities.



FOCUS: INITIATIVES IN INDONESIA AND ETHIOPIA

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation also launched a program in the Aceh area of Sumatra, in Indonesia. There, agroforestry is a solution to the related issues of deforestation and subsistence needs of small farmers – and it is a solution with a positive impact on biodiversity. The initiative aims to plant 25 000 trees (mostly forest and avocado trees) in coffee plantations, to benefit 250 people and their families (about 1000 people in total).

In East Africa, a parallel study is now under way to establish an agroforestry model in coffee-producing zones; 25 000 trees will shortly be planted, to benefit 200 small farmers in a co-operative in Ethiopia.



PURE PROJET



PUR PROJET

Pure Project is a group of social entrepreneurs who have developed agroforestry and agro-ecology projects in particular, in partnership with groups of small farmers across the world.

PROGRAMS SUPPORTING EDUCATION

CREATING A MOBILE TRAINING UNIT FOR WOMEN FARMERS IN CAMEROON

OBJECTIVE

Women play a key role in the development of agriculture in Africa. Although they make up a significant portion of the labor force, they receive neither the education nor the technical support required to develop their farming production.

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation has set up a travelling training scheme that aims to improve agricultural education among women farmers in rural areas of Cameroon. It's a similar scheme to the mobile medical units that stop in villages to educate rural populations.

The program aims to identify and deliver training to women farmers who can, in turn, transmit their knowledge to other women in the community.

IMPACT

By passing on good farming practices, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation aims to help women farmers increase their production and, in this way, contribute to food self-sufficiency for themselves and their families.

Known as the 'garden of Cameroon', the area in question is located in the western part of the country, where women mostly work on market gardening and subsistence crops. The program's training initiative will enable the women to be better armed to confront the endless diseases in this region. Better use of farming inputs is expected to benefit both people and the environment.

To put into practice the skills they have learned, the women who are trained will be encouraged to create 'school' plots of land to test and share their new skills.

At the end of the first year, and depending on its success, the program may be rolled out to other areas in Cameroon, as well as other African countries with similar agricultural problems.



Key figures of the Program

14 groups

14 groups identified to receive the training

250 women farmers

The program will benefit about 250 women farmers

3 areas

3 areas of intervention

1 year

The program was put in place in just 1 year



Sandrine Wattiez Volunteer in charge of the training program in western Cameroon, on behalf of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation

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I am really happy to be working on this program because there is a real need. Generally, only men have access to training, despite the fact that women do most of the work in the fields. This region supplies the whole country, and the border territories are market gardens. Women, the principal farmers, drive this agriculture. Providing the women with training will definitely have a knock-on effect on the quality and quantity of market garden products in Cameroon. My work is to ensure the program goes well and with the highest possible level of participation. Following many meetings with the women farmers, I have been able to identify problems and the gaps in their knowledge. As a result, we've elaborated the training according to their needs. During our sessions, I also endeavor to inform these women about a more sustainable approach to farming.



Bébienne Wawo Farmer and president of the women's group in Banéghang, Cameroon

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I produce macabo, yams, Cap peas, beans, peanuts and corn. I am really motivated by this program because my life is really linked to agriculture. Through farming I can feed my family and respond to our needs. But my knowledge is limited: I don't know enough about the different crops and I don't know exactly when I should sow or add fertilizers. Sometimes, my attempts work and produce a few crops, sometimes nothing grows. This training will bring me so much – enabling me to improve my farm's yields as well as my knowledge. I'll also learn about growing new varieties. I come from a very poor family: if my crops increase, I will be able to pay for food, schooling and healthcare for my children. I will be able to improve my family's living conditions.

PROGRAMS SUPPORTING EDUCATION





TRAINING FUTURE LEADERS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY

OBJECTIVE

The Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld Scholarship and Leadership program, led by the Institute for Strategic Dialogue at the University of Oxford (England), bestows grants on postgraduate students from developing countries in Africa, Asia and South America. The program aims to train the future political and business leaders of developing countries.

Besides financing their studies, the grant also gives the post-graduate students direct access to a broad, complimentary Leadership Program to develop their future careers.

IMPACT

During the recruitment process, candidates must demonstrate why they want to make their skills available to the global community, in their chosen area. Whatever their preferred professional activity, the candidates must communicate their overall aim to improve people's lives – in their own country, at a regional level, or even at an international level.

Throughout the year, the program includes seminars, practical training and discussion forums, providing numerous opportunities for the students to develop their network.

In addition, some employees of the Louis Dreyfus Group are invited to attend conferences organized for the students, and share their expertise and knowledge, particularly in the areas of human resources and sustainable development.

Key figures of the Program

15 to 20 students

15 to 20 students sponsored per post-graduate cycle

3 years

Sponsorship period: 3 years

Olatunji Yusuf

Received grant from the Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld Scholarship and Leadership program for 2013-2014, Nigeria



As a student in change management and the environment at Oxford University, this grant encourages me to excel at my academic studies and also in developing my skills as a future leader. I was brought up in a poor environment where I had to work very hard, and this made me see the value of a university education. In fact, I am the first person in my family to go into further education. I hope I am a good example for the younger generation. All the activities in the program enable me to think and to improve myself, not only in terms of skills that I need to acquire, but also to understand the value of making an effort for others. I hope that one day I will also be able to help students to realize their dreams, just as I was helped.

Athena Sharma

Received grant from the Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld Scholarship and Leadership program for 2013-2014, India



To be involved in the Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld Scholarship and Leadership program is a unique life experience. The support from the Louis Dreyfus Foundation has enabled me to concentrate fully on achieving my university objectives at Oxford, instead of worrying about future debts. And even more importantly, the program is intellectually and culturally stimulating because I am in contact with brilliant and motivated people from all over the world. I always hoped to enter the political arena in my country, but this was a secret dream, almost impossible, that I never shared with anyone. The grant has inspired me to glimpse the possibility that I could be a force for change in my country. It has given me the courage and confidence to contribute to creating a better future for India.





FOCUS: INVOLVING STUDENTS IN THE LIFE OF THE FOUNDATION

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation would like to involve the students it has sponsored in the Foundation's activities. As such, the Foundation is setting up a network of Ambassadors for the scholarship students from countries where the Foundation has rolled out a program.

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation's website also publishes expert articles and comment pieces on food security and agriculture written by current or former students.

And in the context of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation's links to the University of Oxford, in December 2013 the Foundation partnered the 'Challenges of Government' conference. Certain students supported by the Foundation helped to set up the event, which each year brings together decision-makers from the world of politics, society and business to share innovations and best practice in the area of public affairs.

PERSPECTIVES

TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ALL PILLARS OF FOOD SECURITY

Food security 'exists when all people, at all times, have economic, social and physical access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that satisfies their nutritional needs and food preferences, and allows them to lead a healthy and active life.'

The United Nations has decided to highlight family agriculture in 2014. The actions taken by the Louis Dreyfus Foundation are fully in line with this objective. The first programs put in place in 2013 are already stimulating local production and, even on a small scale, are playing a key role in food security.

The Foundation will continue to support projects that take into account the entire agricultural value chain – production, quality of soil and inputs, storage and transport, but also training and access to markets – in order to guarantee the availability, accessibility and proper use of food products for populations who are most in need.

In order to progressively increase the number of people benefitting from its actions, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation will pursue the roll-out of its programs in Africa and Asia. The Foundation will capitalize on the first-hand experience acquired from early initiatives, to identify and develop best practice for future achievements.

New partnerships will be fostered to increase the impact of the Foundation's actions. Projects benefitting small farmers in Mali, southern Sudan, Kenya and India will be launched soon.

Finally, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation aims to contribute to the debate on 'how to feed 9 billion people tomorrow?', and will work to encourage the exchange of expertise in this area.

*Definition from the World Food Summit, 1996

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