

# ACTIVITY REPORT 2015



- 01 MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
- 02 THE LOUIS DREYFUS FOUNDATION
- 06 EDUCATION PROGRAMS
- 08 MICRO-FARMING PROGRAMS
- 16 PERSPECTIVES

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation has already planted over **480 000** trees with farmers in **Ethiopia**, Kenya, Mali, Thailand and Sumatra to expand the benefits of agroforestry, and thereby mitigate climate change, regenerate local ecosystems and increase yields.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

### STRENGTHENING OUR STRUCTURE TO PROVIDE ADAPTED SUPPORT TO SMALL FARMERS

The role of family farming is central to global food security. Indeed, according to the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), 'family farms produce more than 80 percent of the world's food in value terms.'\* In 2013, I created the Louis Dreyfus Foundation with the clear ambition to bring direct support to smallholders as they move effectively towards self-sufficiency.

Now in its third year, the Foundation continues to propose sustainable micro-farming solutions for disadvantaged producers in the regions most exposed to climate change-related food shortages. In parallel to the development and growth of our existing programs, we launched seven new initiatives in 2015 and voted for two new projects that will be deployed in 2016.

Driven by our profound respect for the local communities and the environment, we are committed to fully understanding the needs of the potential 260 000 beneficiaries of our programs.

Throughout our activities and projects, we are constantly acquiring valuable knowledge for the Foundation. In that sense, our objective in 2015 was to see how we could share effectively the projects' insights and results.

Together with the Board, our renewed Advisory Committee has created a task force to assess the structure and the impact of the Foundation. The remit of the task force is to ensure we are efficiently sharing solutions and providing the maximum help to the farmers.

I believe that taking a hard look at how we work reflects the Foundation's fundamental responsibility towards the micro-farming initiatives and educational programs we implement. Such close scrutiny contributes to reinforce our overarching aim to improve food security in the most vulnerable areas of the world.

### Margarita Louis-Dreyfus

President of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation



# THE LOUIS DREYFUS FOUNDATION

# OUR MISSION: IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY THROUGH SUSTAINABLE MICRO-FARMING

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

The goal of the 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.

**KEY FIGURES** 



21 programs and initiatives selected

Over **46** 000 farmers involved

More than 260 000 potential beneficiaries

Across 18 countries

### GOVERNANCE

### The Louis Dreyfus Foundation is a company Foundation operating under French law, with a registered office in Paris.

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

The **Advisory Committee** advises the Board on projects that the Foundation could support. Members are individuals selected for their experience and their ability to take the Foundation forward.

### 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.
- Non-Executive Chairperson of the Supervisory Board of Louis Dreyfus Company Holdings B.V.

### Mr. Serge Schoen

- Deputy Chairman of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation\*
- Founding Partner/Chairman, Eightstone

### Mr. Jean-Pierre Bechter

- Supervisory Board Member of the Dassault Group
- Board Member of Le Figaro

### Mr. Mehdi El Glaoui

- Member of the Supervisory Boards of Louis Dreyfus Holding B.V. and Louis Dreyfus Company Holdings B.V.

### Mrs. Sandrine Téran

- Chief Financial Officer of Louis Dreyfus Company B.V.

### Pr. Gérard Tobelem

- Former President of the French Blood Bank (Etablissement Français du Sang)
- President of Theradiag

### The Advisory Committee members are:

### Mr. Alok Adholeya

- Director, Biotechnology and Management of Bioresources Division, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

### Mr. Erik Anderson

- Former CEO of North America and former Senior Head of Macro and the Grains Platform at Louis Dreyfus Company

### Mr. Jean-Paul Delevoye

- Former President of the French Economic, Social and Environmental Council

### Dr. Peter Hazell

- Independent researcher
- Former Director of the Development Strategy and Governance Division at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- Visiting Professor at Imperial College of London (2005-2012)

### Mrs. Sarah Hobson

- Acting Program Director for sub-Saharan Africa, Global Fund for Women
- Senior Fellow, Oakland Institute
- Former Executive Director of New Field Foundation and co-Chair of the Africa Grantmakers' Affinity Group

### Pr. Gilles Trystram

- General Director of AgroParisTech

### Mr. Robin Woodhead

- Chairman, Sotheby's International

### **Valérie Loze** is General Director of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation.

# THE LOUIS DREYFUS FOUNDATION

### OUR GUIDELINES FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation pays special attention to select projects that have both a positive impact on communities, and benefit the environment.

### PROMOTING **TECHNICAL CHANGE** WITH SIMPLE AND SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR SMALLHOLDERS

Among **4** effective programs extended in 2015, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation plans to implement from 2016 new solar passive greenhouses in **Mongolia**, that enable the growing season for fresh fruit and vegetables to rise from **4** to **9-10** months.





## ACTING NOW AND FOR THE FUTURE THROUGH **EDUCATION**

With the aim to improve diet from an early age, awareness campaigns in **India** and Mongolia targeted **1 284** children. In Uttarakhand, India, students took part in quizzes and cookery competitions about the nutritive value of traditional crops.

#### ENSURING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY TO PRESERVE ECOSYSTEMS THROUGH AGROECOLOGY

Agro-ecological techniques deployed in North and East **Thailand** include: **69** organic farmers supported by the Louis Dreyfus Foundation have harvested **27 318** kg of rice since 2013 using the System of Rice Intensification. This climate-smart methodology boosts productivity by changing the management of plants, soil, water and nutrients.



#### HELPING VULNERABLE FARMERS TO INCREASE INCOME WHICH IN TURN LEADS TO POVERTY REDUCTION

In addition to supplying producers with equipment and training to improve production, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation has so far distributed **12 765** animals in **Kenya**, Thailand, Ghana and Mali. Small animals, such as chickens, generate extra income and enhance self-sufficiency.





### EMPOWERING WOMEN AND ENCOURAGING GENDER EQUITY FOR A POSITIVE EFFECT ON THE WHOLE COMMUNITY

The Foundation supports several projects dedicated to women in rural areas across Africa and Asia. In December 2015, one of the **380** female beneficiaries from the program in **Ghana** won the 'Best Woman Farmer' award given by the country's Ministry of Food and Agriculture. THE COMBINATION OF SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMICAL BENEFITS BROUGHT BY THE LOUIS DREYFUS FOUNDATION PROGRAMS CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVE HOUSEHOLD FOOD SECURITY.

## EDUCATION PROGRAMS

# TRAINING THE FUTURE LEADERS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY

Alongside its numerous initiatives to support farmers on their journey towards self-sufficiency, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation strives to pave the way for the future by granting promising leaders-to-be access to the best educational opportunities. In this way, the **Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld Scholarships and Leadership Programme** has already enabled 54 outstanding university graduates, from 31 countries, to pursue fully-funded studies at Oxford University.



According to Isaac from Kenya (MSc African Studies), "being part of the Programme has been a transformative experience. Beyond the financial support necessary to pursue world-class studies at Oxford, the scholarship also provides the space and tools to nurture leadership skills." The ultimate goal of the Programme is to foster an international network of leaders that will be able to work together across cultures, sectors and borders to develop innovative solutions to key global challenges. For Manan (MSc Environmental Change & Management), "the Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld Scholarships and Leadership Programme has given me the opportunity to open up my horizons, meet new people, discover new perspectives and develop views of my own. When I go back to India to work at the grassroots level, I will understand the different perspectives that people have about my country and about the world. I have developed a whole new understanding of the things I see around me." Scholars and alumni are encouraged to participate in the Louis Dreyfus Foundation's activities, in particular to review micro-farming programs in their home region. So far, 6 students have conducted assessment visits to Africa and Asia.

#### In partnership with:



The Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Trust (WHT) runs the unique and highly sought-after Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarships and Leadership Programme based at the University of Oxford, as well as the Humanitas Programme of Visiting Professorships, run in partnership with the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. www.whtrust.org

### SUPPORTING STUDENTS FROM DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES AND INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS AT THE AFRICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

In order to diversify the portfolio of educational programs, the Foundation launched in 2015 the **Louis Dreyfus Program for scholars and innovation** at the African Leadership Academy (ALA). ALA brings together the most promising young leaders from 45 countries in Africa for a 2-year pre-university program in South Africa that focuses on leadership, entrepreneurship and African studies. ALA continues to encourage these leaders throughout their lives, in university and beyond, by providing on-going leadership and entrepreneurial training and by connecting them to networks of people and capital that can contribute to large-scale change.



Nelson, 18 years old, is the first scholar at ALA supported by the Louis Dreyfus Program: "I will be very happy to see myself in the future helping others in agriculture to promote my home country Cameroon and other parts of Africa. I have always been very interested in agriculture. And I will be ready to do whatever it takes that could help me do this in a sustainable way." Before joining ALA, Nelson started the One Chicken Project with some peers in Cameroon – raising, breeding and selling chickens. Nelson and his team managed to sell enough poultry to pay for their own books, school fees and also to support their parents financially.



The Anzisha Prize seeks to reward young Africans who have developed and implemented innovative solutions to social challenges, or who have started successful businesses within their communities. The first Louis Dreyfus Foundation Award for Entrepreneurship in Agriculture, part of the Anzisha Prize, was given to a 21-year old woman from Rwanda. Chantal founded the Kinazi Dairy Cooperative (KIDACO) with the aim to offer market access to female farmers, while supporting the Girinka program, which supplies a cow to women who survived the Rwandan genocide. The prize money from the Louis Dreyfus Foundation has enabled Chantal "to recruit and train 25 new milk collectors and buy 100 milk canes to use during the milk collection at 3 new upcoming collection centres, which will benefit around 5 000 farmers."

#### In partnership with:



The African Leadership Academy (ALA) seeks to transform Africa by developing a powerful network of over 6 000 leaders who will work together to address Africa's greatest challenges, achieve an extraordinary social impact, and accelerate the continent's growth trajectory.

www.africanleadershipacademy.org

### LOCATION OF OUR CURRENT PROGRAMS

### MALI

Program to support female smallholders in their daily farming, providing them with training and equipment 1 057 farmers involved 23 083 beneficiaries

> • MALI page 10

> > GHANA

### SOUTH SUDAN

Program to improve capacity for smallholder farmers in post-harvest management 1 176 farmers involved 6 895 beneficiaries

SOUTH SUDAN

RWANDA

UGANDA

page 12

ETHIOPIA

KENYA page 13

### GHANA

Program to fight poverty by empowering vulnerable farmers through aid and education\* 557 farmers involved 1 800 beneficiaries

### CAMEROON

SENEGAL page 11

Program running a mobile training unit and technical support for female farmers 300 women beneficiaries

### **KENYA & RWANDA**

CAMEROON

Program to improve self-sufficiency through sustainable energy (Flexi Biogas equipment) 204 systems installed – including 8 for institutions 1 458 beneficiaries

\* Programs completed and extended in 2015

ullet New projects launched by the Louis Dreyfus Foundation



For more information about programs supported by the Louis Dreyfus Foundation, please visit www.louisdreyfusfoundation.org

# AGRO-ECOLOGICAL PRACTICES ADAPTED TO THE SUB-SAHARAN CONTEXT IN SOUTHERN **MALI**



### OBJECTIVE

Agricultural activities are precarious in Southern Mali due to the impact of climate change. In this region, where poverty rates remain stubbornly high, there is an urgent need to adapt agriculture. The Louis Dreyfus Foundation encourages sustainable practices through an agricultural centre that is engaged in testing, adapting and demonstrating microirrigation, as well as land-use management, renewable energy, organic inputs and agro-ecological techniques for vegetable crops. The program also provides vulnerable farmers – especially women cooperatives with specific equipment and seeds, training, and capacity building sessions to ensure better productivity using natural resources.

### IMPACT

To strengthen the resilience of the vulnerable farming communities in the Yossoro district, access to modern agricultural tools is essential. Replacing manual labor with elaborate technologies and energies is part of the solution. The program will distribute 320 tons of organic fertilizers and equip more than 1000 farmers to help them develop agro-ecological practices. Field trials will encourage empowerment and lead to better food security conditions. Crops intended for household consumption, such as cereals and vegetables, will also be sold on the local market to generate cash for basic needs, as well as health and education expenses. The center will be accessible to producers and should ensure the continued existence of acquired knowledge and that equipment is properly maintained. 66

The project has a strong impact on the global income of families. We see an improvement of productivity on rainy season fields and easier work for vegetable perimeters. We are proud and happy to be involved in this program. Seydou, from Tandio Village

In partnership with:



GERES is a French non-profit association that aims at preserving the environment, limit climate change and its consequences, reduce energy poverty and improve living conditions. www.geres.eu



# TRAINING SESSIONS FOR PROPER USE OF PESTICIDES IN RURAL AREAS OF **SENEGAL**



### OBJECTIVE

Many Senegalese farmers never had access to formal education, or agricultural training. Most of the time, they are unaware of the risks associated with the incorrect use of agricultural inputs, and do not wear proper protection gear. The consequences of this lack of protection can be serious: health problems for users, families and consumers, negative effects on yields, damaged soil, infected water and local biodiversity affected. The Louis Dreyfus Foundation identified priority rural communities located in key agricultural areas of the country (Niayes – North Zones) to educate smallholders on the proper use of pesticides. With the support of the Senegalese vegetable producers association (FPMN), training sessions, including safety standards and one day of practice, are delivered by 2 Master level students in agriculture from the University of Dakar (UCAD).

### IMPACT

An analysis of chemical residues will be conducted on the next crops produced by the beneficiaries of the training. The analysis will measure the capacity of the program to preserve the environment and increase health protection by controlling the use of pesticides. In parallel, the Foundation plans to bring in a toxicology specialist communities, on the detection of pesticide poisoning and the required treatments. So far, 6% more producers than expected attended the training sessions. Hopefully beneficiaries will share their knowledge with other members of their communities, thereby reducing the overall environmental impact while improving yields. 66

I have noticed that only certain gloves protect against chemicals. Sometimes, I used to make meals without washing my hands. Thanks to this training, I will choose the best hand gloves and will wash my hands immediately after treatment.

One farmer who attended a training session

# POST-HARVEST LOSS REDUCTION THROUGH EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING IN **UGANDA**



### OBJECTIVE

Sub-Saharan Africa loses 20 million metric tons of food each year, valued at over \$4 billion, because of poor post-harvest handling techniques, according to the 2011 Global Food Losses FAO report. The initiative supported by the Louis Dreyfus Foundation in Uganda serves as a 'laboratory' for testing large-scale storage solutions to develop a technique to minimize post-harvest loss for the whole region. Farmers in the Soroti and Pader regions are properly trained to harvest, thresh, dry and store their crops. During a one full-day interactive workshop, farmers can choose from 3 equipment options, depending on their individual storage capacity needs and ability to pay. All equipment is subsidized by 50%.

#### IMPACT

2 361 tarpaulins, 7 045 super grain bags and 493 different-sized silos have been distributed to farmers so far. The development of locally constructed silos enhances economic activity in the villages. Moreover, the program has a major impact on aflatoxin levels, a source of malnutrition and health problems in the region. With simple but superior airtight storage equipment and training in how to use it, small-scale farmers no longer have to struggle to preserve their hard-earned crops from spoilage and pests, or immediately rush to sell post-harvest crops at low prices. They can increase their incomes and provide food, medicine, and education for their children.



Every year is the same... we try our best, but there is nothing we can do to stop insects, pest and mold from spoiling our food. We must sell everything quickly and get what we can. Safe storage in our farm will change our lives. Gloria and Brenda, from Dokolo and Amuria districts

In partnership with:



The United Nation's World Food Programme is the largest humanitarian agency to fight global hunger. Funded entirely by voluntary donations from governments and Foundations, WFP is the UN's food aid arm, and a key instrument in promoting food security.

www.wfp.org



### DEVELOPMENT OF AGRO-BIODIVERSITY FARMING IN **KENYA**



### OBJECTIVE

The fragile ecosystem of the Msorongo village hosts endemic flora and fauna. Here, changes in natural resources – such as soil erosion or woodlands' destruction – are impacting the environment, and limiting agriculture production. In addition, those changes have affected socio-economic growth for the rural community, who live below the poverty line. The Louis Dreyfus Foundation promotes the adoption of agro-farming techniques to enhance productivity levels through landuse management and reforestation. Measures include: implementing demonstration plots and training sessions, building a water tower to improve access to irrigation, adopting 17 climate-resilient crops with high economic value, and planting 9 species of trees as buffers and protective shade on the perimeter of individual farms, especially useful to restrict the invasion of mega herbivores.

#### IMPACT

This program aims to significantly increase income from high yields by encouraging farmers to adopt resource management across the land, and use farming practices that are sustainable and economically beneficial. Diversified commercial and subsistence crops will improve the livelihood of smallholders and their families, particularly through the development of additional activities to transform products, and improved access to markets within the local tourist industry. Ultimately, agrobiodiversity solutions should also aim to discourage the illegal trade in wildlife bush meat and help the overall community to support the conservation and retention of wildlife habitats in the area. 66

The project facilitated access to water for farming and daily use. We foresee a lot of shade in the area thanks to tree planting and this will contribute to water preservation and control of soil erosion. Initially, we used to plant maize for subsistence farming for the family. The project has introduced planting of commercial vegetables that will bring us revenue that we can dedicate to our children's education.

Christine, from Msorongo Village



### INNOVATIVE IRRIGATION TECHNIQUES FOR POOR FAMILY FARMERS IN **MYANMAR** AND **CAMBODIA**



### OBJECTIVE

14

In Myanmar and Cambodia, where 70 to 80% of the population lives off agriculture, irrigation is a key factor to develop an inclusive economy rooted in market gardening. While sufficient quantities of water are available in the Irrawaddy delta (Myanmar) and the Siem Reap region (Cambodia), the poorest farmers lack the time and the resources to irrigate and develop their production. This is particularly the case during the first few months of the crops' growth because the farmers engage in other work in order to cover family expenses. The Louis Dreyfus Foundation started to identify and test small-scale methods, such as water storage, foot pumps, solar pumps, drip irrigation systems, compost, and mulching. Smallholders participate in monitoring and evaluating the innovations. The program also provides farmers with added support for the bio-intensification of vegetable growing and to improve their access to markets.

### IMPACT

Using an empirical approach ensures that solutions fit local needs and makes sure that the actions taken are sustainable. Farmers analyse 5 small-scale irrigation innovations and then share their results through field visits. Demonstration plots enable best practice sharing. A microfinance product is being tested in Myanmar to help beneficiaries purchase equipment. Simple and time-efficient techniques make it possible for disadvantaged households to strengthen their market gardening activities and increase their income. In turn this leads to greater economic independence for families and thus contributes to their food security. 66

Drip irrigation really brings me additional profits so my community should also use it. I am happy to share my successful experience with other farmers. They can use it as I do. They are interested by what they see so they can replicate it. Daw Wai Wai, from Tha Byu Kone Village in Myanmar

#### In partnership with:



Find is the endowment fund set up by GRET-Professionals for Fair Development, a French NGO. It proposes companies and other private players to support innovative programs for development implemented by GRET which contribute to the fight against poverty and inequality.

www.gret.org



# INCREASING INCOME BY PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES TO MARGINAL FAMILIES IN SOUTH **INDIA**



### OBJECTIVE

Due to the lack of awareness in improved practices and new technology for crop cultivation, corn yields currently produced by poor farmers in Karnataka fall far short of their potential yields. The region has seen a high level of suicides in the recent years because of harvest failures, making farmers unable to repay their loans. The Louis Dreyfus Foundation aims to empower marginal communities based in rainfed corn areas, mainly in the Haveri and Davanagere districts: by promoting sustainable agricultural solutions, especially related to soil conservation; by social mobilization through producers' groups – some of which are specifically for women; and by educating these groups on cropping systems.

#### IMPACT

Following the principle of participatory rural appraisal, 20 individuals from the targeted villages were selected and trained. Answering the needs of smallholders, they provide farmers with capacity building sessions, visits, Farmer Field School sessions and Field days, as well as with a package of best practice for corn production, including land preparation, seed selection and integrated pest management. About 600 acres of corn have been planted to show the benefits of using such solutions. Soil sample tests also encourage the adoption of methods for integrated nutrient management. By helping the farmers to help themselves, the program intends to restore soil quality, and to increase the overall income of marginal rural families, notably by minimizing the cost of unnecessary expenditure on external inputs. 66

I have learned about the scientific ways of corn cultivation, about soil testing and its uses, and the importance of intercropping with red gram and crop rotation. Intercropping is resulting in additional income, on top of what is made from main crops; crop rotation is helping to maintain soil health and better yields. That is a great help for the farming community.

Channabasappa, from Bhukodihally Village in the Haveri District

# PERSPECTIVES

### ENSURING THE SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR PROGRAMS

Within the context of a growing global population, and scarcer natural resources, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation is determined to improve access and availability to food by supporting sustainable micro-farming solutions for smallholders, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia.

To fulfil that ambition, in 2016 the Foundation will focus on successful on-going programs and extend some of them to ensure effective solutions reach the maximum number of beneficiaries.

Simultaneously, we will strengthen the exchange of knowledge between our initiatives by guaranteeing that best practice within our projects is efficiently shared. In that sense, the Impact Measurement task force will continue to focus on the best methods to monitor and evaluate programs, while continuing to enhance processes already in place.

In parallel, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation will remain open to funding new opportunities and innovations related to self-sufficiency through sustainable agriculture. Looking to the future, the Foundation aims to support young entrepreneurs in developing countries – who are potential game-changers – by helping them to launch their own initiatives to alleviate hunger and poverty.

The collective knowledge of the Foundation now incorporates a broad range of sustainable farming methods and educational programs. We will leverage this knowledge to support our ultimate ambition to improve food security for as many people as possible, today and tomorrow.

Designed and produced by Boone Design and Magenta Digital

Credit for photography that illustrates this report:

© Photographers: PUR Projet, Christian Lamontagne (cover, pages 00 & 04, back) / GERES (pages 04 & 10) / WFP, Peter Loruk (page 12) / P. Masse, Gret (page 14) / WFP, Ahnna Gudmunds (page 17)

Through the program Purchase for Progress, smallholders in South Sudan and Mali supported by the Louis Dreyfus Foundation have improved their livelihoods and the national food security for their countries by delivering I 326 tons of grains to the World Food Programme.

ogr

D

AN

# Louis Dreyfus Fondation d'entreprise



### 7 RUE KEPLER 75016 PARIS FRANCE

contact@louisdreyfusfoundation.org www.louisdreyfusfoundation.org