

**Louis Dreyfus**  
Fondation d'entreprise

## ACTIVITY REPORT 2014



IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY THROUGH  
SUSTAINABLE LOCAL FARMING





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*Photo of Louis Dreyfus Foundation  
program in Thailand*

*Our aim*

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

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### BUILDING ON OUR EXPERIENCE TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation has a clear ambition – to effectively provide concrete help to disadvantaged smallholder farmers. Launched two years ago, our organization has since introduced several initiatives to improve food security through sustainable local farming which could benefit to 200 000 people across 15 countries in Africa and Asia.

After an active start in 2013, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation concentrated on consolidating its achievements in 2014. Under the guidance of the Advisory Committee and Board members, the Foundation extended several programs and approved new initiatives. Indeed, we have selected 16 projects in total, of which 12 programs are currently running.

With continual improvement a real priority, this year we refined our methods to select, support and evaluate projects. In 2015 we are happy to welcome new experts into the Advisory Committee of the Foundation who will contribute to reinforce our skills for even more efficiency.

Every day the organization is enriched through our diverse experience on the ground. By directly supporting vulnerable producers, we want to help them make real steps towards self-sufficiency, ensuring a lasting impact on their lives, and those of their families.

I trust that by acquiring strong expertise our Foundation will be able to make a contribution to meeting the challenges today – and tomorrow – for farmers in the developing world.

**Margarita Louis-Dreyfus**

*President of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation*





*Who we are*

## ABOUT THE LOUIS DREYFUS FOUNDATION

IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY  
THROUGH SUSTAINABLE  
LOCAL FARMING

### OUR MISSION

Some 1 billion people still live in extreme poverty – and 75% of these people are based in the rural areas of developing countries where agriculture is their main source of livelihood, especially in sub-Saharan Africa and southern Asia. Smallholders manage over 80 per cent of the world's estimated 500 million small farms and provide over 80 per cent of the food consumed in a large part of the developing world, contributing significantly to poverty reduction and food security\*.

Paradoxically, despite their pivotal role in global and regional food production, those farmers are more vulnerable and less able to escape poverty.

Through education and direct support to farmers, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation aims to promote projects in the areas of sustainable agriculture, food security and self-sufficiency, with a specific focus on developing countries,

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

\* Source: Report 'Smallholders, food security, and the environment', IFAD 2013

*Photo of Louis Dreyfus Foundation program in Cameroon*





## GOVERNANCE

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

### The Louis Dreyfus Foundation is managed by:

- The **Board**, which takes all decisions in the interest of the Foundation. The members approve the endowment budget, assess programs and projects, validate the strategic directions and oversee all the Foundation's efforts.
- The **Advisory Committee** to the Board, which selects projects that the Foundation could support. Members are personalities selected for their experience and their ability to take the Foundation forward.
- The **operational team** implements all the projects and follows-up the Foundation's activities.

### 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 Advisory Committee members are:

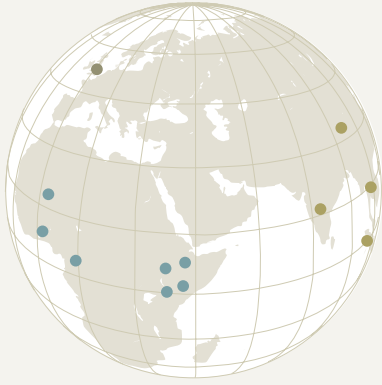
- **Sir Ronald Grierson\***: Honorable President of the Advisory Committee of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation.
- **Mr. Alok Adholeya**: Director, Biotechnology and Management of Bioresources Division, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).
- **Mr. Erik Anderson**: Senior Advisor, Louis Dreyfus Commodities.
- **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.
- **Pr. Gilles Trystram\*\***: Director General of AgroParisTech.
- **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 London from 2005-2012.
- **Mr. Robin Woodhead**: Chairman, Sotheby's International.

**Sandrine Téran**, Managing Director of Louis Dreyfus Holding B.V. and Group Corporate Secretary of Louis Dreyfus Commodities, is Director General of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation. In addition, one person works full-time for the Louis Dreyfus Foundation.

\* Deceased in 2014

\*\* New members appointed in 2015





*The Louis Dreyfus Foundation currently manages 12 programs*

#### KEY FIGURES

*2 years of activity*

*16 programs and projects selected*

*4 programs already completed and extended*

*Across 15 countries on 2 continents*

*200 000 potential beneficiaries*

*Over 7 million euros invested so far in programs and projects*

## *What we do*

# ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

## ADDRESSING THE AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN

### SELECTING THE PROJECTS

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation devotes special attention to choosing the right projects. In addition to meeting the main goal of the Foundation, each initiative must demonstrate several key criteria which include:

- An accurate understanding of the beneficiaries' real needs
- Support for the principle of food security
- Innovative techniques that ensure a sustainable approach
- Additional environmental, social and/or health benefits
- Efficiency in project monitoring and in the provision of deliverables
- Cost transparency and limited non-operational fees

Priority is given to initiatives located in Sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia – deemed to be the most vulnerable regions to climate change-related food shortages – as well as projects that support subsistence family farms, notably those involving women.

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation also favors the use of simple, common-sense techniques that will have a strong and direct impact on beneficiaries. Projects must show their support for production and education, in the context of sustainable agriculture. They must also demonstrate that the majority of the budget is dedicated to operational activities, for example, farming inputs and equipment, training, and technical support in the fields.

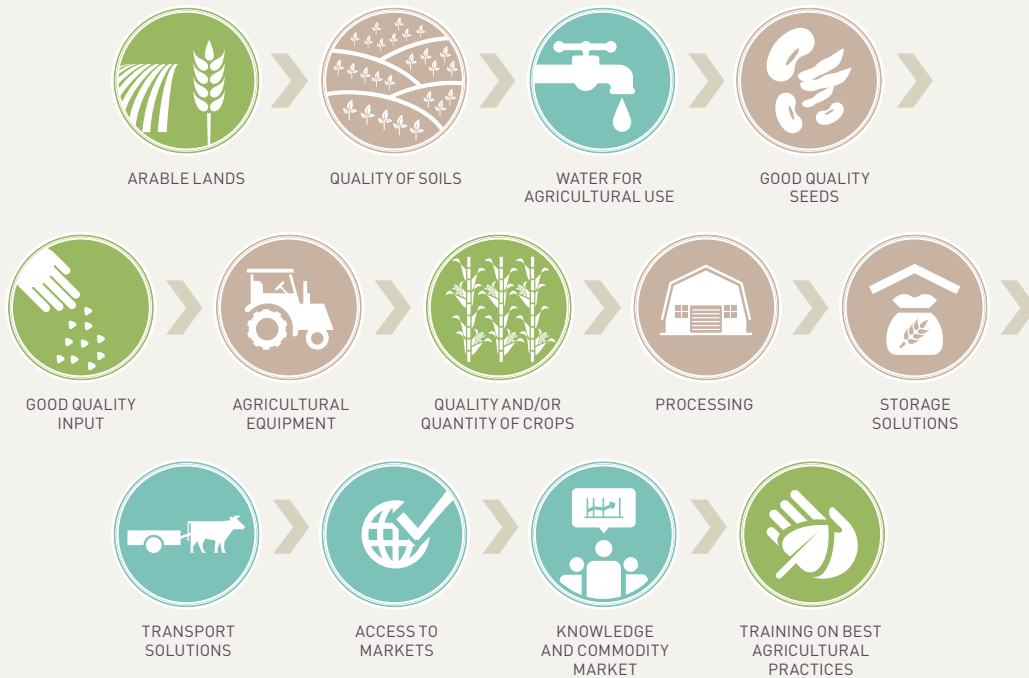
Wherever possible, the Foundation uses the Louis Dreyfus Group's infrastructure, particularly Louis Dreyfus Commodities which has a strong international presence. Employees can commit to the Foundation's activities through a skills-based sponsorship system, enabling projects to rely on the extensive expertise and know-how of Louis Dreyfus Commodities.

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation also collaborates with a limited number of providers to test innovations, to ensure reliable local coordination, and to benefit from their experience.



## IMPACT OF OUR PROGRAMS

Programs supported by the Louis Dreyfus Foundation mainly give access to and/or improve the agricultural value chain:



Increasing the quantity and quality of crops, and implementing best practice for farming are the two elements of the value chain where the Foundation expects to see – in a sustainable way – the most impact.

Consequently, the Foundation manages two types of projects:

- Comprehensive self-sufficiency initiatives at different points of the agriculture value chain.
- Initiatives to test techniques, or equipment, related to specific topics – such as soil nutrition, water management, storage and conservation of crops – and to then roll them out across other programs.

In terms of process, the Foundation starts by verifying, over a short period of time, a project's viability. If successful and pertinent, best practice from the initiative is introduced progressively across more beneficiaries.

With the aim to measure impact, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation has developed tools for selecting, monitoring, reporting and assessing all projects. To ensure efficiency on the ground, the Foundation also regularly reviews programs. As a result, the Foundation identifies areas to improve the initiatives during meetings with beneficiaries and project managers.



# Where we operate MAP OF OUR PROGRAMS

THE LOUIS DREYFUS FOUNDATION  
CURRENTLY MANAGES **12 PROGRAMS**,  
MAINLY ACROSS AFRICA AND ASIA.



ENGLAND > page 09  
*Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld  
Scholarship and Leadership  
Programme at Oxford  
University*



MALI > page 13  
*Support for women  
smallholder program*



GHANA > page 10  
*Program to support and educate  
vulnerable women farmers*



CAMEROON > page 15  
*Program for mobile training  
unit for women farmers*



SOUTH SUDAN > page 12  
*Support for smallholder  
farmers program*



KENYA AND RWANDA > page 16  
*Program for food self-sufficiency  
through sustainable energy*





MONGOLIA > page 17  
*Sustainable agricultural development program*



INDIA > page 11  
*Program for food and environmental security*



THAILAND > page 19  
*Agroforestry, rice growing and food self-sufficiency program with additional agroecological experiments*



SUMATRA > page 18  
*Agroforestry program and coffee farmers training*



ETHIOPIA > PAGE 18  
*Agroforestry program for coffee plantations*



KENYA > page 14  
*Food security & livelihoods for coffee farmers program*





#### KEY FIGURES

*200 000 euros annual donation*

*400 000 meals provided*

*13 300 beneficiaries*

*70% of funds used in Sierra Leone*



*As the Liberia government tries to stop the spread of the Ebola virus, many Liberians are struggling to feed their families. Often, households that have lost family members are confined to their homes for weeks because they are placed under quarantine. Many communities face movement restrictions. The UN's World Food Programme is distributing food to quarantined families in 10 provinces across Liberia.*

Report of World Food Programme operations in Liberia

*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](http://www.wfp.org)

## *How we do it* ACTING NOW – AND FOR THE FUTURE

### PROVIDING EMERGENCY FOOD AID

#### OBJECTIVE

Operating in sensitive areas in Africa and Asia means our projects can be directly affected by one-off crises linked to climate or health. As a result, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation's Board has created an emergency fund for food aid.



WFP/Rein Skullerud

#### IMPACT

In 2014, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation supported people fighting Ebola by donating to the World Food Programme (WFP). Through its expertise in logistics and food distribution, the WFP facilitates the entire humanitarian community response to Ebola. By providing 400 000 meals of daily nutritious food for one month, Louis Dreyfus Foundation's donation helped to support people in quarantine.

## TRAINING THE FUTURE LEADERS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

### OBJECTIVE

The Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld Scholarship and Leadership Programme cultivates the leaders of tomorrow by providing outstanding university graduates and young professionals from Africa, Asia and South America with the opportunity to pursue fully-funded graduate studies at the University of Oxford. Alongside their academic studies, the comprehensive program of leadership activities provides graduates with knowledge, skills and networks that they can leverage during public life in their home countries or regions of origin. The program also builds enduring professional links across cultures and continents.



### IMPACT

The program supports scholars committed to returning to work in their home countries. During the recruitment process, candidates must demonstrate why they want to improve people's lives and why they want to offer their skills to local, regional and/or global communities. In order to involve scholars in the Foundation's activities, 4 students were invited to review the on-going projects in 2014.

In the context of links to the University of Oxford, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation partnered for the second year the 'Challenges of Government' conference which brings together decision-makers from the world of politics, society and business. Within the theme of 'Flourishing Cities', the Foundation supported a dedicated conference about urban agriculture.



### KEY FIGURES

44 scholars sponsored since 2012

From 26 countries

2 PhD scholars in Plant Sciences

4 Louis Dreyfus Foundation's initiatives reviewed by scholars



*The Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld Scholarship has changed my life: not only have I been exposed to an incredible, inspirational and influential network of people, I now feel ready to make the impact which a privilege like this demands.*

Sizwe, Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld scholar from South Africa

In partnership with:



The Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Trust (WHT) runs the unique and highly sought-after Weidenfeld 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.weidenfeld-hoffmann.org](http://www.weidenfeld-hoffmann.org)  
[www.whtrust.org](http://www.whtrust.org)





#### KEY FIGURES

*357 farmers involved*

*1 300 beneficiaries*

*2 areas*

*Over 1 100 acres planted*

*3 570 chickens distributed*



*The Louis Dreyfus Foundation has really surprised even the most hopeful person in our camp. We are currently not dependent on anybody for our food. It feels great to be in a position where you can organize your own life. As the leader here, I have urged my colleagues to follow all the advice of the resource persons so that we can continue on this path.*

Tachara, Head of beneficiaries in Gambaga

## *How we do it*

# NURTURING AGRICULTURE TO FIGHT POVERTY

## GHANA: EMPOWERING VULNERABLE FARMERS

### OBJECTIVE

After a successful first phase in 2013, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation extended its support to marginalized farmers, mainly women, banished from their villages in North Ghana. The program's beneficiaries received direct supplies of seeds, fertilizers, chickens and equipment, such as protective clothing, boreholes and corn sheller machines. The Foundation also renewed its collaboration with the Ghanaian Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA), and delivered diverse training in best practice for farming and veterinary services for the full production cycle.



### IMPACT

Through education – the transfer of best practice to improve agricultural production and aid – this program continues to alleviate poverty. Compared to the yield before the program's intervention, corn yields rose by 287%, millet and Guinea corn by 125%, and cowpea and soya beans by 82%. In addition, chicken breeding has also been a success. Thanks to such positive results in self-sufficiency, the farmers can feed their families and they have acquired enough skills for independence.

## INDIA: REVITALIZING TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE FOR FOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY

### OBJECTIVE

By supporting the production of local plant varieties, and innovative soil and water management, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation provides sustainable solutions to urgent local food security issues impacting disadvantaged farmers in Uttarakhand (north India). To improve food habits and encourage healthier diets, the program also educates the local community – particularly women – about the nutritional qualities of traditional crops.



### IMPACT

In order to guarantee real benefits farmers receive: good quality indigenous seeds from a live bank; kits for rain water harvesting; training on cultivation; and the opportunity to attend various demonstrations, including 4 mixed cropping systems or bio-inoculants for soil quality. Farmers are then encouraged to sell their agricultural produce or to transform it into traditional dishes to earn income from their activities. Revitalizing traditional crops and practices – and relying on biodiversity – should improve nutritional and environmental security for the Uttarakhand region.



### KEY FIGURES

1 500 beneficiaries

175 farmers' fields under cultivation

82 various traditional crops collected for seed multiplication

4 different combinations using mixed cropping system of traditional crops



*I am satisfied with the support from the project which only involves natural methods of farming, with no chemical fertilizers or pesticides involved. Earlier this year, I received potato seeds which gave me a much better yield compared to produce in previous years. I was able to earn a better income by selling them in the local markets. Since I had received training in weed removal methods and biofertilizer, like vermicompost, I am now able to practice it on my farm lands as well.*

Mohan, farmer beneficiary from Supi Kafi

In partnership with:



The Energy and Resources Institute is an Indian non-profit institute creating innovative solutions for a sustainable future.

[www.teriin.org](http://www.teriin.org)





#### KEY FIGURES

*1 176 farmers involved*

*Around 8 000 beneficiaries*

*126 farmers trained as trainers*

*150 farmers trained in post-harvest management and commodity quality*

*5 drying cribs constructed*



*After all the hard work during planting, and the excitement of a good harvest like we had this season, we still have to worry about drying the maize. Without this support it would have been difficult to maintain the quality of the produce. We will gradually increase our production, and our sales. How can we progress faster here? Just look around. It is more realistic to have slower but steady progress.*

Lino, farmer beneficiary  
from Nzara County

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](http://www.wfp.org)

## How we do it

# SOLUTIONS FOR FARMERS IN UNSTABLE REGIONS

## SOUTH SUDAN: CAPACITY BUILDING IN POST-HARVEST MANAGEMENT FOR SMALLHOLDER FARMERS

### OBJECTIVE

Located in the Equatoria States, this program aims to fill the gaps in the value chain for farmer organizations that face post-harvest issues, such as close to 30% losses and difficulties in transporting production. Here the Louis Dreyfus Foundation's contribution is used to improve harvest storage in farms, to better maize processing productivity, and to pilot transport systems to ease food collection and the movement of food to aggregation centers. Beneficiaries receive training sessions on post-harvest storage management and commodity quality at each point in the farming cycle.



### IMPACT

1 176 farmers are supported with an infrastructure and the right tools to help them attain and maintain quality – for example: plastic sheets for drying, drying cribs, maize sheller machines and warehousing. The introduction of motorized tricycles and animal drawn carts can also provide affordable and adapted transport methods from farms to the main collection points. The full impact of the program on harvest savings, and income, are expected at the end of the farming season in 2015.



## MALI: SUPPORTING WOMEN IN THEIR DAILY FARMING WORK

### OBJECTIVE

As in many other countries in Africa, the leadership rates of women in Malian agriculture remain low, particularly due to the lack of adequate household and agricultural equipment. To lighten their daily tasks, and enable them to engage more actively in agriculture the program sponsored by the Louis Dreyfus Foundation supplies certain women's farmer organizations in south and central Mali with tools for farming and cooking, as well as additional training.



WFP/ P4P Mali

### IMPACT

Each group of women farmers defined their needs to ensure the conditions of use for effective and efficient management of equipment among 14 different machines provided. In order to reduce gender inequalities, the program also focuses on strengthening skills in mixed domains, including agricultural techniques, post-harvest handling, and quality norms through 49 training sessions.

### KEY FIGURES

*3 groups of smallholder women supported*

*1 057 women involved*

*23 083 beneficiaries*

*14 different machines (millers, ploughs, harvestors, pumps) provided*

*49 training sessions delivered*



*Ever since I joined the cooperative in 2009 we did not have enough equipment to do our farm work, and we got tired quickly because we did everything by hand. Our group received some new equipment and training on the use of the equipment and on their maintenance. The training was very useful, and we now know how to use these new machines. We can't wait for the next season to start using them and hope we can do more work with them so we can sell more.*

**Kadi, farmer beneficiary from the cooperative of Biodie**

Initiatives supported by the Louis Dreyfus Foundation in Mali and South Sudan are part of the WFP's program Purchase for Progress (P4P).

P4P connects smallholder farmers to markets by leveraging WFP's procurement demand in developing countries. At the same time P4P invests in capacity building at a country level – in areas such as post-harvest handling or storage – to yield sustainable results to boost national food security over the long term.



#### KEY FIGURES

*30 self-employed VBAs*

*15 000 farmers targeted*

*90 000 potential beneficiaries*

*95 453 small seed packs distributed  
to 6 000 farmers for experimentation*

*85 401 chickens vaccinated  
owned by 3 338 farmers*

*32 multiplication sites  
of root/tuber crops*



*I am not only selling the maize but also teaching farmers how to manage soil and water, how to plant the crop and space the seeds and how to apply fertilizer. They trust me because of the extra information I give. With this activity, I am saving for my children's future.*

Jane, Village-based Advisor  
in Nyeri County

*In partnership with:*



Based in Nairobi, Kenya, non-profit company FIPS-Africa has developed and implements an innovative methodology to help smallholder farmers improve their food security through access to appropriate farm inputs and information on their best management.

[www.fipsafrica.org](http://www.fipsafrica.org)

## *How we do it*

# ACCESS TO BEST PRACTICE AND EDUCATION

## KENYA: DISSEMINATING INPUTS AND TRAINING TO SMALLHOLDER COFFEE FARMERS

### OBJECTIVE

In the coffee areas of Mount Kenya, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation supports a program that ensures smallholder farmers gain access to appropriate farm inputs and good management practices. Beneficiaries rely on one farmer trained in their community – called the Village-based Advisor (VBA) – who distributes small packs of seeds. This enables beneficiaries to experiment with improved varieties of food crops in a low risk way. VBAs also play a role in disseminating knowledge on how to improve the coffee yields, and they provide additional services, such as poultry vaccination, macro propagation of bananas, multiplication of root/tuber crops and tree and/or vegetable nurseries.



### IMPACT

Having succeeded with the small packs, farmers save seeds from their harvest and multiply them by planting over larger areas. They can also ask their VBAs to sell varieties to them in larger packs. By creating local asset bases for farmers in two counties in this rural region – and by creating job opportunities, particularly for women – this program really encourages the diversification of farming activities with the ultimate goal of food self-sufficiency for 90 000 potential beneficiaries.





## CAMEROON: RUNNING A MOBILE TRAINING UNIT FOR WOMEN FARMERS

### OBJECTIVE

Started in 2013, this program aims to improve agricultural education for women farmers in rural areas of the western part of Cameroon. Here the women mostly work on market gardening and subsistence crops. As a result, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation set up a travelling training scheme that stops in villages to deliver training on farming best practice. To action their training, women are encouraged to create ‘demonstration’ plots of land to test and share their new skills. Additionally, they receive technical support in their fields.



### IMPACT

To help beneficiaries improve their production, illustrated and targeted training modules – including nursery management, use of sprayers, commodities storage, and pest and disease control – were delivered during 88 sessions. Thanks to the transfer of knowledge from the trained women, the Foundation expects an improved use of farming inputs to benefit both the environment and people. So far, the program has reached more beneficiaries than expected due to a strong participation in the training sessions.

### KEY FIGURES

*3 rural areas*

*15 demonstration plots established*

*88 training sessions delivered*

*Around 300 beneficiaries*

*50% less seeds used for sowing after training*

*4 500 to 10 000 Francs CFA saved for spray repairing after training*



*We used to work a lot in disorder because we did not know how to do otherwise. Training is very good; it improves the work because it allows us to understand, to have an outside opinion. We understood the needs of each plant in the farming cycles, especially thanks to drawings.*

Marie-Thérèse, farmer beneficiary from Mougouri



#### KEY FIGURES

*2 150 beneficiaries*

*146 systems installed so far*

*7 institutions equipped*

*1 ton of firewood saved each year per person*



*We are using the bio slurry from Flexi Biogas to grow kales, cabbages, onions and egg plants on our home farm. We also use some of the bio slurry in our compost mix. With all these forms of fertilizer at our disposal, we are working towards reducing our budget for food because we will be growing a lot more in our small space.*

Sister in charge of Our Lady of Grace Children's Home in Meru, Kenya

In partnership with:



Located in Nairobi, Biogas International provides the Flexi Biogas system for a clean, renewable energy obtained from biodegradable organic material such as kitchen, animal and human waste.

[www.biogas.co.ke](http://www.biogas.co.ke)

## *How we do it*

# INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES FOR BETTER PRODUCTION

## KENYA AND RWANDA: IMPROVING SELF-SUFFICIENCY THROUGH ENERGY OUTPUTS

### OBJECTIVE

Flexi Biogas is a natural anaerobic digestive system that replicates stomach activity, producing methane gas from animal dung or human waste. After a successful initial phase, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation is deploying new installations to improve the quality of farmers' lives through self-sufficient energy sources. The program also benefits the environment and health –by helping to end deforestation in Kenya, and by using the systems as a sanitation solution in Rwanda.



### IMPACT

Within a few days of installation, Flexi Biogas delivers a constant and reliable source of energy for household cooking – which means that instead of collecting firewood, farmers now have more time to devote to other agricultural activities. In addition, the digestion process produces a high-quality organic fertilizer to boost crop yields. Due to the positive impact Flexi Biogas has on livelihoods and farming recorded after more than 150 installations, the system could become standard equipment for initiatives supported by the Foundation in other African countries.

## MONGOLIA: PROMOTING EQUIPMENT TO DEVELOP SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

### OBJECTIVE

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation helps to disseminate passive solar greenhouses and complementary tools to improve living conditions – and to develop the vegetable sector – in the Arkhangai province. The greenhouse technology is based on the direct capture of energy – without solar panels – and the night-time release of solar heat captured during the day. The program also creates cellars to store vegetables; provides technical training to raise incomes; and organizes cooking classes to increase nutritional awareness.



Camille NEGRE/ GERES

### IMPACT

Providing equipment and education to grow and store food effectively doubles the farming season from less than 4 months to 9/10 months in an extremely cold climate. These actions also improve the availability of tons of fresh vegetables throughout the year and foster better nutrition in the region's rural areas. The program encourages job diversification for sedentary rural inhabitants by setting-up groups for vegetable production. Participants benefit from close follow-ups that rapidly increase their agricultural knowledge and ensure their work is sustainable.



### KEY FIGURES

*1 085 beneficiaries*

*3 passive solar greenhouses financed by the Foundation*

*16 groups of farmers equipped with complementary tools*

*Around 1 ton of vegetables produced by each group*

*72% of the production sold on the local markets*

*120 people involved in cooking classes, over 900 children gain nutritional awareness*



*Before the project I had no other income than my pension, the situation was difficult. Since I got involved in the group we produce lot of vegetables and now I can feed my grandson with very tasty vegetables. And when I have to buy something at the market, I just have to sell a few tomatoes and I can pay for it. Life is much easier.*

Lhamsuren, vegetable producer  
beneficiary from Erdenemandal

*In partnership with:*



GERES is a French non-profit association that aims to preserve the environment, limit climate change and its consequences, reduce energy poverty and improve living conditions.

[www.geres.eu](http://www.geres.eu)





#### KEY FIGURES

*763 farmers involved*

*Around 3 000 beneficiaries*

*90 000 trees planted in Thailand and Sumatra*

*27 000 under plantation in Ethiopia*

*+ 40% income expected due to timber selling within 10 years*



*The coffee harvest time has changed and coffee yields decrease year after year. We believe that this is caused by the effect of climate change and global warming. By planting trees in our coffee fields, we are trying to preserve our coffee yields from this phenomenon and diversify our revenues.*

Beneficiaries from Pantan Kemuning, Sumatra

## How we do it

# ENCOURAGING AGRO-ECOLOGICAL PRACTICES

## THAILAND, SUMATRA AND ETHIOPIA: PRESERVING FARMING ECOSYSTEMS WITH AGROFORESTRY

### OBJECTIVE

A technique that benefits both humans and the environment, agroforestry allows farmers to switch to low-impact micro-farming models that mitigate climate change, regenerate local ecosystems and produce high yields. The Foundation continues to implement the agroforestry model – a combination of crops and native tree species – in heavily deforested regions in Thailand, Sumatra and Ethiopia.



### IMPACT

By preserving soil, water and biodiversity, the trees – of which 90 000 planted by the Foundation so far – contribute to the ecosystems favorable to growing coffee and rice and thus improve local farming production capabilities. Most farming cooperatives involved in agroforestry set up nurseries to produce their own trees. They also receive training on agricultural best practice. Farmers can secure a future income with timber and increase their resilience and food sovereignty by planting other food-generating species, such as fruit.



## THAILAND: EXPERIMENTING WITH ALTERNATIVE TECHNIQUES FOR RICE PRODUCTION AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY MODELS

### OBJECTIVE

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation is building on the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) production, and a self-sufficiency program that mixes small cattle and farming, launched in 2013 with small scale organic producers in Thailand. A new technique – rice ducking – has also been added to trials. Among several benefits, ducklings released into irrigated rice paddies oxygenate the water, nourish the soil and eat the snails and weeds – which means higher yield and less labor for farmers.



### IMPACT

Sustainable solutions for cultivation have a positive impact on the environment and facilitate local empowerment – poor farming families increase their rice yield and income without relying on purchased inputs. SRI enables good seeds management by providing high quality rice with 60 to 90% less seed use, while rice ducking and self-sufficiency favor food diversification. The program aims to roll out this same model to improve farming production in other regions and countries.

### KEY FIGURES

*37 farmers involved in rice production*

*Around 5 000 kg of rice produced through SRI*

*1 000 ducklings purchased*

*20 to 30% additional net revenue for participants in the self-sufficiency program*



*I had a lot of debt in the past, so I was looking for a way to do farming differently. For SRI, I wanted to be trained more with experienced SRI farmers, so I could do better in the future. I want to have my land that is 100% organic and self-sufficient.*

Anan, farmer beneficiary from Donjiang

In partnership with:



Pur Projet develops innovative agro-ecological crops projects with agroforestry, targeting small-scale farmers around the world, most of them members of Fair Trade & Organic organizations.

[www.purprojet.com](http://www.purprojet.com)



## *Our plans* PERSPECTIVES

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### DELIVERING A STRONG AND MEASURABLE IMPACT

By 2030, food demand is predicted to increase by 50% – and 70% by 2050. Yet the main challenge facing the agricultural sector is not so much growing more food but making 70% more food available on the plate.\*

By promoting local food production, access and availability to food is dramatically improved. In order to play a growing role in food security on a local scale, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation wishes to expand its programs, progressively increasing the volume of smallholder farmers supported in needy areas.

In parallel, the Foundation will continue to experiment with workable techniques that can meet the diverse expectations of the beneficiaries. After thorough evaluation, best practice will be duplicated in other programs to ensure knowledge is capitalized.

New initiatives and partnerships starting soon in Sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia will strengthen the field of intervention for the Louis Dreyfus Foundation. Some will test innovative farming solutions, thereby reinforcing the Foundation's expertise in several points along the agricultural value chain.

A clear priority for the Louis Dreyfus Foundation is to deliver a strong and measurable impact on all programs and projects.

With an eye on maximum efficiency – both at operational and financial levels – the Foundation wants to accurately and pragmatically evaluate its performance on the ground, with the continued ambition to improve the livelihoods of disadvantaged farmers.

*\* Source: United Nations, Statistics compiled for the International Water for Life Decade 2005-2015*

*Photo of Louis Dreyfus Foundation program in Thailand*







# Louis Dreyfus

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*Front cover: Photo of Louis Dreyfus Foundation program in Ghana*