

A woman with dark hair, wearing a blue shawl over a black top with a white patterned collar and a yellow patterned skirt, stands in a lush green field. She is holding a bundle of yellow roots or tubers. The background is filled with various green plants, including large-leafed plants and tall, thin stalks. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

Louis Dreyfus

Fondation d'entreprise

Activity Report 2017

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For more information please visit:
www.louisdreyfusfoundation.org



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FOUNDATION SCOPE





Vision

To help alleviate hunger and poverty by bringing sustainable solutions to small farmers



This vision led to the creation of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation in 2013, and has driven its actions ever since. We have supported micro-farming and education initiatives through our programs, with a particular focus on projects that make a real difference to communities and the environment – two vital elements for sustainable development.



Mission

Improving food security through sustainable micro-farming and education

About the Foundation



PUR PROJET PROGRAM, INDONESIA, 2017

Governance

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

The Board takes all decisions in the interest of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation. The Board members approve the endowment budget, assess programs and projects, validate the Foundation's strategy and oversee all of its efforts and activities.

BOARD MEMBERS

Mrs. Margarita Louis-Dreyfus

- President, Louis Dreyfus Foundation
- Chairperson of the Supervisory Board, Louis Dreyfus Holding B.V.
- Non-Executive Chairperson of the Supervisory Board, Louis Dreyfus Company Holdings B.V.

Mr. Jean-Pierre Bechter

- Supervisory Board member, Dassault Group
- Board member, Le Figaro

Mr. Mehdi El Glaoui

- Supervisory Board member, Louis Dreyfus Holding B.V. and Louis Dreyfus Company Holdings B.V.

Mrs. Franziska Hildebrand Alberti

- Partner, P&O Personnel and Organisational Development
- Board member, Fundación Cristo Vive Switzerland

Mrs. Yulia Levin

- Supervisory Board member, Louis Dreyfus Holding B.V.
- Board member, European Forest Resources Group (EFRG)

Mr. Andrea Maserati

- Chief Operating Officer, Louis Dreyfus Company

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.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Alok Adholeya

- Senior Director, Sustainable Agriculture Division, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

Mr. Erik Anderson

- Former CEO North America and former Senior Platform Head Grains & Macro, Louis Dreyfus Company

Dr. Peter Hazell

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

Mrs. Sarah Hobson

- Acting Head of Strategic Grantmaking and Movement Building, Global Fund for Women
- Senior Fellow, Oakland Institute
- Former Executive Director, New Field Foundation and co-Chair, Africa Grantmakers' Affinity Group

Pr. Gilles Trystram

- Director General, AgroParisTech

Mr. Robin Woodhead

- Chairman, Sotheby's International

Mr Robert Serpollet

- General Manager, Louis Dreyfus Foundation

Our Programs

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation is active around the world with ambitious micro-farming and education projects.

-  Micro-farming programs
-  Micro-farming programs newly launched in 2017
-  Education programs
-  Dedicated funds

2017 BRAZIL
Support vulnerable families in developing Açai chain
20 FAMILIES TARGETED

MALI
Support female smallholder farmers in their daily activities by providing training and equipment
1,057 FARMERS INVOLVED
23,083 BENEFICIARIES

SENEGAL
Training sessions to educate local farmers in rural areas on the proper use of pesticides
1,900 BENEFICIARIES

SENEGAL
Program to support a women's cooperative and improve the value chain of fonio (Fund for Young Entrepreneurs)
15 FARMERS INVOLVED
90 BENEFICIARIES

GHANA
Fight poverty by empowering vulnerable farmers through aid and education
757 FARMERS INVOLVED
2,800 BENEFICIARIES

NIGERIA
Program to develop Village Enterprises and Organic Farm Training (Fund for Young Entrepreneurs)
300 BENEFICIARIES (OF WHICH 216 WOMEN)

CAMEROON
Provide a mobile training unit and technical support for female farmers
300 FEMALE FARMERS INVOLVED
1,500 BENEFICIARIES

2017 SOUTH AFRICA
Program to train female subsistence maize farmers in the poorest state of South Africa (Limpopo state)
120 FARMERS INVOLVED
720 BENEFICIARIES

SOUTH AFRICA
Supporting students from disadvantaged communities and innovative agricultural projects at the African Leadership Academy
1 SCHOLAR
3 ENTREPRENEURS AWARDED

BOLIVIA
Vocational education program in agricultural school to develop professional and social skills
99 STUDENTS IN 2015-2017

2017 ARGENTINA
Program to improve sustainability farming and livestock in Northern Argentina
690 FARMERS INVOLVED
2,274 BENEFICIARIES

UK
Train future leaders of developing countries at Oxford University
75 STUDENTS

MALI
Promote agroecological practices adapted to the sub-Saharan environment
5,672 FARMERS INVOLVED
10,004 BENEFICIARIES

MALI & UGANDA
Pilot post-harvest loss reduction at household-level
1,000 FARMERS INVOLVED AND 6,000 BENEFICIARIES IN MALI
9,400 FARMERS INVOLVED AND 65,800 BENEFICIARIES IN UGANDA

INDIA
Preserve the local environment and ensure food security by revitalizing traditional farming techniques and protecting biodiversity
2,500 FARMERS INVOLVED
11,000 BENEFICIARIES

SOUTH SUDAN
Improve capacity for smallholder farmers in post-harvest management
3,250 FARMERS INVOLVED
22,400 BENEFICIARIES

SOUTH SUDAN
Donation to the World Food Programme (Emergency Fund for Food Aid)
64,666 BENEFICIARIES

ETHIOPIA
Develop agroforestry, coffee rejuvenation and self-sufficiency for disadvantaged coffee farmers
946 FARMERS INVOLVED
4,730 BENEFICIARIES

ETHIOPIA
Sustainably improve the resilience of farming families in Southern Ethiopia
3,074 FARMERS INVOLVED
17,800 BENEFICIARIES

KENYA
Enhance food security and improve livelihoods of coffee farmers by disseminating inputs and training
42,703 FARMERS INVOLVED
256,218 BENEFICIARIES

KENYA
Develop agro-biodiversity in farming
50 FARMERS INVOLVED
260 BENEFICIARIES

KENYA & RWANDA
Improve self-sufficiency through sustainable energy, using Flexi Biogas equipment
212 SYSTEMS INSTALLED
1,512 BENEFICIARIES

INDIA
Promote sustainable livelihoods for smallholder farmers
3,400 FARMERS INVOLVED
11,900 BENEFICIARIES

INDIA
Soapnut Production in India (Fund for Young Entrepreneurs)
241 FARMERS INVOLVED

MONGOLIA
Promote the use of equipment that leads to more sustainable practices in agriculture (solar passive greenhouses)
700 FARMERS INVOLVED
6,500 BENEFICIARIES

THAILAND
Develop alternative techniques for rice production, such as agroforestry practices and self-sufficiency models
1,130 FARMERS INVOLVED
4,500 BENEFICIARIES

MYANMAR AND CAMBODIA
Encourage local farmers to move towards innovative agroecology practices
1,700 FARMERS INVOLVED
8,500 BENEFICIARIES

SUMATRA
Preserve coffee farming ecosystems through agroforestry and training on best production practices
7,635 FARMERS INVOLVED
30,675 BENEFICIARIES



Interview with Margarita Louis-Dreyfus

“Our work focuses on the most vulnerable populations in rural areas: family farms and smallholders, and of course on women, who have a key role to play in supporting and advancing these societies, and can have a big impact given access to financing and skill alongside men.”

It's been quite a journey since the Foundation was launched five years ago – can you tell us what drove you to create it?

Seen through the lens of Louis Dreyfus Company's activities, the challenge to feed a growing global population is extremely clear. And with a population set to reach almost 10 billion by 2050, the challenge to do so sustainably is increasingly relevant. The FAO suggested in 2017, for example, that agriculture in 2050 would need to produce almost 50% more food, feed and biofuel than it did in 2012 to support the global population.

So supporting those who produce the majority of the food consumed in developed countries, and yet are chronically undernourished and lack access to financing and training, seems to me a top priority. That's why I created the Louis Dreyfus Foundation in 2013 to support farmers in developing countries achieve self-sufficiency and more sustainable methods of agriculture.

I was also keen to contribute to the UN Millennium Development Goals – especially the goal to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. Reports that the target to halve extreme poverty rates by 2015 was achieved five years ahead of time give me great hope; hope that we are moving in the right direction, and hope that the UN's new Sustainable Development Goals set in 2015 are achievable if we work in the spirit of collaboration that they advocate – a spirit shared by the Foundation.

Can you share insight into the stated aim of the Foundation to help improve global food security?

As I mentioned, one of the biggest challenges facing the world is how to feed a growing population sustainably – and this in a context of important geopolitical changes and large-scale demographic shifts. For example, the UN predicts that two out of three people will be living in cities by 2050, adding 2.5 billion to today's urban population.

And despite progress to address extreme poverty, hunger is on the rise – most notably in situations of conflict, exacerbated by climate-related phenomena which hit rural communities the hardest. The world's poorest individuals live in rural areas, many of them smallholders and family farmers facing issues related to climate change, soil erosion, water scarcity, poor or scant agricultural inputs and limited access to mechanization, infrastructure, etc.

So investing in agricultural communities is key to eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, and improving food security globally.

Where does the Foundation come in? How are you tackling these issues, and where can you hope to have the most impact?

Our work focuses on the most vulnerable populations in rural areas: family farms and smallholders, and of course on women, who have a key role to play in supporting and advancing these societies, and can have a big impact given access to financing and skill alongside men.

Subsistence agriculture is a priority, as the first step is to ensure food security in these communities, before they can look beyond their own borders. So we support projects that go toward self-sufficiency. We also work

to empower smallholders, especially through educational projects that bring best practice and new skills to farming communities, but also access to equipment, inputs and financing. The objective is to boost their resilience and give them a sense of ownership of the land – and therefore an incentive to invest in it for the future.

In this effort especially, we focus on areas where Louis Dreyfus Company is present, leveraging existing knowledge, networks and resources to maximize the impact of our projects.

What are some of the key highlights and achievements in the Foundation's work over the past five years?

Looking back on our first five-year cycle of activities, I'm proud to remark how far we've come. We've worked hard to empower thousands of smallholders and women in farming communities and improve their livelihoods; we've put great effort into working alongside these same smallholders and family farms to improve yields through best practice and innovation, especially where production was below subsistence level; and we've invested in training and education – for farmers but also for young entrepreneurs with the potential to influence change in their native countries.

In 2013, 123,000 people benefited directly or indirectly from the Foundation's programs and projects – today, five years later, that number has grown almost four-fold to 440,800 beneficiaries across Asia, Africa and South America. Imagine where we could be in another five years!



Is there something that stands out for you, or that you are especially proud of, as the Foundation celebrates its first five years?

In our first year we worked hard to structure the emerging activities of the Foundation, putting in place the framework that has enabled the selection, implementation and completion of our projects, while meeting our administrative obligations. This has been essential to our success to date, and it's important to me to mention the professionalism of all those who contributed to this initial effort, allowing the Foundation to pursue its work and ambitions.

Similarly, I would call out the incredible support we have received from our various project and program partners, and of course the dedication and humility of the many people within Louis Dreyfus Company who have so far contributed their ideas, expertise and time for the benefit of others – I hope they will continue to do so as we move forward with our important work!

On a personal note, I have been extremely pleased to visit some of our projects in the field. In March last year, for example, I saw first-hand our work in the Uttarakhand region of Northern India, supporting over 20 villages and 600 families with more sustainable techniques for cultivation, soil and water management. The visit was extremely enriching to my own understanding of the challenges and issues faced by farmers, and I also had the privilege to meet some of the admirable people who work day in, day out to support these local communities.

I was also delighted to visit two of our projects in Latin America in October 2017, the first facilitating vocational training for young adults from Bolivia's rural areas at a local agricultural college in Cochabamba, and the second to offer microcredits, and distribute irrigation

and water treatment systems, for farmers in Argentina's province of Jujuy. Both projects showed great promise for improving quality of life for the beneficiaries and their families and community, and for this I am extremely thankful to all those who are making this possible through their hard work.

What does the future hold for the Foundation in the next few years?

As the Foundation turns to a new cycle in its journey and work, the time is right to refocus our efforts, drawing on the valuable lessons we have learned so far to reinforce the potential impact of our work.

Moving forward, we want to focus on fewer geographies where we feel we can have the biggest and most far-reaching impact, involving local resources and 'agents' from within Louis Dreyfus Company to support project implementation thanks to their network and expertise.

Improving food security for smallholder farmers by supporting them in becoming self-sufficient remains the Foundation's clear ambition, and we will continue to invest in projects relating to micro-farming and education, and work with partner organizations, to achieve our aims. But we will also enlarge the scope of our projects to include support for the welfare of local communities and efforts to protect the environment – both of which are essential to a more sustainable future, locally and globally.

For example, the Foundation and Louis Dreyfus Company are currently working jointly on plans to launch the first "LDC Agri-school" in Africa, to support the modernization and professionalization of agricultural practices through education and occupational integration for young adults, equipping them with the skills and techniques to build greater self-sufficiency and a more promising future for themselves and their community.

You mentioned the importance of empowering women for more sustainable agriculture. How does investing in women help tackle food insecurity and extreme poverty?

Women are the backbone of rural economies around the world, especially as men move to urban areas in search of work. Their involvement in agriculture has increased steadily, and as primary caregivers to families and communities, they invest in their communities and contribute to more resilient societies.

Healthier women, with the economic means to be decision-makers, therefore have huge potential to be key change agents for more sustainable agriculture, and reduce hunger and malnutrition in developing countries.

That's why investing in and educating women to be economic drivers in communities around the world is an essential part of our work towards improving food security and reducing poverty.

You also highlighted the importance of leveraging existing skills – what advice would you give to the talented people out there, to help them make a difference?

Change has to start somewhere – however small and limited the impact may seem at first. But just as farmers plant a single seed in the hope that it will grow into a larger plant and source of food for many, efforts to change the reality of a single community have the potential to branch out and change many lives for the better in the future.

Going back to my initial comment, I look through the lens of Louis Dreyfus Company's activities each day, and see so much potential among our talented people around the world.

So I would call on our people everywhere to put their knowledge and creativity to use for the benefit of less fortunate people, by contributing to existing projects or proposing new initiatives.

Their skills, networks and most of all determination are the best tools there could possibly be to effect change, make a real difference to communities around the world, and build a better future.



2013-2017: An Overview

Discover what the Louis Dreyfus Foundation has accomplished over the last five years, at a glance.



28
INITIATIVES



21
MICRO-FARMING PROGRAMS

88,000+
FARMERS INVOLVED

400,000
PEOPLE BENEFITED

17
INITIATIVES IN AFRICA

6
INITIATIVES IN ASIA

250,000
TREES PLANTED

3
EDUCATION PROGRAMS

200
STUDENTS

Spotlight on our dedicated funds

2
DEDICATED FUNDS

THE EMERGENCY FUND FOR FOOD AID

This fund was created in 2014 for emergency assistance to populations in vulnerable regions where the Foundation supports projects, in case of natural disasters or humanitarian crises.

Over the last three years, the fund was used in response to issues related to the Ebola virus outbreak in 2014, the famine caused by severe drought in Ethiopia in 2016 and the threat of famine in South Sudan in 2017.

In South Sudan, the Foundation made a donation to the World Food Programme (WFP) that helped provide 97.8 metric tons of pulses. Pulses are edible legume seeds used to provide sustenance to vulnerable households whose agricultural production has been disrupted by conflict. The Foundation's grant contributed to providing life-saving food to 64,666 people for one month.

Louis Dreyfus Company donated an additional US\$125,000 for South Sudan, with which the World Food Programme procured 26.8 metric tons of plumpy'sup, a highly nutritive product used to rehabilitate children suffering from moderate acute malnutrition. Allocated to the same region of Sudan (Eastern Equatoria), the additional grant contributed to feeding 8,933 children under five years old, also for one month.

THE FUND FOR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS IN AGRICULTURE

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation created a dedicated fund to support emerging initiatives that support smallholder farmers in 2015. Aligned with the Foundation's focus on micro-farming initiatives, the fund supports the exploration of new opportunities and innovative projects related to self-sufficiency through sustainable agriculture.

The first three pilot initiatives supported by this fund were launched in 2016 in Nigeria, India and Senegal.

2018-2023: A New Chapter

Improving food security through sustainable micro-farming and education: the Foundation's 2017 strategic review was an opportunity to reaffirm our mission, as well as key areas for action. Looking to the next five years, our strategic plan sees the scope of this mission enlarged.

A broader mission for a greater impact

Recent years have highlighted a need to support projects which, although not strictly within the Foundation's historical scope, could be instrumental in the fight against food insecurity and poverty, and would benefit local communities and the environment.

From 2018, the Foundation will therefore also consider projects that address a wider audience in accordance with these criteria, thus broadening the scope of its activities.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LOUIS DREYFUS COMPANY

From its inception, the involvement of Louis Dreyfus Company (LDC) in some of the Foundation's projects has been instrumental to their success, providing both resources and valuable expertise. As part of the 2018-2023 strategic plan, we will work to create the best conditions for a greater involvement of LDC in our activities, aiming to maximize positive outcomes.

A network of LDC employees who are keen to get involved in the Foundation's projects is already in place, and will be strengthened over the coming years. Under the supervision of appointed regional LDC agents, this network will facilitate employee involvement in the Foundation's programs and ensure a broad set of competencies and expertise supports our projects.

CAREFUL SELECTION OF LOCATIONS AND PARTNERS

We have always believed that careful selection of our program locations and partners is crucial to ensuring we deliver the best possible results. We will continue to support projects in rural areas that are vulnerable to food insecurity and climate change, and with significant potential to develop small-scale agricultural projects, for example by improving the quality of soil or access to water. As part of our new strategic plan, we aim to leverage LDC resources and expertise, facilitate employee involvement on a long-term basis, and therefore prioritize projects located in areas where LDC has an established presence, though always within the Foundation's enlarged scope of activity.

In selecting partners, the Foundation will continue to work alongside those demonstrating expertise, reliability, local presence and the ability to utilize local resources, a proven track-record in managing projects related to food security, as well as strong ethics and values aligned with those of both LDC and the Foundation.



INTER AIDE PROGRAM, ETHIOPIA, 2017

EMPLOYEE TESTIMONIAL



GANGADHARA SRIRAMAPPA
Senior Manager – Research, LDC India

“I am part of LDC India's research team, and got involved in the "Promotion of Sustainable Livelihoods for Smallholding Farmers" project. I initially volunteered primarily for personal reasons, because I come from a farm. My background has helped me in understanding farmers' problems, and thanks to my expertise in research, I was happy to give back to my community and bring my own contribution, however little, to creating the conditions for better livelihoods.”

EMPLOYEE TESTIMONIAL



THOMAS COUTEAUDIER
Head of the South & Southeast Asia Region at LDC (previously South Africa CEO and Head of East, West & Southern Africa) and Louis Dreyfus Foundation Agent

“In my previous role coordinating LDC's activities in East, West and Southern Africa, I welcomed the opportunity to actively supervise the involvement of regional LDC employees in the Foundation's projects throughout Africa. In my view, a key benefit for the Foundation of having LDC employees engaged in some initiatives is the opportunity to leverage their experience to maximize project impacts. From LDC's standpoint, being involved in Foundation projects allows us to gain a better knowledge of local markets and challenges, and forge deeper relationships with local partners and governments. A number of employees have already been involved in the selection and definition of projects – more specifically in Ivory Coast, Uganda and South Africa – and as additional projects are implemented, more will become active, providing technical expertise and training.”

2

OUR PROJECTS



OUR PROJECTS

Micro-farming



An agricultural system for small-scale, local farming, with a positive impact on both farmers and the community as a whole, micro-farming has been identified as a strategic pillar of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation's fight against food insecurity and poverty.

With programs in vulnerable regions most affected by climate change, the Foundation seeks to bring about social, environmental and economic benefits.



400,000
PEOPLE BENEFITED



88,000+
FARMERS INVOLVED

Increasing household incomes

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation's programs are mostly located in areas characterized by subsistence agriculture that is heavily dependent on rainfall, and therefore dealing with climate change consequences such as drought, which hinders soil fertility, crop productivity and derived revenues. In this context, the creation of new sources of income is a way for local households to both mitigate their reliance on a single source of proceeds and create incremental wealth.

HOW DO WE ACHIEVE THIS?

In the Kembata and Hadiya regions of southern **ETHIOPIA**, where communities practice manual, rain-dependent agriculture on small family farms, the program run by the Foundation's partner Inter Aide focuses on diversifying production to improve resilience and food security. Fodder is planted on anti-erosive structures and unproductive areas of the farm. Both used by farmers and sold locally, the fodder provides families with a new source of revenue while addressing fodder scarcity, fighting soil erosion and improving soil productivity.

In the poor, hilly upland of Uttarakhand in **INDIA**, decreased soil productivity, low seed quality and adverse climate change impact farmers already facing the issue of failing crops. Simultaneously, their movement away from traditional, nutritious crops has adverse health consequences. Training provided by the Foundation with The Energy & Resources Institute (TERI), the use of higher quality seeds, and a better awareness of the benefits of conserving seeds for replanting, are contributing to harvests with higher nutritional value and better soil productivity. Meanwhile, the sale of a portion of the seeds at local markets creates the conditions for additional income generation.

WITH WHICH IMPACT?

In **ETHIOPIA**, the program has allowed 1,834 farmers to diversify their fodder resources thanks to the planting of perennial grass, legumes and trees. As a result, farmers' income has increased thanks to fodder collection and sale, while fodder availability has enhanced animal performance, which is also contributing to wealth creation. 383 farmers have tested the integration of green manure practices to improve soil fertility, leading to increased crop productivity and derived revenues.

In **INDIA**, training provided through the Foundation / TERI program has encouraged farmers to increase the proportion of land dedicated to traditional crops such as millet, with areas dedicated to highly nutritious crops increasing by 30%. The program has also allowed for a more efficient use of seeds – for reseed, self-consumption and resale – generating additional income.



TERI PROGRAM, INDIA, 2017



TERI PROGRAM, INDIA, 2018

+30%
INCREASE
in land dedicated to highly nutritious crops through our program in India

TESTIMONIAL



1,834
FARMERS DIVERSIFIED
their fodder resources through planting of grasses, legumes and trees



ATO TESHAY
Doyo Gena, South Ethiopia

“My family's farm is located on a steep mountain slope. When I first got involved in the project, I decided to intercrop grass fodder with alfalfa. This allows me to protect my land from erosion and produce animal feed. I was able to buy oxen for fattening, that I later sold at a profit, and my wife now produces dairy products which she sells three times a week at the market, generating more money for our family.”

OUR PROJECTS

Micro-farming

continued

TESTIMONIAL



DILLEPPA LAMANI
Venkatapur Tanda village, India

“Through book-keeping training, we now understand the importance of savings. The creation of the self-help group has helped us get loans from the bank, and we have been granted a revolving loan that we repay thanks to our savings. We are also getting training on crops and livestock, and gaining access to technologies. Some families in the village have already adopted technologies such as limewater feeding, which has increased milk yields and helped us improve our income and generate savings.”

Empowering communities & promoting gender equality

We believe that actively engaging with communities through training, social mobilization and financial inclusion is paramount to creating the conditions for sustainable development. Likewise, encouraging gender equality and empowering women through capacity building and training generates positive effects for the community as a whole.

HOW DO WE ACHIEVE THIS?

In the Haveri district of southern **INDIA** – a transitional agro-climatic zone with low rainfall – farmers from mostly under-privileged classes with low literacy levels have little or no access to irrigation, resources and technology, and subsist on a very limited income. Our program, run in partnership with Initiatives for Development Foundation (IDF), aims to promote sustainable livelihoods for smallholder farmers through knowledge sharing, community



IDF PROGRAM, INDIA, 2017

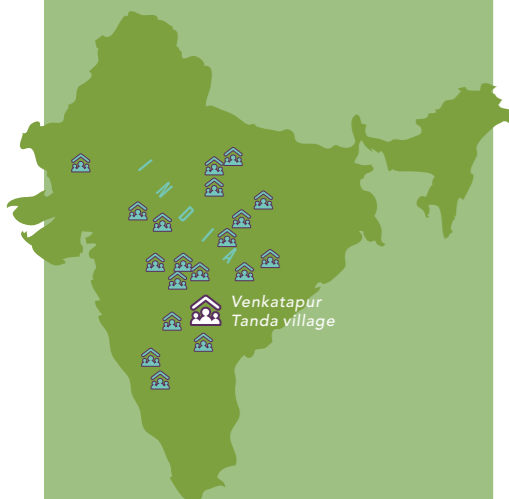
empowerment and financial inclusion. Self-help groups of men and women farmers are organized to promote social mobilization and agri-training in sustainable farming practices, livestock management and climate risk mitigation. Likewise, we work to help farmers build a financial track record that will facilitate access to institutional finance through financial literacy training, the creation of a farmers-producers company and access to micro-credit. By doing so, we aim to create conditions for autonomy, wealth creation and ultimately food security.

The Jujuy province of north-west **ARGENTINA** is characterized by a pastoral economy dedicated to livestock, in the context of adverse climatic conditions and frequent drought. It is one of the poorest regions in the country, with a monthly average income per capita of EUR158 and aboriginal communities forced into emigration due to extreme poverty. The Foundation's program is conducted in partnership with several Argentinian government agencies and local cooperatives, aiming to facilitate access to water, create community warehouses, finance agriculture and livestock, and diversify business ventures through access to micro-credit. A greater participation of women in the local economy is also encouraged, in the context of men's migration to urban areas. Training has been identified as a key area for action, focusing on best agriculture and livestock practices, as well as the development of business and marketing skills, to create the conditions for sustainable agriculture and wealth creation.

WITH WHICH IMPACT?

In **INDIA**, 45 villages – representing a total of 3,584 families directly engaged, with 13,554 beneficiaries – are involved in the Foundation / IDF program. Two self-help groups have been set up, while the Dharithri Farmer Producers Company Ltd. has been incorporated with 822 farmer-shareholders. Promotion of gender equality and female empowerment – with women actively involved in self-help groups and farmers-producers companies and taking part in the decision making process – also play an important role in change management.

In **ARGENTINA**, 2,280 people are directly involved in the program supported by the Foundation, with over 14,000 others benefiting indirectly from it. 300 micro-credits have been granted to create opportunities for agro-ecological, craftsmanship and tourism developments. Through training and access to micro-finance, women in particular are able to create new businesses in the areas of agro-tourism and handicrafts.



13,554
BENEFICIARIES INVOLVED
In India, 45 villages, representing 3,584 families directly engaged

TESTIMONIAL



188,000

TREES PLANTED
in North Sumatra, Indonesia



MR AMERUDIN
Village of Waysalang, Lampung, Indonesia

“I have 4 hectares of land, on which I grow coffee. I am aware that, as a coffee farmer, I have an impact on water resources, as coffee uses a lot of water to grow, and on deforestation, as the forest was cleared to create parcels to grow coffee. Over recent years, I have also noticed how the growing of coffee is impacted by climate change, with drought, an increase in average temperatures and weather unpredictability having a detrimental effect on production. As part of the project, I started planting trees on my land. Trees are good for soil preservation, especially on steep terrain such as here, for the organic matter they produce which fertilizes our soil, and for the shade they provide which creates better conditions for coffee to grow. By planting trees, I also plan a better future for my children, as the timber will have high value.”

Working toward environmental sustainability

In regions facing the dire consequences of climate change, with drought and erratic rainfall hitting rain-dependent subsistence agriculture, environmental sustainability is essential to long-term food security.

HOW DO WE ACHIEVE THIS?

In the Uttarakhand region of northern **INDIA**, farmers are faced with failing crops, the disappearance of traditional nutritious crops and increasingly unpredictable rainfall patterns due to climate change, leading to poverty and poor health among the local population. The Energy and Resources Institute's (TERI) program with the Foundation, as previously mentioned, also focuses on providing sustainable environmental solutions. By working to maintain the indigenous seeds' gene pool, it creates the conditions for autonomous agriculture while ensuring nutritious crops are more widely cultivated. Improved access to water is another key area of focus, through the identification and construction of innovative, low-cost water-sourcing and storage solutions.



PUR PROJÉT PROGRAM, INDONESIA, 2017

On **INDONESIA**'s island of Sumatra, farmers grow high-quality Arabica coffee at high altitudes. As forest cover diminishes with deforestation, the once rich biodiversity of the region is disappearing and soil erosion is increasing. Coffee harvest yields are also negatively impacted by a lack of shade and greater weather instability linked to climate change. The program run by PUR Projet and supported by the Foundation aims to preserve the region's natural capital and regenerate the coffee ecosystem, to ensure sustainable coffee production through agro-forestry solutions.

WITH WHICH IMPACT?

In **INDIA**, the program has allowed improved access to water for 100 farmers, who are supplied with roof-top rainwater harvesting kits and tanks, each with a storage capacity of more than 12,500 litres. This has also contributed to a reduction in the surface flow of water, which has adverse effects on soil fertility; for example, soil phosphorus and potassium levels have increased by 20% and 15% respectively. With diet regimen now including more traditional grains and green vegetables, monitoring also showed that malnutrition and under-nutrition among vulnerable groups – senior and lactating women, as well as infants and young children – have decreased significantly.

188,000 trees have been planted in the context of the program in **INDONESIA**, with 461 farmers involved in agro-forestry and 1,850 villagers benefiting indirectly from the project. Agro-forestry has allowed improved control of soil erosion, with greater ground cover preventing surface soil from being washed away on sloped terrain, micro-climate regulation, higher humidity and protection from drought. An added benefit has been the increased pollination of coffee as a result of trees providing a habitat for beneficial wildlife such as bees.



100
FARMERS WITH IMPROVED ACCESS TO WATER
through supplied roof-top rainwater harvesting kits and tanks

OUR PROJECTS

Education and Empowerment

Through education, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation aims to create the conditions for self-reliance among farmers and train young talents with the potential to change the future for their countries.

TESTIMONIAL



SISTER KAROLINE MAYER HOFBECK

Founder of the Fundación Cristo Vive, Bolivia

“Fundación Cristo Vive has been working with the Bella Vista community for many years. We focus on food, education and medical assistance, but we also want to create the conditions for local population's personal development and self-responsibility. We think it is very important that the community is actively involved and we always stress that we work with local people rather than for local people. We also work closely with the local government. Our school provides technical training and delivers a certificate recognized by the government but perhaps even more importantly, our student residence offers young people from remote areas a unique opportunity to get access to training and become self-reliant. There are no other organizations doing a similar work in this area.”



Promoting technical education & entrepreneurship

The Foundation is mostly active in poor areas characterized by subsistence farming and a population with limited access to education. In this context, training has the potential to pave the way towards greater autonomy for rural communities, equipping them to adapt to changing economic and climatic conditions.

HOW DO WE ACHIEVE THIS?

In the community of Bella Vista, located on the hills of the Cochabamba valley in **BOLIVIA**, 95% of the population lives off subsistence farming. In spite of the government's efforts, poverty is still rampant and illiteracy an issue. With the help of Fundación Cristo Vive, which works for public welfare in Chile, Bolivia and Peru, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation supports the Cochabamba Agricultural School and student residence project. The school offers a three-year technical education program consisting of 3,600 hours of theoretical and practical training, and promotes entrepreneurship as a path to empowerment and financial autonomy. Priority is given to the most vulnerable students and special attention is paid to gender balance.

In late 2017, the second phase of the program was rolled out, with the opening of a new residence to allow students from the most remote areas of the country to attend courses, focusing on promoting personal development and self-responsibility through social and cultural interactions.

WITH WHICH IMPACT?

In 2017, the institution welcomed 70 students – half of them female – five of whom resided at the boarding school during its first year of operation. Today, the Cochabamba Agricultural School is recognized by **BOLIVIA**'s education authorities as delivering a certificate equivalent to an academic diploma. The wide curriculum focuses not only on traditional agriculture but also on breeding, on fruit and flower culture, and on soil and water management among other environmental topics. With this approach, students are trained to be less reliant on a single crop, apply sustainable agricultural practices and diversify their sources of income.

Local companies involved in the implementation of 480 hours of practical training also positively value the program, and have hired some of the students at the end of their three-year course. The focus on practical knowledge and skills has also helped to encourage entrepreneurship, which is increasingly important in the context of challenging economic conditions.



BOLIVIA, 2017

TESTIMONIAL



LUIS ARMANDO URAPUCA TAMACUINE
Asunción de Guarayos, Bolivia

“I really value the knowledge given by our teachers. To me, getting practical and theoretical training is really important. It's great to have so many topics covered: I have learnt a lot about botany and livestock, and I feel that I will be able to be self-reliant and run my farm more efficiently in the future. I also enjoy living in the residence: this gives me more time to study and exchange with other students, and without that my parents would not have been able to cover the cost of my education.”

TESTIMONIAL



SAMAFILAN AINAN
Oxford, MSc Global Health, Tanzania and Somalia

“The MSc in Global Health I pursued with the support of the Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarship & Leadership Program at Oxford University enabled me to gain first-hand knowledge of health issues globally and use the technical skills acquired in my daily work. The leadership program and outstanding scholarship team molded and encouraged us to take on leadership positions in our future careers and make an impact on society, ideals which I continue to uphold.”

Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarship & Leadership Program at Oxford University

In addition to supporting farmers on their way to self-sufficiency, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation aims to give students with the potential to become future leaders the opportunity to access the best education and pursue fully funded studies at Oxford University.

HOW DO WE ACHIEVE THIS?



OXFORD UNIVERSITY, UK

In 2012, the Louis Dreyfus Foundation began its partnership with the Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Trust to fund scholars in business, law, research, education, health and political studies. Coming from various backgrounds and countries across the developing world, these students graduate in fields often closely aligned with the activities of the Foundation, with the potential to drive sustainable development in their respective countries. Some of the areas are outlined below:

BUSINESS AND LAW – Developing competition law in India; ensuring access to finance in India's rural areas to fight poverty; creating a social start-up as a source of income for women in rural India, while preserving the environment, etc.

EDUCATION AND SOCIAL MATTERS – Founding a non-profit organization promoting diversity and religious tolerance in Indonesia; as a UNICEF policy officer, implementing policies to promote access to education for women and children in Nepal; encouraging rural youth enrolment in university education and female participation in civil services in Afghanistan, etc.

HEALTH – Creating India's first collaborative platform (now tried in 15 hospitals) to investigate issues affecting maternal health; rolling out a Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) HIV care program in South Africa; being on emergency rosters of MSF, UNICEF and the World Health Organization in Africa, etc.

ENVIRONMENT – Developing effective environmental policies in India; advising on the social and environmental impacts of hydroelectric power generation projects in Nepal; researching the impact of climate change on tropical plants in Latin America, etc.

WITH WHICH IMPACT?

In the six years during which the Louis Dreyfus Foundation has been involved in the program at **OXFORD UNIVERSITY**, 75 scholars from 35 countries have benefited from the Foundation's support. A third of these students come from Asia, the majority of them from India. The Middle East and Africa are also well represented, with students coming from 17 countries. Lastly, with Latin America becoming a growing area of focus for the program, ten scholars from the region have so far been involved.





What's Next?

Looking ahead to some of the Foundation's upcoming projects around the world, at a glance.

Training and empowering women to support maize farming in South Africa

LIMPOPO is one of the poorest states in South Africa, with rampant food insecurity and more than half of all households led by women. Water scarcity and the decreasing profitability of farming – including of maize, the country's staple food – have resulted in fewer farms over the last two decades, despite a growing population. Rare productivity increases have been achieved at the expense of the environment, and have not been available to smallholder farmers with limited access to financing and training.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

LDC is present in the Limpopo region through Progress Milling, a maize mill sourcing directly from 14,000 local smallholder maize farmers. Leveraging LDC's presence and expertise, the Foundation will work with Progress Milling and TechnoServe, an international non-profit organization that promotes business solutions to alleviate poverty, and will implement a training program for local maize farmers. Targeting yield improvements through sustainable agriculture best practice, the program aims to help farmers move from subsistence farming to a more sustainable, business-oriented approach, and to encourage local youth to take up maize farming as a way to alleviate food insecurity and poverty. The program will also have a special focus on women, who represent over 60% of Limpopo's agricultural workforce, in an effort to reduce the yield and income gender gap.

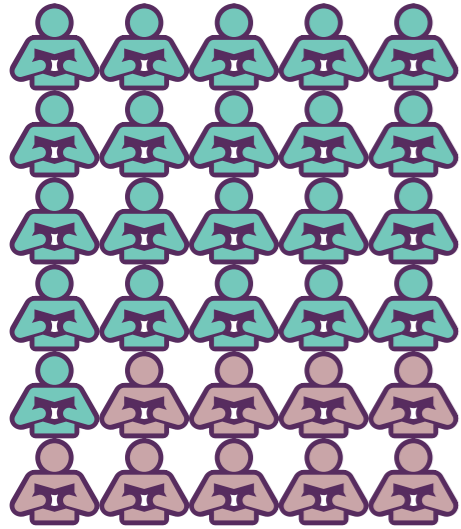
EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- **120 FEMALE MAIZE FARMERS** to take part in training on sustainable agriculture practices, with maize sale proceeds to go to the lead farmers
- **FARMER'S COOPERATIVE** to be set up in order to boost maize production and sales



30

STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO START THEIR EDUCATION



30%

WOMEN ATTENDANCE EXPECTED



Agri-school education in Ivory Coast

Education and training are key elements of the Louis Dreyfus Foundation approach to empowering local communities and improving livelihoods. That's why the Foundation is pursuing a pilot program in collaboration with LDC and FERT – an organization promoting international cooperation for agricultural development, to set up its very first 'Agri-school', providing training and education in sustainable agriculture and agro-ecology for the benefit of the whole agriculture value chain. Currently LDF/LDC and FERT teams are assessing opportunities for school creation in the **SAVANES DISTRICT** in Ivory Coast.

The project aims to diversify training and job opportunities among smallholder farmers (young farmers and their families), and create conditions for the empowerment of women farmers, with a target 30% ratio of female students.

This project in Ivory Coast will benefit from the experience of the Foundation in educational programs and from LDC's presence and business networks in the country.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- **30 STUDENTS** are expected to start their education in September 2019 with a women attendance rate of 30%



Improving açaí fruit supply chain towards better livelihoods

MARAJÓ ISLAND is one of Brazil's poorest regions, whose population lives off açaí fruit production and fishing, and faces food insecurity. Productivity is low and, although demand for açaí fruit is high and increasing, income is limited due to inexistent distribution channels and lack of control over sale prices. Partnering with LDC, the Foundation is working to improve the livelihoods of the local population.

Run in partnership with Instituto Peabiru, the program aims to help farmers increase their açaí production and regain control over its distribution to alleviate poverty. Training farmers in sustainable production, management and administrative methods, and helping them access markets and distribution networks are key elements of our approach, based on the principles of active involvement and empowerment of local farming communities.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- **2 FARMING COMMUNITIES** involved, living on the banks of the Urinduba and Araraiana rivers
- **20 FAMILIES** to benefit from the project to begin with



Credits & Acknowledgments

The Louis Dreyfus Foundation works in partnership with a range of leading international organizations, NGOs (including local grassroots organizations), institutions and governments in our micro-farming, education and community projects and initiatives around the world.

OUR PARTNERS

- African Leadership Academy (South Africa)
- Biogas International Ltd. (Kenya)
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