



To forget how to dig the earth and tend the soil is to forget ourselves. --Mahatma Gandhi

THE CAMPAIGN IN NUMBERS:

Organizational Unit	Quantity	Number of Trees
Field Managers	3 field managers (1 per 5 villages)	1 million trees
Village Environmental Champions	15 Environmental Champions (1 per village)	66,650 trees/village
Marginal farming families	600 women in 60+ eco SHG (4+ per village)	8,500 trees/eco SHG
Family's own idle land	600 hectares (1 ha per family)	1,700 trees/ha/family

To learn more and make a donation visit us online at www.plantabiofueltree.org



FUNDRAISING UPDATE:

- Amount raised for 1 village pilot project :\$1,200
- Guaranteed Number of trees ready to be planted next monsoon: 8,500
- Guaranteed number of fruit trees: 300



NEW SUPPORTERS : Skoll Foundation

Skoll Foundation Plants 600 Trees with CleanStar Trust to Offset Carbon Emissions of Annual Conference



2008 Skoll World Forum on Social Entrepreneurship (28-28th March 2008, Oxford)
"...the Davos of Social Entrepreneurship" – Will Hutton, The Observer

- Motivation of Skoll Forum organizers:**
- To do something more meaningful to offset carbon emissions than using an online service like **Climate Care**
 - To directly support a specific project that will fight global warming while also improving rural livelihoods

Extract from conference brochure explaining support for CleanStar's Tree Planting Campaign

GREEN FOOTPRINT

In an effort to minimise the impact on climate change the Skoll World Forum has offset the calculated carbon emissions for our event. We have donated this sum to the Clean Star Trust Plant a Biofuel Tree Campaign, India. The Cleanstar Trust has developed an innovative campaign to mobilize the rural poor in the fight against climate change. Learn more about CleanStar Trust at www.cleanstar.in/trust



- Simple process:**
- Event data submitted to CleanStar Trust
 - Required offset & number of trees calculated
 - Amount donated to CleanStar for disbursement to families
 - Donation mentioned in attendees' program

- Long-term commitment:**
- Skoll Forum has committed to repeating annually
 - Campaign team will provide annual updates and field-site report on tree-planting progress





CAMPAIGN DEVELOPMENT ON THE GROUND:

1. Training materials designed jointly with community and Dr D.S Lohiya, expert in watershed management with more than 40 years of experience with community participation in this area.
2. First five families selected and trained. First Environmental Champion appointed.
3. Contacts established with visits to the Ambejogai Custard Apple Research Center and Marathwada Agricultural University - Parbhani, and the local forestry officer to collect quality seeds and saplings for the first campaign beneficiaries.

Zoom in on a transformed life:

Dada was one of the first workers to be hired by the campaign team and has been a strong advocate of biofuel trees. He used to come to the site as a simple observer when we started tree-planting trials 3 years ago. Even though he looked drained and his meager body did not seem capable of any effort, he slowly got involved in our activities and helped with small tree-maintenance tasks. Soon we learnt he had lost the will to farm his land, and his wife had had no other choice but to move to the neighboring town to make ends meet for the family. But his diligence and care for the trees paid off: we needed someone local to watch over the trees and trial equipment, so we hired Dada as a watchman. When his wife heard that he had found a good job and was looking after trees, she decided to come back. Dada instantly regained his smile and has been taking his daily task as a gift ever since. In this photo, he is standing next to one of the *Jatropha* trees he initially helped maintain, ready to collect the first seeds.



LECTURE AT YALE SCHOOL OF FORESTRY

Sagun Saxena delivered a lecture in February at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies on BioFuel & Sustainable Development in India. "Sagun's talk was excellent -- one of the very best that I have hosted since I started running the lecture series many years ago," says Reid J. Lifset, Associate Director of the Industrial Environmental Management Program and editor of the *Journal of Industrial Ecology*. "The feedback from the faculty and students was quite enthusiastic."

Visit Us on Google Earth:

1. Overview of the target area: <http://tinyurl.com/4dwea7>
- 2 A site near Darhur, where we have started some trials and where women groups will do their initial training. There is proper access by road, it is 5 min away from village houses. There is a large flat area at the top, and then slopes to down to the dam in the lower center of the page: <http://tinyurl.com/3vrowr>

NEW FIELD VOLUNTEERS

Mamadou Fall and **Alessandro Carini** are both graduates of Union College in Upstate New York, USA. They founded a student group which has worked intensively to promote sustainability and environmental awareness on their campus! They started with waste recycling, went on to free community tree-planting, and ended up by starting an organic café with products from local farms. These initiatives have brought about real change and given them the confidence to carry on with their efforts.

Mamadou is currently studying anatomy in New York, Alessandro is back in Bogotá, Colombia, where he is interning for the World Health Organization.

They will be coming to India to evaluate the health risks related to environmental degradation in the campaign area. They will also look at ways to measure the positive health impact of sound natural resource management ...and of course they will plant trees!



The land before tree-planting trials...



...and after, each dot is a new tree!

Summer edition: the inaugural tree-planting, more photos...

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