



RESTORING DEGRADED FORESTS IN BOLIVIA SOUTH AMERICA

Planting trees to improve everyday life



Working with smallholder farmers in the Bolivian Amazon, this project restores degraded forests by implementing a comprehensive range of conservation, agro-forestry and silviculture programs. This creates jobs and new income streams, facilitating a sustainable economy for local communities.

The Context

Two thirds of Bolivia's population are extremely poor, with a majority of the population working in agriculture. After decades of adopting unsustainable agricultural practices and without the capital to invest in a viable alternative, smallholders are still forced to continue destructive "slash and burn" methods in order to earn a living for their families.

The Project

This project incorporates a comprehensive land use programme including conservation, agro-forestry and silviculture. About 2,000 smallholders in the areas of Cochabamba and Santa Cruz receive practical advice and support on all aspects of farm management, including land use, crop and stock selection, and marketing support. So far, a total of 6000 hectares of land has been reforested, comprising of small, isolated parcels owned by smallholders who belong to farmer cooperatives. Intercropping is encouraged so that farmers can cultivate both food crops and timber on the same plot of land, whilst predominantly native species of trees are re-introduced in a patchwork of different tree types.

The Benefits

Through a holistic land management program, this project tackles the multiple problems of poor land management, deforestation, coca growing and poverty in Bolivia. Soil quality and biodiversity have improved in reforested areas, while new jobs have been created in tree nurseries. No land has been removed from the ownership of local people, who directly participate in the profits from the sale of carbon credits to create long term economic stability for their families.

Modern sustainable forest management methods and modern GIS and monitoring systems are made available to the communities involved in this project.



Gold Standard®



2,000
smallholders

receive practical advice and support on all aspects of farm management.



16,000
tCO₂e

reduced by the project annually, directly contributing to climate change mitigation.



1,500
ha

of native tree species have been replanted, creating a healthy, natural ecosystem.

For more information on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, please visit: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

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