GREENVEST ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE

ACCELERATING NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS IN SEMI ARID AND GUINEA SAVANNAH ZONES TO TACKLE THE PRIMARY & SECONDARY IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN NIGERIA

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

Written By

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Head of Operations

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ABOUT US

Greenvest Environmental Initiative is a Non Governmental Oganization that supports small-holder farmers to adopt climate-smart agricultural practices, nature based solutions, such as tree planting, conservation agriculture, agro-forestry, organic farming and sustainable forest managment. We focus on identifying farmers challenges and providing optimal solutions, empowering climate-smart farmers and providing products and services that mitigate and reduce carbon emission and the impacts of climate change on the Agricultural value-chain and vulnerable populations in Nigeria, and subsequently other African countries.

Our Goal is To help tackle food insecurity by improving productivity and returns of 1,000,000 smallholder farmers in Nigeria by 2030

We do this through capacity building, Seed banks/ tree nurseries/ planting economic trees, village savings and Loans Associations Schemes, Village Trust Groups and organic farm input credit facilities; targeting one community, one household, one farmer, one tree/ crop at a time.

Greenvest Environmental Initiative is female founded and female led, and as such prioritizes gender equity and social inclusion in its program design and impact disbursement.
Our Primary aim is to drive SUSTAINABLE practices that are MEASURABLE, stimulate ADAPTATION & CLIMATE RESILIENCE using the tree Planting TECHNOLOGY.
We call it Climate SMART Agriculture

Why we choose reforestation & aforestation as Nature based Solutions

GREENVEST ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE chose reforestation and afforestation as nature-based solutions due to their immense potential to combat climate change, restore ecosystems, and enhance biodiversity. Reforestation involves restoring degraded forests, while afforestation involves planting trees in areas that were not previously forested. These approaches sequester carbon, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve soil health, and protect watersheds. Additionally, reforestation and afforestation provide valuable ecosystem services, such as flood control and habitat restoration, contributing to the overall sustainable development goals SDG 13 15 and 2 etc.

Nana Fatima
Founder

Community nursery site in Pika Gboko LGA Benue state

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Accelerating Nature Based Solutions (One Household One Tree) project was initiated with the overarching goal of combating the adverse effects of climate change in Nigeria's semi-arid and Guinea savannah zones. With the establishment of two community-based nurseries, in Pika and Igbor Communities of Gboko and Gwer East Local Government Areas respectively of Benue state the project aimed to promote nature-based solutions, reforestation, and sustainable land management practices. The project sought to enhance climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, and livelihood opportunities for local communities. And stimulate climate action in the communities

OUR MISSION

- To establish 2 community based economic and native tree Nurseries in Benue state

OUR OBJECTIVE

- To plant and nurture 2000, Oil palm, 3000 lucost beans, 2000, bitter kola seedlings in Pika and Igbor communities of Benue state in Nigeria by 2023

OVERVIEW

The project began with the identification and selection of suitable locations for the two community-based nurseries. Local stakeholders, including community leaders and representatives, were consulted through out the process to ensure alignment with their needs and priorities. Training sessions were conducted for nursery caretakers and community members, equipping them with essential skills in tree seedling propagation and nurturing.

The tree planting activities were carried out in collaboration with local farmers, women's groups, and youth associations. Communities actively participated in tree planting events, leading to the successful establishment of new green areas and the restoration of degraded lands. Agroforestry techniques were promoted, encouraging farmers to integrate tree planting with crop cultivation for sustainable land use.

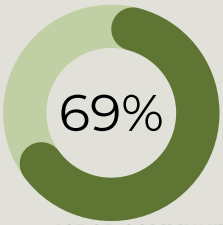
Our target is to build people's minds about the importance of greening the environment.

Upon establishing community nurseries, our progress is focused on cultivating a collective understanding of the significance of greening the environment. Through awareness campaigns, workshops, and engagement with local communities, we aim to inspire a shift in mindset towards active environmental stewardship. By fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility, we empower people to embrace tree planting, sustainable practices, and climate action, thus nurturing a greener and more sustainable future for all.

PROGRESS OF OUR PROJECT

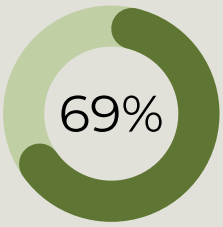
The GREENVEST ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE Team has tarined 236 community members including women and youth on soil and seed preparation techniques. Sitr clearing and fencing was carried out by community members with the support of program officers to ensure proper protection of seedlings from stray animals, birds and wind. Top soil was collected locally soil and filled in a Polythene bags.The locust beans seeds were soaked in (AUXIN) IAA and (Gibberellic Acid) GA after 24 hours before planting. Bitter kola seeds were obtained locally from neighbouring state like Enugu and Imo state, seed preparation is currently ongoing to optimize sprouting and plant accelerate plant germination.

Sprouted Oil palm seedlings were purchased from the Nigerian Institute For Oil Palm Research (NIFOR) and planting was equally carried out by community members with the support of GEI Program Officers .



IGBOR COMMUNITY NURSERY

The traditional leader,School teachers, Health workers, farmers, youth and women leaders accepted and too ownership of 3500 seedlings



Pika community Nursery

The Pika community was exited over the project to have been sited in the village and Named it PIKA FOREST PLANTATION .Traditional and Religous leaders, Women and Youth leaders took ownership of 3,500 seedlings in the nursery and accepted to nurture the plants untill when due for distribution and planting.

Benard Meer
Research Manager

Zawua Gabriel
Program Officer
Pika Community Nursery

Progress Tracking

The project Implementation Team has deployed monitoring strategies through Community volunteers and stakeholders contact, Indicators performance Tracking Index(Data sheet) and the GREENVEST Plant Germination and Growth Tracking Matrix(PGGTM) to acertain the rate of germination of each species, survival rates and growth pertterns on a weekly and monthly interval. This is to be conducted through bi-weekly and monthly field visits.

Patricia Haaga
Monitoring & Evaluation Support

RESEARCH

We also set up a research experiment to determine the effects of the growth promoters on the seeds germination and seedlings growth. Growth promoters used were Auxin and Gibberellic Acid.

Procedures: *A* potted experiment was laid out in Completely Randomized Design (CRD) with three treatments T1 (Gibberellin) T2 (Auxin), T3 (Control) with10 replicates each, given a total of 30 pots. Five (5) grams of auxin and gibberellin were diluted with 100ml of distiled water. The seeds of Locust beans were soaked for 12 hours thereafter, removed and planted immediately inside the plastic pots.

OUR FOLLOW UP PLANS

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Human Impact Story

Terkuma is about 41 years old, He lives in Igbor community where one of the nurseries is located. As at when the project was launched, most community members considered him unemployed and could not cater for his familty. The project has engaged him and his wife as garders and community support to nurture the plants through out the nursery period. He is very exited to have something to keep him busy and is inspire to contribute his quater to the community project while his wife is readily suppotive.

He is one person that has accepted to be part of this project from inception and believes that one day the trees will grow and his children to the forth generation will benefit from the impacts of the project.

Mabel Ape
ProgramOfficer
Igbor Community

WHAT ABOUT IGBOR WILDLIFE PARK?

Before now, Igbor Wildlife Park, located in Benue State, Nigeria, could boasts of a diverse flora and fauna composition. The park's flora was composed of various tree species, grasslands, and lush vegetation, creating a vibrant ecosystem. It provides habitat to a variety of wildlife, including antelopes, monkeys, baboons, and a diverse range of bird species. Additionally, the park was home to reptiles like crocodiles and snakes, adding to its ecological significance and attracting visitors interested in exploring and conserving its unique biodiversity

As of the last available information, the deforestation status in Igbor Wildlife Park in Nigeria is a concerning issue, with significant portions of the park experiencing loss of forest cover. This has impacted the flora and fauna composition, leading to habitat degradation and the decline of several plant and animal species. Efforts are required to address deforestation and restore the park's ecological balance to safeguard its diverse flora and fauna for future generations.