



SEPALI

CPALI/SEPALI Madagascar Newsletter

2 December 2013

A future to look forward to . . .

Imagine farming with no modern implements, machinery, fertilizers, and most of all, no knowledge of how to improve yields or access markets. This is what it's like for subsistence farmers in Madagascar. They live in villages with no electricity, no water or sewage system, no public transportation. For centuries, they have been making a living by swidden agriculture (slash and burn). Like our own ancestors, they hunt in the forest but also clear and burn forests to make land for new farms when soils become unproductive. Like our ancestors, they live hand to mouth.

Conservation through Poverty Alleviation, International was founded to design a new approach to conservation, one that focuses on people and on developing sustainable alternatives to forest harvesting for subsistence farmers. We specialize in stepping stone conservation – helping farmers earn enough income to begin to move up the income ladder from severe poverty to low income and beyond. All without harvesting plants and animals from the forest. CPALI is teaching farmers how to grow and process their own native resources for food and cash.

During the next 3 months, our focus is to provide farmers with the tools they need to build a sustainable future. We are raising funds to build a training center. While the building will have multiple uses, our initial goal is to give women textile producers a place where they can make our patent-pending non-spun textile. Architects for Humanity, Boston, have been working with CPALI for the past year (pro bono) and designed a site-appropriate building that exactly meets our needs. During December-March we hope to raise \$30,000 to build the artisans' workshop and farmer training site in April after the 2014 hurricanes.

In This Issue

News from the Field

3.8 kg of Red Ruffed Lemur



II

4000 silkworm pupae plus 1 kilo of cocoons



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Training Center designed by Architects for Humanity

Please donate to CPALI to help us raise \$30,000 to build this work center for artisans and farmers. Please help us give the farmers we work with the tools they need to embrace a sustainable future without harvesting forest resources. Your donations are 100% tax deductible (minus the costs of any goods received in thanks for your donation).

News from the Field



Happy Holidays from SEPALI Madagascar. Thank you for your support.

Marketing Update



The first prototypes of wild silk jewelry were displayed at the Architecture Boston Expo (ABx) in November, thanks to the efforts of dConstruct Jewelry. The entire line will be introduced at the New York Gift Show 1-5 February 2014. Earrings, rings and pendants are on sale. Please write info@cpali.org for full details and prices.

Also at the ABx convention, we had a chance to show off three different types of textile made by SEPALI. It was the first time they have been on display. The architects we talked to were excited about the possibility of using the fabric to make room dividers, screens, window treatments and innovative lights. All of our current textiles are designed using cocoons randomly arrayed. In the future we hope to branch out with other patterns and designs. Our current textiles are available at Habu Textile, New York or through CPALI. Contact us at Info@cpali.org for more info!



All donations to CPALI are tax deductible. We will thank you for a donation of \$40 or more with chocolate from Madagascar when you donate through our [website!](#)

Let the adventure continue!

Handwritten signature of Catherine Craig.

Catherine Craig, PhD
CPALI President

We welcome your suggestions and comments - please contact me at: or suggest additional products or markets, please contact [ccraig "at" cpali "."](mailto:ccraig@cpali.org) org or Mamy Ratsimbazafy at [Mamycpali "at" gmail "."](mailto:Mamycpali@gmail.com) com.

Donations can also be gratefully accepted and acknowledged through [Global Giving](#).