



INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIPS AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

GROWING AND THRIVING TOGETHER



Hope From Challenges

Dear Friends,

This past year was full of many surprises and great challenges. We know that few have been untouched by the challenges and hope everyone reading this is ok and forging forward into 2021.

As we pause to reflect on what we experienced in 2020, we struggle to find adequate words for the depth of gratitude and love of community we feel. Thank you so much for being with us and for supporting ICPSD as we pivoted to meet the needs of the people we serve. It has been incredible to watch people and communities coming together to help each other in a time of great need. From that, we take unwavering hope into 2021.

Your support allowed us to accomplish so much. Not only were we able to keep our base operation running when allowed by COVID safety measures, but we were also able to adjust to restrictions and provide additional support to students and families in Notsé. Our nursery coordinator was able to forge ahead get the 2020 crop of seedlings started and later, planted with the help of the community. We were able to adjust some of the youth group's curriculum to a digital platform, so they did not fall behind in their studies. We partnered with another nonprofit to install handwashing stations and provide supplementary summer school instruction. We were able to support students and their families with food staples during the most stringent lockdown measures, as well as provide a complete set of school supplies for our students for the 2020-2021 school year. We were able to kick-off our new giving community called The Forest, welcoming new members in our quest to

fight climate change and build community. All this and more!

In 2021, we are looking forward to starting our 5th crop of seedlings at the nursery, as well as constructing a much-needed permanent storage and workspace structure. We have hope that we will again be able to hold educational workshops with local and regional community members. We will continue to expand our out-planting site, including the building of fencing around test plots to protect the research being done there. Our youth group is bursting at the seams. We are already in the process of securing more space for them to meet and capacity to serve more members. These are just a few of the things we look forward to in 2021 and look forward to sharing them all with you.

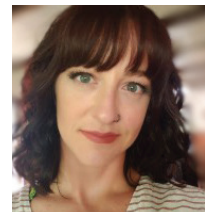
We can't say thank you enough for the incredible ICPSD community. We are humbled and honored in the relentless commitment to empowering African communities to be at the center of their own development. Thank you for being part of ICPSD.

Sincerely,

Dr. Romuald Afatchao
President, Board of Directors



Whitney Schroeder
Executive Director



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About ICPSD

ICPSD values collaborative and innovative change making. ICPSD strives to act as a facilitator for equitable partnerships at all levels of the community in Togo, such as (but not limited to) universities, non-governmental organizations, businesses, international institutions, tribal governments and all levels of city and country government. Partnerships – while focused at the local level – are not limited to the country of Togo.



*We believe people grow
and thrive together.*



MISSION

Empowering and entrusting communities to be at the center of their own development.



VISION

A vibrant and flourishing Africa in an ever-changing world.



VALUES

Collaboration
Innovation
Changemaking



Ecosystem Restoration Program

We believe communities thrive in healthy ecosystems.

Togo is one of the top five countries in the world for fastest rate of deforestation. As a result, less than five percent of the land in Togo remains forested. The stable funds provided by The Forest members allow ICPSD to maintain and grow the Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP). ERP directly supports the reclamation, restoration and preservation of ecosystems in Togo through the utilization of native species and community development.

At the heart of ERP is a native plant nursery. The nursery is the primary platform from which ERP supports the reclamation and revitalization of native plant species within the framework of sustainable systems. It is a center for learning and research, a place where local and regional members of the Togolese community attend hands on workshops to learn about and explore sustainable practices for reforestation and afforestation efforts. It is also central to fostering citizen science and community-based understanding of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. It provides information and vital mitigation measures that are location specific and community managed. The nursery out planting site is a multi-fold operation. Not only is it a place to increase forested land in Togo, but it is also the primary site for long-term native tree research and agroforestry experimentation. It is an important outdoor environment for citizen science in local and regional communities. All information gathered at the nursery and out planting site is made available for easy replication and adaptability in other regions and communities.

This year we were able to get the nursery hooked up to city water (as backup to the well during drought season) as well as able to subsidize the cost of laying pipes to 22 homes around the nursery. The biggest challenges ERP faced in 2020 were obtaining viable native plant seeds, a high percentage of non-viable seedlings for planting, limited personnel resources for starting seeds due to national COVID restrictions, low resources for education about reforestation (the inability to hold workshops due to COVID), and building understanding and valuation of data collection.



4,000

SEEDLINGS PRODUCED
IN 2020



22,000

SEEDLINGS PRODUCED
TO DATE



8

NUMBER OF DIFFERENT
SPECIES PLANTED IN
2020



3,902

NUMBER OF SEEDLINGS
PLANTED 2020

Outplanting and Agroforestry



Agroforestry is a strong component of the Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP). Based on our own field observations and supported by multiples studies (FAO 2018, FCPF 2015, Kokou et al. 2008), forest degradation in Togo is caused by agricultural practices and unsustainable land use. Additionally, like other Sub-Saharan African countries, most Togolese households rely on wood fuel as a source of energy for cooking. In Togo, fuelwood and charcoal account for more than 80% of the national household energy consumption. Land-use conversion and non-native timber plantations have serious impacts on the health of the soil as well as ecosystem processes.

ERP employs agroforestry, a land management approach that provides opportunities to integrate productivity and profitability with environmental stewardship, which results in healthy agriculture and forest systems.

- Effective land use by mixing reforestation and agricultural production, which will limit the total land size for agriculture.
- Production and plantation of nitrogen species for agroforestry to support sustainable crop production and agroforestry enterprises. Trees help control runoff and soil erosion, thereby reducing losses of water, soil material, organic matter and nutrients at levels satisfactory for soil fertility.
- Maximization of financial gain for farmers who will benefits from the sale of forest products. Agroforestry can provide a more diverse farm economy and stimulate the whole rural economy, leading to more stable farms and communities.



ÉDOUARD NYAKOKPA

NURSERY COORDINATOR

“The ICPSD nursery has produced many tree species since 2016. They have provided local farmers a system of agroforestry with many benefits such as diversification of local economies, protection for valuable crops, wildlife and top soil, reduction of chemical fertilizers, and protection as windbreaks. Additionally, our seedlings are all native, so they are well adapted to their outplanting site conditions.”



YCDP PARTICIPANTS WITH NEW T-SHIRTS BEFORE COVID LOCKDOWN

Youth Community Development Program

We believe in youth as community leaders.

The Youth Community Development Program (YCDP) is designed to facilitate leadership development that supports the personal and professional growth of participants. It supports local middle and high school aged students as they explore ways to build local capacity, self-reliance, and knowledge for the betterment and sustainability of their community. As a group, students elect peer leadership as well as the leadership initiatives they would like to learn about and share with the community. In 2019 YCDP saw an increase in participation from 46 participants to 50, despite the graduation of 25 seniors. There was also an increase in age diversity of the group, with participants spanning five grade levels, up from the previous two.

CURRENT YCDP ACTIVITIES

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING

PERSONAL FINANCE EDUCATION

LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS

TRADITIONAL DANCE & CHOREOGRAPHY

TRADITIONAL STORYTELLING (GRIOT)

YOUTH SOCCER TEAM

SKITS AND POETRY

CITY CLEANING

This year looked a little different with COVID. It was more difficult to gather and participate in the regular programming requested by the YCDP participants. But with diligence in following COVID protocols and by partnering with Style Her Empowered, the students were able to stay on top of their studies during a summer schooling session as well as eventually gather again to participate in the joy of dancing, community and other such activities at the heart of YCDP.

We are currently experiencing the happy challenge of not enough space to accommodate the growing number of students participating in YCDP and are pursuing alternative options to remedy this. We were also sad to say goodbye to our English instructor Mawuli K. Dagnon at the end of the year, but welcome Kanyi Ayi, the new instructor for 2021.

The students in YCDP who participated in the national exams showed excellent results overall!

- Le Bac (13th grade - final year of high school in Togo): 9 candidates sat for the test, 6 passed and have the option to continue on to University if they are able.
- Le Probatoire (12th grade): 19 candidates sat for the test, 17 passed.
- Le BEPC (10th grade): 4 candidates at for the test, all 4 passed.

We are very proud of the hard work of all of our students and honored to support them!



As a special thank you for all the support this year, students from YCDP send the gift of their words and art. We hope you will enjoy them here: <http://ow.ly/wobG50CTrGb>



COVID-19 Support

SUPPORTING LOCAL FAMILIES

With COVID, some of our resource allocations looked a little different this year. But we were able to do so much with the donations we received:

- Purchase face masks for all YCDP students and ICPSD staff from our partner organization Style Her Empowered.
- Under the guidance of our Youth Program Coordinator Francoise, we were able to provide food staples for 24 students and their families twice during the COVID shutdown.
- We were able to keep supplementary instruction active during the shutdown through the efforts of our English instructor. He prepared lessons that were digitally sent out to the youth group. As shutdown restrictions were slowly lifted, he met one-on-one - following safety protocols - to tutor students who were preparing to take the national exams.
- We partnered with Style Her Empowered to build permanent hand washing stations at the local high school for students who returned to classes in order to prepare for the national exams.
- We provide school supplies to all YCDP students for the 2020-21 school year.



Partnerships

“Style Her Empowered (S H E) has been fortunate to partner with ICPSD since our founding in 2017. While our missions serve different focus areas, we’ve been able to build a powerful, productive, and purposeful partnership alongside the communities we serve. Over the years, we’ve helped uplift each other in our work and guide each other in our learnings. I look forward to more years working alongside ICPSD, and I am incredibly grateful to work closely with Ro, Whitney and the ICPSD team as we build a more equitable world for all people.”



Payton McGriff
Founder & CEO
Style Her Empowered

2020 Partners



Donor Highlights



MADISON JACOBSON

Moscow, ID

I have been fortunate to have the opportunity to experience the launch of ICPSD's reforestation project, which I find to be an incredible success and inspiration. Particularly, I have been impressed by the deep roots this project and organization have established throughout multiple facets of the West African community. I welcomed the opportunity to become a recurrent donor as part of The Forest, as I believe in the integrity and impact of this organization's work; work which goes far beyond a single community or locality, contributing to the mitigation of climate change for this region, the African continent, and our world at large. Particularly, through the struggles faced by our global community during 2020, I found comfort, peace, and hope from helping to provide for the future of ICPSD's positive influence and visionary goals. I decided to join The Forest so that I may continue to appreciate the significance and ambition of ICPSD. A little goes a long way, and I find happiness in investing in the longevity of this organization.

Thank you to all of our 2020 donors!

Donations are what make ICPSD's support for local communities in Africa possible. ICPSD is so grateful to those who have lent their support. With the advent of things like Facebook fundraising and giving through Amazon, access is not always possible to the names of people who have supported ICPSD. If you donated in 2020 and your name is not listed below, please contact Whitney at whitney.schroeder@icpsdafrica.org.

Candace Adkins	Sue Fillman	Dedegan Locoh	Marissa Shearer
Kodjotse Afatchao	Peter & Mary Lou Gies	Natalie Magnus	Rebecca Sheridan
Nekane Arrubarrena	Nancy Glazier	Paul Matthews	Lindsay Short
Chris Baldwin	Lydia Hanson	The Paul Matthews Trust	Julie Skyving
AJ & Susie Balukoff	Bev & George Harad	Theresa Mariska	Susan Smith
Casey Bartrem	Josh Hartung	Anne Marks	Kimberly Soelberg
Dave Benjamin	Cara Hawkins-Jedlicka	Carole McCarty	Ryan Squires
Karen Bilowith	Terry Heffner	William McCarty	Brandy Sullivan
Gayle Burns	Tom Heffner	Payton & Dylan McGriff	Simba Tirima
Maria Cardamone	Chris & Vanessa Hester	Andrew Nelson	Dave Thornton
Jenni & Brian Chaffin	Carole Hurley Hughes	Sarah Nelson	Margit von Braun
Doug Colwell	Matt Hunter	Patrick Ngalumume	Ian Von Lindern
BreAnne Cook	Idaho Nonprofit Center	Janice O'Toole	Nancy Wade
Ellen Cooper	Madison Jacobson	Jeff Otto	Jaime Walker
Greg Danley	Jill Johnson	Nhi Pham	Emily Wesseling
Matthew Davis	Brittney Karst	Lee Pierson	Kaleb Wetzel
Alma Delic	Stacy Kerkhove	Shelton Robinson	Stacey Williams
Ivy Dickinson	Cheryl Kneubeuhl	Larry Rose	William Woodcock
Anna Dolezal	Melissa Kowaluk	John Rusche	Anne Zabala
Lee Anne Eareckson	Leadership Boise	Whitney Schroeder	Nine Anonymous Donors
Kami Faylor	Kathy Lieberg	Corinna & Jake Schutte	

The Forest



HELP US FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE & BUILD COMMUNITY

The Forest is a community of monthly donors actively fighting climate change & deforestation through the empowerment and support of community. The Forest are people like you giving anything they can to help communities in Africa define and pursue their own sustainable development. The Forest members cultivate forests, both figuratively through their support of sustainably minded community development and literally through direct support of the growing and planting of native tree species.

<https://kindest.com/the-forest>

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Agroforestry

Communities in Togo rely heavily on small family farming. This also makes them more susceptible to the ramifications of climate change. The introduction of trees increases forest cover and improves soil quality through nutrient restoration, water retention, and carbon retention. It can also provide a replenishing approach to wood fuels, a large cause for deforestation in Togo.

Community Driven Development

Community participation and leadership are the cornerstone of all ICPSD operations, including ERP. Overseen by a local forest and restoration specialist, the native plant nursery provides a place accessible to all community members in which to learn, research and trouble shoot agroforestry approaches in their unique context. Workshops put on by a local women's cooperative – Lolonu – help educate local and regional leaders and community members in native plant restoration and agroforestry efforts. By partnering with communities, local organizations and local units of government, local community members have better access to resources, support and participation that enhance local capacity while also establishing precedent for sustainable growth into the future.

WELCOME NEW 2020 MEMBERS OF THE FOREST

Natalie Magnus
Jill Johnson
Madison Jacobson

Lee Pierson
Anonymous Donor #1
Anonymous Donor #2

Other Ways to Support

ICPSD is a volunteer ran organization. All board members and the executive director serve without compensation. The two founders, one of whom fills the executive director role, take primary action on programming and daily operations. Donor and volunteer contributions directly contribute to all that ICPSD does. There are many ways you can take action for ICPSD. Have new ideas on how to contribute? Let us know at info@icpsdafrica.org.



PAYPAL DONATIONS

We have lots of options for donations to fit you budget and preference.

www.icpsdafrica.org/take-action



SPREAD THE WORD

Help get the ICPSD name and activities out there by sharing our content on social media, telling your friends, colleagues, and family about us, volunteering and more.

www.icpsdafrica.org



AMAZON SMILE

Do your Amazon shopping on AmazonSmile. When you do, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to ICPSD.

<http://bit.ly/ICPSDsmile>



AMAZON CHARITY LISTS

AmazonSmile Charity Lists is a new and meaningful way for you to donate items directly to ICPSD, taking the guesswork out of giving so you can donate worry-free.

<http://bit.ly/ICPSDwishlist>



FACEBOOK

Start a Facebook fundraisers for ICPSD in celebration of a birthday, anniversary, or just because! Or donate directly from the ICPSD Facebook page with our donate button.

www.facebook.com/ICPSDAfrica/



DAF DIRECT

DAF Direct makes it easier for you to support ICPSD by giving directly from your donor-advised fund.

<http://bit.ly/DAFicpsd>

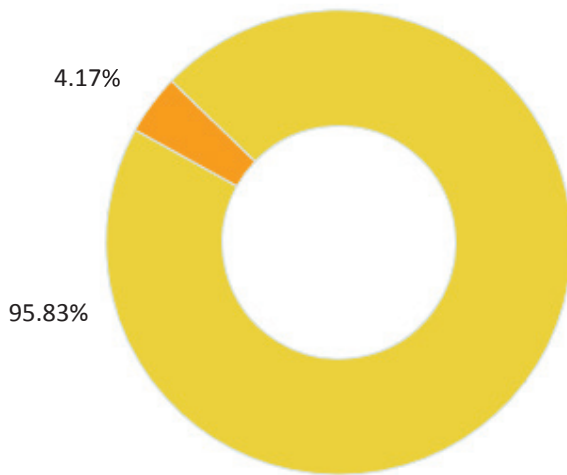
Financial Report

As of December 31, 2020

Despite the challenges of 2020, we were able to maintain operations within COVID safety guidelines as well as pivot some of our resources to the construction of handwashing stations for local students as well as support local families in need due to COVID lockdowns. We were blown away by donor support in the midst of the unknowns of the worldwide pandemic and are able to look towards 2021 with more confidence to continue to run and grow our programs.

2020 REVENUE

- Total Donations
- Reimbursement from a Partner Organization



2020 EXPENDITURES

- Operational Expenses
- Programmatic Expenses



A very special thank you to Maria Cardamone and Paul Matthews of the Paul Matthews Trust for their generous end of year donation to the Ecosystem Restoration Program.

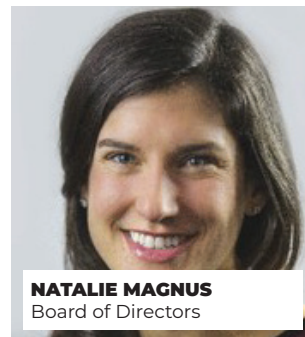
T E A M



DR. ROMUALD AFATCHAO
President - Board of Directors



DR. JACKIE MAXIMILLIAN
Board of Directors



NATALIE MAGNUS
Board of Directors



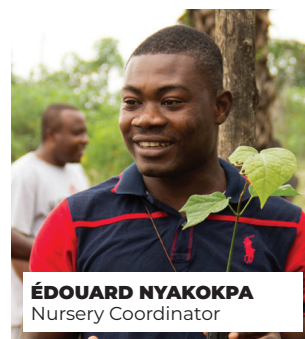
WHITNEY SCHROEDER
Executive Director



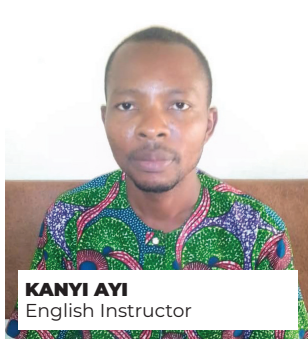
YVES AGBOGAO
Togo Financial
Administrator



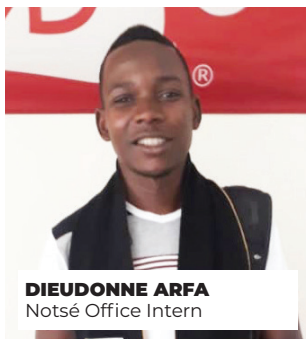
FRANCOISE ADJO ODOH
Youth Program Coordinator



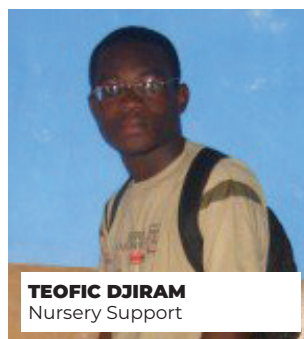
ÉDOUARD NYAKOKPA
Nursery Coordinator



KANYI AYI
English Instructor



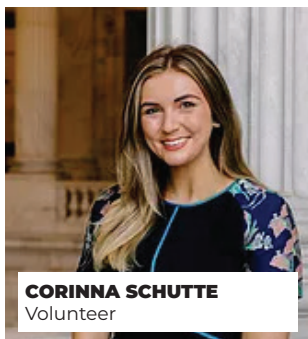
DIEUDONNE ARFA
Notsé Office Intern



TEOFIC DJIRAM
Nursery Support



VINCENT RENAUD
Consultant



CORINNA SCHUTTE
Volunteer

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ICPSD ANNUAL REPORT 2019

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