



December 22, 2011

## **ONE CAR, ONE TREE PROGRAMME**

### **Introduction**

Developing countries rely heavily on wood fuel, the major energy source for cooking and heating. In Africa, the statistics are striking: an estimated 90 percent of the entire continent's population uses fuel wood for cooking. In Kenya, 5.6 million households depend on firewood or their energy use, each household using an average of 10 Kgs of dry wood daily and surprisingly, 10 kgs is the average equivalent of a one tree that is three year old! This scenario describes clearly how deforestation is occurring at a high rate and the need to act fast to avert the scenario.

**One Car, One Tree Programme** – its broad objective is to restore the lost forest cover and help raise it to the world's recommended cover of 10% and more. The initiative targets to adopt a new approach of tree growing as opposed to tree planting by adopting one tree for every car. It is a joint initiative of Autoterminal Japan Ltd a company dealing with inspection of motor vehicles to and from various parts of the world and Green Africa Foundation –environmental Conservation Organization. Autoterminal Japan donates one dollar for each car inspected to Africa on a monthly basis. Green Africa Foundation educates various communities on the importance of protecting the environment and thereafter distributes tree seedlings to be grown in Schools, homesteads and faith based institutions. The tree seedlings have so far been distributed in lots of 10,000 in a particular area. So far we have distributed two lots.



*children and parents pose for a photo as they collect tree seedlings*

On 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 2011, Green Africa Foundation distributed the second lot of 10,000 tree seedlings to residents of Tungutu Sub Location in Kitui County in Kenya, during a public function with the community convened by the area chief Mr Muthinzi Kasilia at Unyaa Primary school. The very successful forum which discussed various development issues including matters on agriculture and environment was attended by about 2,000 people.. The trees have since been successfully planted both in the School Compound, in the pupil's homesteads and the community at large, a situation which the people are happy about.

The organization continues to carry the same message of environmental Conservation using churches, schools



*More tree seedlings already produced at our nurseries ready for distribution to various schools during the current rains*

#### **Beneficiaries (Parents)**

*(translated to English from Kamba Language) I was given 20 tree seedlings to plant in my home stead .Am glad because I will be getting my firewood from the trees through Coppicing (Cutting off the branches without felling the whole tree )In addition, I have heard that trees attract rainfall and thus with the number of trees planted in this village, I am sure we will be receiving more rain and thus food insecurity will be a thing for the past.*



*Some women have started establishing tree nurseries courtesy of Green Africa Foundation and Autoterminal Japan.*

#### **School Head master -Unyaa Primary School**

The school is located in Unyaa Location about 10 km from Kitui Town. On entering the school, we notice that a section has been set aside to plant the trees the school was given by Green Africa Foundation. The trees seem to be growing well and in the next 5 years, it will be a forest.

*The headmaster says as you can see, we have planted over 50 tree seedlings in this small area alone. Through this, we are responding to the call of taking care of the environment by restoring the lost forests. The trees have reduced soil and water erosion within the school Compound and we are encouraging the pupil's to carry on these practices to their homes*



*Some older trees planted In a Green Africa Village in Vihiga County in the western part of the country- Kenya*

**Pupil**

*I have planted 20 trees last year which we were given by Green Africa Foundation. I want my village to receive more rain since trees are known to attract rain; the trees are also reducing wind and soil erosion and creating a cool micro climate. I thank Autoterminal Japan for their support in helping us Green Our Country.*

*Green Africa Foundation sincerely appreciates the support given by Autoterminal Japan in the One Car One tree program and continues to commit to greening Africa as per this program and beyond. The trees distributed so far do surpass the number of vehicles inspected for Africa and look forward to bridging the gap for the good of the environment. We wish Autoterminal Japan very successful business in the new year.*

*Dr Isaac P. Kalua HSC, MBS.*

*Founder/Chairperson*

*Green Africa Foundation.*