

Terra21 Foundation

Annual Report 2015

WELLS REPORT																			
Name of the beneficiary	Community			Type of well	Location of well				Distance from structure to well	Survey No	Total extent	Present irrigated area		Expected irrigated area		Total depth of well / Surface bore in "Feet"	Static water level (from Ground level to water top level)	Crops grown	
	S.C	S.T	B.C	O.C	Open well	D/s side of the structure		U/s side of the structure				Khariff	Rabi	Khariff	Rabi				
						Left side	Right side	Left side											Right side
B. Kantu Ruddy	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	-	-	430	36	45	0.00	-	-	58.50	58.50	24'	Dried	
B. Pedda Renganna	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	-	460	36	3.00	-	-	3.00	3.00	30'	Dried		
T. Lakshmaiah	-	✓	-	✓	-	✓	✓	-	300	27	5.00	-	-	5.00	5.00	36'	Dried		
A. V. Sumanth	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	-	-	400	59	4.00	-	-	4.00	4.00	24'	Dried		
T. Thiru Pathaiah	-	✓	-	✓	-	✓	-	-	450	63	4.00	-	-	4.00	4.00	30'	Dried		
B. K. Sivar Ruddy	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	-	-	500	61	9.00	-	-	9.00	9.00	36'	Dried		
V. Manohar	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	-	-	600	60	3.00	-	-	3.00	3.00	24'	Dried		
Chinnu Ranga Reddy	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	-	-	630	43	4.00	-	-	4.00	4.00	30'	Dried		
Hansappa Ruddy	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	-	-	700	36	6.00	-	-	6.00	6.00	24'	Dried		
V. Babu	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	-	-	800	52	23.00	-	-	27.00	27.00	30'	Dried		
Vijaya Pr	-	✓	-	✓	-	✓	-	-	400	47	3.00	-	-	3.00	3.00	18'	Dried		
Total											128.50	3.10	0.80	128.50	128.50				
11 16																			

At Durgam Village, India, partner organisation Rural Development Trust, besides building water reservoirs and efficient irrigation systems to deal with increasing droughts due to a changing climate, teaches local farmer communities to use water sustainably. Pictured is a plan where the number of wells per farmer and planned irrigation area is defined and monitored (© Terra21 Foundation)

Welcome to Terra21 Foundation

Dear Reader,

it sometimes feels like David against Goliath for a small charitable foundation like Terra21 working on issues as big as conflict prevention and adaptation to climate change. This feeling disappears when we see how many local and international organisations are working on these issues and when we understand that every contribution counts.

By sharing our experience, for example through this annual report, Terra21 hopes to encourage other foundations and philanthropic actors to become more active in our thematic areas, which we believe deserve more attention from private donors.

Thank-you for your interest in Terra21. We look forward to your feedbacks and suggestions (contact details are at the end of this report).

The team of Terra21 Foundation
Zürich, March 2016

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Main activities during 2015

In 2015, our second year of operation, we further sharpened our strategy and approach based on the experience from the first year and on feedbacks received from our partners and network. Our strategy will focus on two broad areas going forward: 'Peacebuilding' with a more global geographic focus, and 'Resilience to Climate Change' with a clear focus on South Asia (see next section).

All projects and relationships with partner organisations started in 2014 were continued in 2015 (most activities had been defined as projects spanning over at least two years). In this sense, 2015 was a year marked by strong continuity in our partner relationships. For all projects, interim reviews were performed before approving funds for the next phase. This was an important opportunity for us to gain in-depth insights into the quality of the organizations' work. While we are generally happy with the performance of the organisations and projects we support, we are also aware of the difficulties they encounter in scaling their impact and in raising sufficient funds, a particularly strong challenge in the Peacebuilding area.

Our research this year was focused on the following topics:

- Better understanding the impacts of climate change on India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh; identifying local NGOs active in strengthening resilience of local communities
- Researching the main sources of conflict in India and how local NGOs contribute to peacebuilding in different areas
- Exploring successful approaches to inter-religious dialogue and peacebuilding; identifying leading NGOs active in the space globally and in India.

This research was also in preparation of the trip undertaken by Terra21's Advisory Board to India and Sri Lanka in Dec. 2015 and January 2016. During the trip both existing partner organisations were visited (Rural Development Trust, Service Civil International Sri Lanka, Equal Ground), as well as meetings with new prospects took place. Particularly promising were discussions with NGOs active in the 'Resilience for Climate Change' field which should lead to additional funds being allocated to this area in India and potentially in Bangladesh during 2016. Finding successful approaches and convincing organisations in the inter-religious peacebuilding space is more challenging. Through Peace Direct, one of our partners, we supported an international competition for emerging organisations active in inter-religious peacebuilding which helped us assess the field.

Our managing director participated in several events organised by Swisspeace and its competence centre KOFF, including Swisspeace's Annual Conference on 'Responding to Violent Conflict' that took place on 13 October 2015. These are excellent platforms for networking with likeminded foundations and donors, researchers and NGOs active in similar areas to Terra21.

The Advisory Board met three times during 2015: in March to review interim reports and assessments of partner organisations, in August to review Terra21's strategy and in October to prepare the trip to India and Sri Lanka.

Mission, strategy and approach of Terra21 Foundation

Terra21 was founded in May of 2014 by Swiss individuals wanting to support civil society's role in the following areas:

- Peacebuilding and post-conflict reconciliation
- Strengthening local communities' resilience to climate change.

Both areas represent huge challenges for the future of the world. They are complex and challenging issues, and maybe that is the reason why the private philanthropic sector shies away from them. By sharing its experience, Terra21 hopes to encourage other foundations and philanthropic actors to become more active in these underserved thematic areas.

With its limited means, Terra21 wants to support and give visibility to organisations working with affected communities on these issues. We believe that local organisations have the power to find their own solutions to conflict and to the consequences of changing weather patterns. Our mission is to support them in making this happen.

Terra21 Foundation chooses its partners and projects according to their vision, sound management practices, effectiveness and scalability of their approaches, transparency and experience (without excluding organisations with little track-record). Partner organisations must be strictly neutral with regard to religion, race and ethnicity, which is also a core value of Terra21. We support organisations that not only contribute directly to our mission, but also to better awareness for the issues at stake and to capacity building at the local and international level.

Terra21's geographic focus is mainly on countries from the Global South. In the Peacebuilding area we look at particularly innovative and effective partner organisations globally. We choose them because we believe that the approaches they are using can be scaled and applied also in other conflict areas across the world. In the Resilience for Climate Change area we have decided to focus on the South Asia region (including Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar) because this allows us to deepen our understanding of the local challenges, actors and solutions in a region particularly hit by climate change.

Volunteer work is at the core of all our partner organisations. Over the years, they have developed sophisticated approaches to volunteerism with the goal of not only helping local communities, but also enabling volunteers become 'messengers of peace' when they return to their daily lives. Partner organisations such as Service Civil International, Peacewatch Switzerland and Peace Brigades International are particularly sophisticated in this respect.

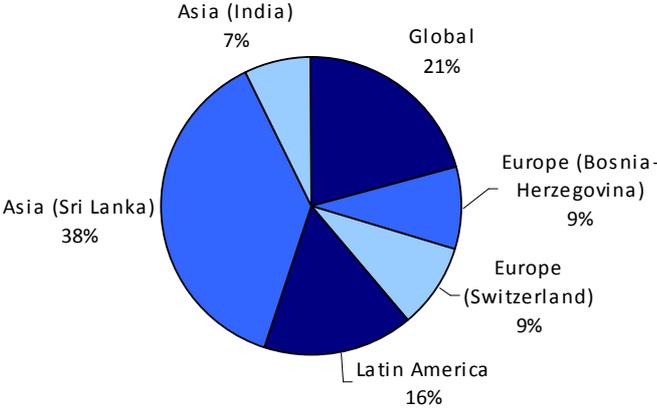
A problem that all our partner organizations encounter is the fact that most donors earmark their funding to projects and are not willing to cover core costs (for baseline items such as salaries, rent, travel etc.) or giving organizations a certain flexibility in deciding which projects they want to fund (unconstrained funding). Aware of this fact, Terra21 does not shy back from unconstrained and core funding, which amounted to about 30% of our total financial support during 2015. Another problem encountered by our partner organisations is the short duration and 'administrative-heavy' character of many of their donor relationships.

At Terra21 we therefore try to provide multiple year support and follow a pragmatic and unbureaucratic approach in working with our partners.

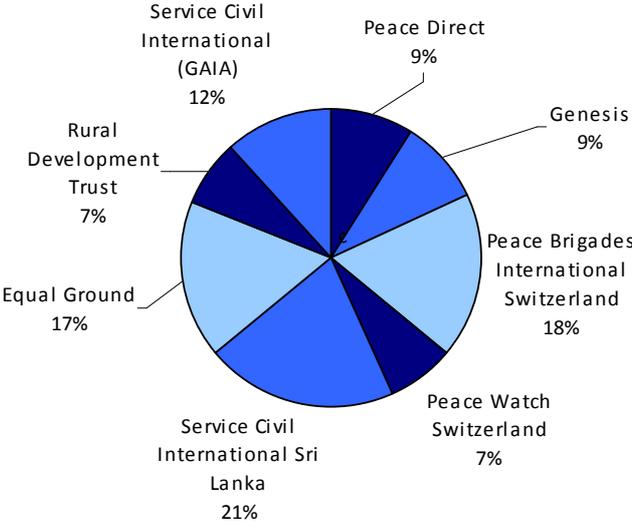
Overview of grant allocations

The following pie charts provide an overview of allocations to target countries and to partner organisations.

2015 Grants by target country



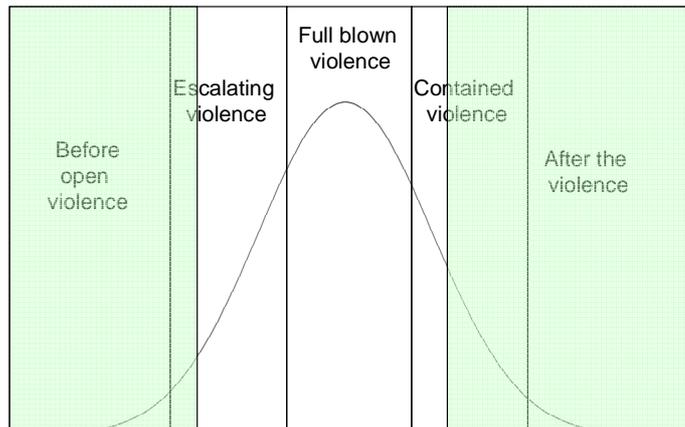
2015 Grants by organisation



Organisations and projects supported in the Peacebuilding area

As one of our partner organisations, Peace Direct, stresses: Local people are the key to preventing, resolving and healing conflicts. They are the best way to break recurrent cycles of violence and make peace last. And increasingly they want to move away from depending on outside help, towards building their own futures. We share this view and focus a big part of our grantmaking on local peacebuilders.

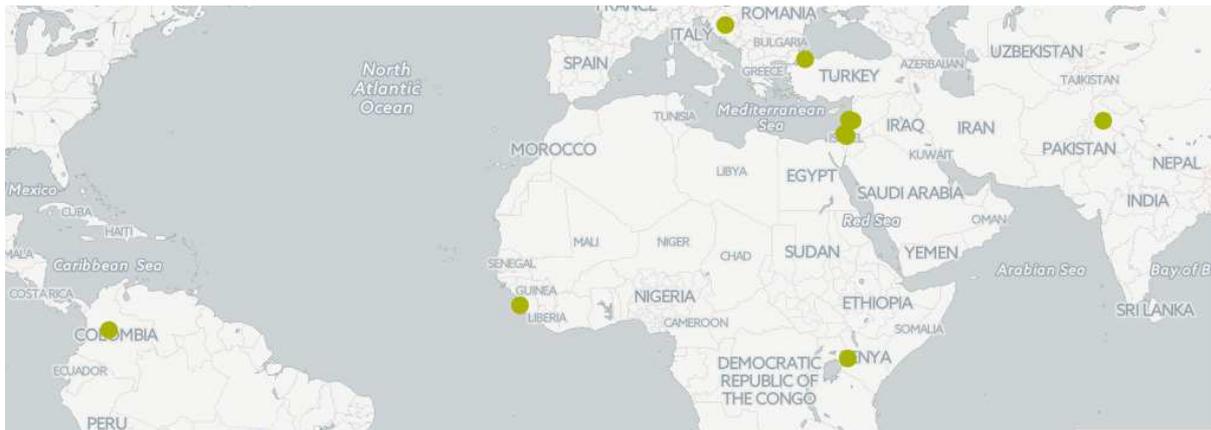
Organisations that we support typically focus on strengthening a culture of peace before violence openly breaks out or in post-conflict situations with the goal of preventing the cycle of violence starting again (see figure below). These are organisations usually deeply rooted in their communities that have developed effective techniques such as conflict resolution workshops, mediation interventions, volunteer workcamps aimed at fostering understanding and practical help, processes for making truth, justice and forgiveness possible after a conflict etc. This is an important delimitation of Terra21's scope vis-a-vis organisations (including governments) that are active in escalating and full-blown violence situations.



Highlighted in green is Terra21's focus against the backdrop of a typical cycle of conflict (from 'War prevention works', Oxford Research Group)

Organisations and projects supported in 2015 included:

Peace Direct: We contributed to the costs of running Tomorrow's Peacebuilders (<http://www.peacedirect.org/tp>), the global awards for local peacebuilding organisations. Awarded annually, they offer international recognition and support for grassroots peace activists in conflict-affected countries worldwide. In 2015, 251 peacebuilding organisations applied for the awards, their entries were assessed by an international jury of peacebuilding experts, 10 were shortlisted and 3 ultimately won a prize (which includes \$10,000 in support of a specific project and international visibility for their work). Tomorrow's Peacebuilders is an initiative by Peace Direct, a London based international charity dedicated to supporting local peacebuilding organisations. Among other things, Peace Direct runs *Insight on Conflict*, the leading online resource (database, blog, news) on peacebuilding in conflict zones worldwide.



*Locations of the 10 shortlisted organisations of the 2015 Tomorrow's Peacebuilders awards
(© Peace Direct)*

Genesis (<http://genesisbl.org/index.php/en>): Genesis was the winner of one of the Tomorrow's Peacebuilders awards that was funded by Terra21 (the 'Inter-religious peacebuilding' award). Genesis helps children and teenagers in post-war Bosnia-Herzegovina to overcome ethnic segregation and the psychological legacy of war. It is the only organisation working long-term in Bosnia's segregated schools to bring together children from different ethnic groups in projects and workshops that combat prejudice and promote tolerance. In primary schools it provides peace education classes, and puppet shows on the dangers of landmines and other unexploded ordinance. For teenagers it offers training in film-making to youths from all sides, creating a vehicle for collaboration and the exploration of identities. Genesis was set up in 1997 to help children still living in refugee camps. The Tomorrow's Peacebuilders award money will be used to organise a festival where children from different segregated schools in Middle Bosnia canton will meet to share experience in producing short videos about their perception of current ethnic mistrust and hopes for a more peaceful future. Up to 83 children (members of all major ethnic groups) will travel to Vitez and attend movie production workshops and watch selected movies.



Youth producing and discussing their short videos at Genesis workshops (© Genesis)

Peace Brigades International (<http://www.peacebrigades.org>): This is an organisation that provides protection, support and recognition to local human rights defenders who work in areas of repression and conflict (currently in Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico and Nepal). International volunteers are trained to accompany the local

human rights defenders which reduces the risk of them being attacked or being treated unfairly in courts. Terra21 supports the Swiss branch of PBI and this year funded activities aimed at recruiting and training additional volunteers for missions in Latin America and at sharing experiences of returning volunteers as a means for raising awareness for the importance of non-violent conflict resolution. This led to 9 volunteers spending 53 months in support of local human rights defenders in Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico during 2015. 109 persons participated at workshops and information events in Switzerland. Terra21 also funded a series of workshops at schools to sensitise youth about peacebuilding activities abroad and what they can learn for conflict resolution in their daily lives. A total of 182 youth participated in 7 workshops.



Bringing peacebuilding back home. Picture from a peace training workshop that Peace Brigades International organises at Swiss schools. Students learn about the work of volunteers in countries such as Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia, but then also reflect about dealing with conflicts in their own daily reality (© Peace Brigades International Switzerland)

Peace Watch Switzerland (<http://www.peacewatch.ch>): Is active in the same space as Peace Brigades International, but allows Swiss volunteers to go on shorter-term missions to countries in which it is active (Guatemala, Palestine/Israel, Colombia and Honduras). PWS plays an important role in raising public awareness in Switzerland for human rights violations in conflict situations and the importance of protecting local actors through international presence, accompaniment and observation. Terra21 provided unrestricted funding to PWS in 2015.

Service Civil International Sri Lanka (<http://www.scisl.org>): This is the local branch of Service Civil International, one of the oldest and largest peacebuilding organisations worldwide, dedicated to promoting a culture of peace by organising international volunteer workcamps and other activities in support of local communities. The Sri Lanka branch is active in the former war-torn Northern and North-Eastern parts of Sri Lanka. By organising volunteer workcamps (attended by volunteers with diverse ethnic and religious background from all parts of Sri Lanka) and other activities, SCI-Sri Lanka contributes to healing the wounds of war and fostering a culture of peace in the country. Terra21 funded two additional workcamps and three long-term volunteers teaching sinhala language to tamil and muslim communities in the Killinochi, Jaffna and Muthur regions, a simple but very effective way to improve communication and mutual understanding between the various ethnic groups. Please read the 'Spotlight' on the next page.

Equal Ground (<http://www.equal-ground.org>): EQ is a local Sri Lankan NGO committed to improving the human and political rights situation of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community of Sri Lanka. The way this minority is treated is indicative of the (sometimes violent) intolerance that still affects Sri Lanka's society after a 30 year long civil war. Defending and improving the rights of this community is at the same time an opportunity for strengthening the human rights situation and reconciliation in the entire country. Terra21 has in 2015 funded the operations of the EQ centre in Colombo where the community can meet and receive counselling, the maintenance of the telephone counselling line, seven workshops in rural areas aimed at sensitising the NGO community, social workers and LGBT persons about LGBT issues, a series of workshops for the corporate and business community along the same lines. In total, 84 new visitors were welcomed at the EQ centre, 137 persons received counselling in-person or over the phone, and 133 participants attended workshops in rural areas during 2015.

Spotlight on: Service Civil International Sri Lanka (SCI-SL), Kandy, Sri Lanka

With the support of Terra21, SCI-SL organised a workcamp in August in Muthur (in former war-torn Trincomalee area) to provide local families and their children with educational and recreational activities (including language teaching). 20 volunteers with different ethnic backgrounds from Sri Lanka and 5 international volunteers from Spain, China and France participated. In October, a workcamp at Nawajeewanam Organic Farm close to Kilinochchi was organised to prepare the land for chili cultivation and for building fences around the farm (see photos below). 11 volunteers with different ethnic backgrounds from Sri Lanka and 10 international volunteers from Finland and Denmark participated.



Summer workcamp in Muthur (©Service Civil SL)



Fencing work at Nawajeewanam Organic Farm (@Service Civil SL)

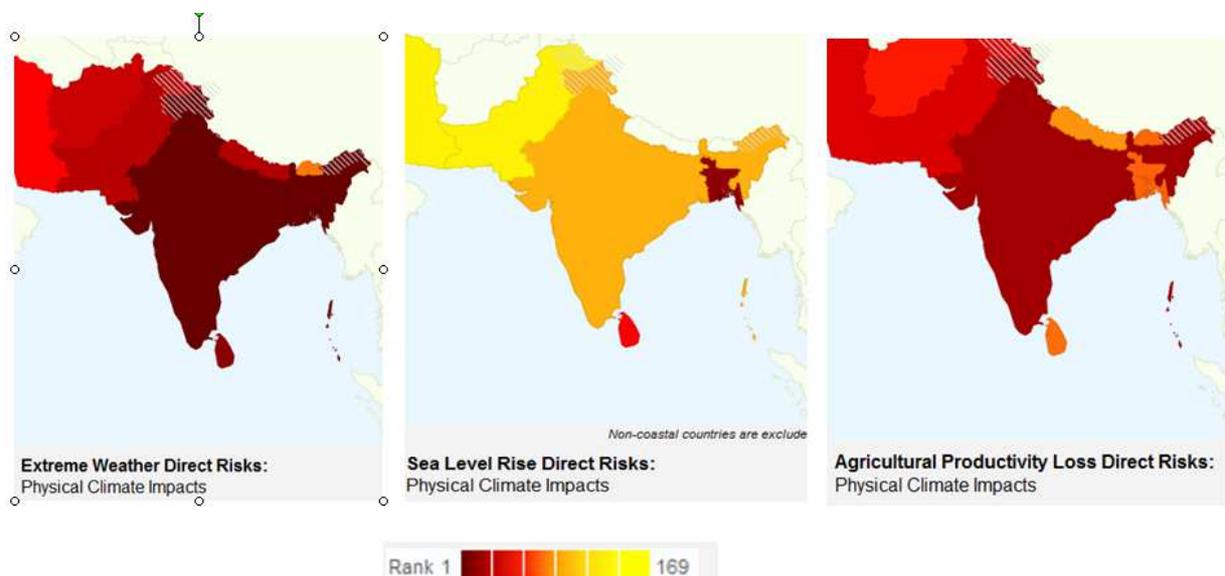
Language has been one of the issues that has contributed to the long prevailing ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka. The majority of Sinhala people do not understand the Tamil language and the same is the case with Tamil people who are unable to communicate in Sinhala (the long civil war in the country was actually triggered by government mandating Sinhala as the only official language). SCI-SL has been conducting language courses from the early 1990s in different parts of the country to improve mutual understanding and harmony. Long-term volunteers (often staying one or more years in a village in the North or North-east of the country) teach children and youth both during school time and at after-school courses.

With the support of Terra21, three Sri Lankan long-term volunteers taught Sinhala at three different locations in the course of 2015. In total, 338 Tamil speaking Muslim youth were taught Sinhala in Kinniya/Trincomalee; 197 Christian and Hindu students were taught in Muthur; 210 mainly Hindu youth were taught in the Kilinochchi area.

Organisations and projects supported in the Resilience for Climate Change area

Climate change, already today, has devastating consequences in terms of the growing number of floods, storms, droughts and diseases that directly affect the poorest and most vulnerable parts of society in developing countries. While governments bear the biggest responsibility in terms of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and implementing adaptation policies, we believe that local communities can do their part in mitigating the consequences of climate change.

Terra21 supports local organisations that work with local communities to improve their resilience to climate change. The geographic focus is on South Asia, one of the most populous and most climate change exposed regions in the world. The following graphs show that our target countries are often in the top quartile of all countries with respect to physical climate impacts (droughts, storms, floods), sea level rise and agricultural impacts.



Source: <http://www.cgdev.org>

Organisations and projects supported in 2015 included:

Rural Development Trust (<http://rdtfvf.org>): Founded in 1969, RDT aims at combating extreme poverty in one of the most drought-prone areas of India through the implementation of a comprehensive development programme based on six pillars: water management, education, health, housing, women's empowerment and support of people with disabilities. This programme currently covers the basic needs of over 2.5 million people in more than 3.000 towns and villages in Anantapur and Kurnool districts. Terra21 financed a project aimed at building a large water reservoir for capturing rainwater and storing it in the groundwater in order that sufficient water is available for agriculture also during prolonged drought periods. Together with other measures such as better adapted crops, education of farmers on how to save water, the introduction of drip irrigation etc. the project has massively increased the resilience of 450 farmers and their family members in dealing with the effects of climate change. Please read the 'Spotlight' on the next page.

Service Civil International (<http://www.sci.ngo/climate-justice-campaign>): For the second year, Terra21 funded SCI's Gaia Microgrants program which provides small grants to local SCI branches organising volunteer workcamps and other activities to increase awareness about climate change and the importance of sustainable lifestyles, and to provide practical help to local communities impacted by climate change. With this, Terra21 wanted to explore new ways in which international and local volunteers can help local communities. Of the 18 projects supported by Gaia, five of them were by organisations from the Global South (incl. Mexico, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Mauritius and Bangladesh), the rest from Europe. About 100 international and over 600 local volunteers participated in a very diverse (and creative) range of activities during 2015, including awareness raising bicycle tours, planting trees against soil erosion, setting up family gardens, training on organic and permaculture farming, initiatives to reduce food waste in cities etc.

Spotlight on: Rural Development Trust (RDT), Anantapur, India

Anantapur is the Southernmost district in the state of Andhra Pradesh, and it is one of the driest areas in India, second only to the Rajasthan desert. Rainfall is extremely scarce and irregular (around 540 mm. average per annum, concentrated during the monsoon season), yet economic activities rely heavily on agriculture: 75 % of the district population base their income on agricultural and farming activities. In such context, shortage of water and the increasingly irregular monsoon patterns observed in the past years have disastrous consequences on the local population which is often forced to migrate to large cities in search of income.



Construction of the dam (©RDT)

RDT focuses on marginalised groups or castes such as *dalits* or tribal populations who normally perform menial tasks as labourers and are particularly exposed to the impacts of a changing climate. RDT manages a comprehensive programme aimed at:

- Promoting sustainable and profitable agriculture through crop diversification
- increasing access to water through water structures and efficient irrigation systems
- a gradual reforestation of the target area, reversing the process of desertification
- increasing awareness among local population on issues concerning water optimisation and sustainable use of land.

Terra21 co-financed the restoration of a large water dam and reservoir in Durgam village aimed at storing water and recharging underground wells and aquifers. This increases access to water for agricultural purposes as well as human consumption, contributes to increasing land fertility and biodiversity.

In December 2015, Ivo Knoepfel and Lukas Knecht from the Terra21 Advisory Board visited the completed dam and reservoir together with RDT representatives (technicians that supervised the construction work and the local village adviser). Together with the local farmers and their families they attended a moving inauguration ceremony where both sides gave thanks for what has been achieved (local farmers and their families have participated in building the dam and have committed to working together as a community in promoting the sustainable development of their village). The dam benefits 27 farmers and their families (450 members) whose exposure to future droughts has been substantially reduced. The dam has had an immediate positive impact already in 2015: in a very dry year, it was able to capture the little rain that fell in Sept. and Nov. and has already led to a replenishment of underground aquifers that directly benefits the Durgam farmers.



*Ivo Knoepfel and Lukas Knecht with local farmers and their families visiting the finished dam
(©Terra21 Foundation)*

Organisation of Terra21 Foundation

To keep its setup and running costs as low as possible, Terra21 has decided to establish itself as an entity under Fondation des Fondateurs, an umbrella foundation established in Switzerland in 2007 (www.fondateurs.ch). Terra21's Advisory Board (current members: Dr. Lukas Knecht and Dr. Ivo Knoepfel) oversees the work of the foundation and advises the Board of Fondation des Fondateurs which formally takes decisions.

Dr. Ivo Knoepfel is in charge of day-to-day management of Terra21. He works pro-bono and also provides office space and all other services needed pro-bono to the foundation. Members of the Advisory Board also work pro-bono. For its services, Fondation des Fondateurs charges Terra21 a fee of 5% of its total grant volume in any given year. 95% of Terra21's funds are therefore directly used in support of its mission.

Contact

We are interested in your feedbacks, suggestions and questions.
Please write to:

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terra21foundation@hotmail.com

If you want to support our work through a donation (Terra21 has tax-exempt status in Switzerland), please also contact us by sending an email to the address above.