Overview

Founded in 1989, CODEP was the brainchild of a retired executive, Jack Hanna, who recognized that tackling the reforestation of an entire watershed would have lasting impact on the lives of Haitians.

To create support, Hanna appealed to Presbyterian and Episcopalian congregations. Ultimately nearly 50 churches provided volunteers, money, and expertise ranging across agriculture, engineering, business, construction, logistics, leadership, and more. Haiti Reforestation Partnership (previously The Haiti Fund, Inc.) was formed in the United States to enlarge and sustain community support, tell the CODEP story, and create a legal apparatus for donations.

Beginning in 2018, the organization has engaged in an effort to reach more systematically beyond the faith community for broader partnership, recognizing the importance of its extraordinary reforestation success story. This effort included a name change from The Haiti Fund, Inc. to Haiti Reforestation Partnership, a social media presence, addition of new board and council members from environmental and development professions, and a
strategy to build partnerships and strategies with government, academia, and service organizations.

In 2020 HRP engaged with Duke University to study the potential of participating in the carbon offset markets. We learned about the mapping and data collection disciplines required to be part of such transactions and are taking those insights into account in our strategic and programmatic efforts.

A mentoring program has been established with a charter cohort of nine young people who have graduated from the CODEP school. The program includes building nurseries, learning about the challenges of mapping, and becoming acquainted with CODEP’s history, methodology, and challenges. A part time program director has been hired.

Core Mission: Reforestation
Supporting the rural Haitian organization, CODEP, in a reforestation program.

- Located along the Jacmel Road in the mountains above Leogane.
- Formed originally with handful of workers; now 750 actively engaged workers.
- Led by 13 Haitian Animators and 41 Chef Ekips.
  - The Animators provide overall leadership. Four have been with CODEP for over 25 years.
  - The Chef Ekips directly oversee teams that manage the nurseries and plant and steward the trees.
- Have planted nearly 15.52 million trees; estimate well over 12 million survive despite drought, feral goats, and disease.
  - The trees are variously grouped.
    - A demonstration forest over 30 years old has matured to the point of regenerating itself and attracting birds.
    - One stretch of mature trees on a mountainside is 20 acres and visible from space.
    - Many of the trees are planted in "working forests" and provide food for families.
    - Trees are often planted on small sections of land near homes to provide some shade from the harsh sun, improve the soil, and shelter gardens.
    - CODEP trees have stabilized two watersheds, holding the soil and retaining water so that hurricane storms do less damage. During Hurricane Matthew in 2016 the bridges at sea level below the forests held fast in the floods while others along the coast were washed out.
- Created 41 nurseries in which over 500,000 seedlings are grown annually and ultimately transplanted in two batches (November/May) onto the mountains, CODEP members’ plots of lands, and other requested or negotiated areas.
Developed a unique and distinguishing process for reforestation (the CODEP Method), which is taught to all participants and carefully monitored. It is also taught at the local school. It includes such elements as:

- Harvesting seeds locally from produce in market
- Nursery planting and staged growth of seedlings
- Field preparation
- For mountainside planting, the preparation of terraces, ditches for moisture, rows of holding grasses, etc.
- Stewardship of young trees; occasionally fencing and protecting them from feral goats
- Harvesting only under strict rules and supervision from Animators.

Planted the following types of trees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Producing Trees</th>
<th>Hard and Soft Wood Trees</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Almond</td>
<td>Pin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>Shin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mango - 10 types</td>
<td>Ced</td>
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<td>Avocado</td>
<td>Dishlya</td>
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<td>Chadek</td>
<td>Pwapine</td>
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<td>Chocolate</td>
<td>Kapok</td>
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<td>Citron</td>
<td>Calendra</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orange - two types</td>
<td>Kapesh</td>
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<td>Apple</td>
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<td>Papaya</td>
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**Supporting Mission: Community Building and Education**

CODEP has focused from the beginning on creating a healthy and prosperous community. To achieve that goal, Haiti Reforestation Partnership has provided financial, engineering, and construction support, business expertise, and strategic partnerships with the following visible results:

- Built and operate a school recognized as a "School of Excellence" by the Government of Haiti
- Created a micro-financing organization used largely to lease or buy land to plant trees
● Built a church for the community
● Built a guesthouse as a revenue generating activity
● Built a depot which functions as a marketplace
● Facilitated and encouraged entrepreneurial ventures: corn grinding, lumber milling, peanut butter/coffee/black beans production

Leadership
● Board of Directors (11 members)
  ● Chair: Retired Presbyterian pastor
  ● Former Administrator, US General Services Administration
  ● Two former USAID contractors
  ● Two financial professionals
  ● IT professional
  ● Retired marketing executive
  ● Forestry graduate school candidate
● Advisory Council (18 members)

Staff
● Executive Director, Michael Anello, works half time and is largely in Haiti except for travel to US for Board Meetings (tenure since August, 2018)
  ● Previous Executive Directors:
    ● Jill Staton-Bullard 2016-2018
    ● John Winings 2008-2016
● Mentoring Program Director, Evens Robert, works half time in Haiti
● Accounting services by Eliza LaLuna, CPA, Charlottesville, VA
● Audit services provided pro bono by James C. Briley, Jr. CPA, New Bern, NC

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January 2022