Eden Reforestation Projects

Introduction

Eden Reforestation Projects (Eden) is a non-profit organization based in California, USA, that works in developing countries to reduce extreme poverty and restore healthy forests. Eden employs tens of thousands of people worldwide and provides them with the necessary tools and education to plant, grow, and protect millions of trees each year. Eden currently plants over 20 million trees each month. By December 2020, we reached a total of 485 million trees planted. Our goal is to plant a minimum of 500 million trees each year by 2025. Eden now operates in eight different nations: Madagascar, Haiti, Nepal, Indonesia, Mozambique, Kenya, Honduras, and Nicaragua (see map).

We target high-priority sites suffering from deforestation and severe poverty that have globally-significant biodiversity values. The projects provide life-changing income opportunities to the local communities while protecting biodiversity, mitigating climate change, and providing many other social and environmental benefits. The following pages include brief descriptions of our project nations.





Planting Nations: Locations & Pricing



Project Nation	Cost/tree
Madagascar	\$0.10
Mozambique	\$0.10
Kenya	\$0.10
Honduras	\$0.10
Nicaragua	\$0.10
Indonesia	\$0.15
Haiti	\$0.15
Nepal	\$0.20





Madagascar

Deforestation has long been an issue for Madagascar. It is one of the world's top biodiversity conservation priorities because of its high concentration of endemic species and severe habitat loss rates. In the coastal zone, mangrove deforestation destabilizes the coastline, which increases the vulnerability of coastal communities to storms and other weather events that are becoming more frequent and intense due to human-induced climate change. In upland dry deciduous forests, deforestation threatens one of the world's rarest and most diverse forest systems. In response to the large-scale loss of mangroves and upland forests in Madagascar, Eden initiated the Madagascar Reforestation Project in 2007 and has now successfully planted more than 380 million mangrove and dry deciduous trees. Eden works collaboratively with different communities and has full support from national, local, and tribal governments to reforest large areas of mangrove and dry deciduous forests along the coast and inland areas.







Indonesia

Situated in the Coral Triangle in Indonesia is West Papua, an area recognized as the global center of marine biodiversity and a global priority for conservation because of the broad range of species it supports, including at least 500 species of reef-building corals. Biak Island is one of Indonesia's most impoverished areas, where subsistence farmers and fishers make up approximately 75% of the population.

Eden began its reforestation program in Indonesia in late 2017. The focus is on the restoration of mangroves and tropical forests and promoting food security by helping local people plant agroforestry trees. Eden's planting efforts have expanded rapidly as the leadership team mobilizes local leaders and engages planters to become part of the program. Eden now operates on several remote islands (Biak, Yapan, Seram, and Numfor) and mainland West Papua.







Nepal

Nepal is a diverse nation with magnificent snow-capped mountains to the north, hot tropical plains to the south, dramatic and varied landscapes, and spectacular wildlife. Chitwan National Park alone hosts more than 700 species of wildlife, including leopards and the elusive Bengal tiger. It is also home to various cultures united by their close relationship with nature that have remained insulated from much of the socioeconomic development enjoyed in urban regions. Yet, they are subject to more significant environmental hazards, perpetuating high levels of inequality.

Eden began its Nepal Reforestation Project in 2014 to help improve local livelihoods and restore forests in areas of critical importance. The planting sites are located around Community Forests from the mountainous Nawalparasi District to the lowland alluvial plains in the Terai Region and around Chitwan National Park to develop a buffer zone around this national biodiversity treasure.







Kenya

In Kenya, Eden works in the 5,000-hectare protected Kijabe Forest. The Kijabe Forest sits in a complex, dynamic landscape. About 1.5 hours from Kenya's capital, Nairobi, the forest grows on the steep edges of the Great Rift Valley. Once home to herds of buffalo, leopards, and elephants, this forest is an essential home and corridor for wildlife. Animals use this area to move between the Rift Valley's dry floor and the Kenyan highlands' protected, lush forests. As one of Kenya's five nationally-significant water towers. the forest channels water to the surrounding communities and country. Over the past 15 years, the forest has been cleared for charcoal and timber, reducing the number of permanent rivers flowing from eight to one. Additionally, rains have become unreliable, catastrophic landslides have taken lives and damaged important infrastructure, and peoples' livelihood options have suffered. Ask anyone around the forest — the impacts of deforestation are clear.

Eden partners with a local forest trust, the Kijabe Forest Trust, regional and national government institutions, and the surrounding agricultural and pastoral communities to restore this crucial forest. We are working to re-establish a sustainable water supply through protecting and replanting around springs and rivers, restoring habitat for wildlife, stabilizing steep slopes prone to landslides, and securing livelihoods. Over the past couple of years, Eden has expanded its operations in Kenya to the Mau Region, the Meru Region, the Tana River Delta, and Nakuru county.







Mozambique

In response to the large-scale loss of mangroves in Mozambique, Eden initiated the Maputo Bay Reforestation Initiative with a vision to bring back the vitality of the forests that fringe the rivers and coastline of Maputo Bay in southern Mozambique. The project supports local communities to plant and manage mangrove forests, offers long-term employment and livelihood improvements to local communities, and protects the critical biodiversity that relies on mangrove forests to survive. Eden's program began in October 2018 with the Katembe and Madjuva planting sites near Maputo. Since then, operations have grown to include several new mangrove sites and seven terrestrial sites. Eden has also expanded to Beira in central Mozambique.

Eden's work in Mozambique helps protect coastal communities from environmental disasters, improve fisheries, remove carbon from the atmosphere, and increase biodiversity while also addressing the urgent need for poverty alleviation and women's empowerment.







Haiti

The Haiti Reforestation Project restores tree cover by planting agroforestry systems that protect watersheds and improve food security. The project equips local farmers with the training, tools, and trees needed to design their plots, grow, and care for their trees while increasing their farms' food production and biodiversity. Additionally, Eden began rolling out a large-scale mangrove restoration initiative in 2020 and has planted over 800,000 mangroves in one year, and we continue to expand.

In Haiti, Eden works to change the approach to growing food by introducing agroforestry systems containing a diversity of fruit and nut trees combined with those that provide timber, fuelwood, and habitat values. The program includes training local farmers to effectively cultivate land in highland regions, which responds poorly to intensive agriculture and is best suited for agroforestry applications. By doing so, the Haiti Reforestation Project helps stabilize the land and increase soil fertility and moisture retention, resulting in higher production of fruits and other agriculture products. These products can be sold domestically and internationally to increase household income while bringing back the natural ecological function to a highlydegraded landscape.







Honduras

Honduras is a biodiverse nation with Central American montane forests, Central American pine-oak forests, northern mangroves, and Central American dry forests. The country is home to hundreds of terrestrial, freshwater, and marine species of animals and plants, some found nowhere else on Earth. Honduras has twenty national parks, two biosphere reserves, and dozens of smaller reserves protecting the region's most forested areas and thousands of rare species. Uncontrolled logging, primarily for the international market and clearing land for agriculture, threatens forests throughout the country.

Honduras is one of the top worldwide producers of palm oil, which has led to rapid deforestation even in so-called "protected" areas. Between 1990 and 2005, Honduras experienced the highest rate of forest cover decline — an astonishing decrease of 37%. From 2013 to 2018, 96% of tree cover loss in Honduras occurred within natural forests.

Eden launched the Honduras project in early 2020 to help produce, plant, and protect forests in biodiverse hotspots within the country. Eden's Employ to Plant methodology helps bring economic opportunity to extremely marginalized communities where the impact of deforestation has destroyed their access to resources and their ability to live sustainably off the land. Eden currently operates in La Tigra and Uyuca.







Nicaragua

This Central American country has diverse tropical and subtropical forests, including moist broadleaf forests, dry broadleaf forests, and coniferous forests. It also hosts mangrove habitats, wet rainforests, cloud forests, dwarf forests, tropical dry forests, freshwater habitats, and marine ecoregions on both the Atlantic and Pacific coastlines. This diverse landscape is home to more than a thousand species of birds, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles.

Located in the area of the region's largest lake, Lake Nicaragua, the Onetepe Biosphere Reserve is another critical area for biodiversity. This single reserve is home to more than 170 species of resident and migratory birds, some of which are endangered species. Nicaragua has 78 nature reserves, parks, and wildlife sanctuaries. Unfortunately, even protected areas in this country experience high rates of poaching and deforestation. Like other Central American countries, some of the most common causes of deforestation are illegal logging, poaching, mining, and expansion of farming and grazing, primarily for exports.

Eden began operations in Nicaragua in 2020 with a strategy to work with local farmers and implement reforestation projects for this biodiverse nation and livelihood opportunities for impoverished households. Eden is currently planting at two sites within the country, Cerro de Atapal and Bosawas National Forest.





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