



United Nations

Framework Convention on Climate Change

Alliance for International Reforestation: Women Farmers in Guatemala

[Alliance for International Reforestation: Women Farmers in Guatemala](#) promotes tree planting to sequester carbon and improve farming techniques, such as preventing erosion, improving yields and increasing crop diversity. The activity also builds efficient brick stoves with chimneys that reduce both the negative health impacts caused by smoke inhalation and the need to cut down trees for fuel.

The problem

The harmful smoke emitted by the use of traditional wood fires for cooking has negative health and environmental impacts. Not only does it cause lung disease, it also contributes to deforestation. Deforested mountain slopes cause soil erosion and dangerous mudslides.

The solution

In 1998, a group of women farmers in Itzapa, Guatemala, partnered with AIRES (Alianza Internacional de Reforestacion) to learn how to farm with trees, in order to prevent soil erosion, mitigate climate change and improve crop yields and diversity without using dangerous chemicals. The women farmers planted thousands of native trees each year, trees that are growing and sequestering carbon into the future.

In addition, the women partnered with AIRES to build fuel-efficient brick stoves. The stoves prevent lung disease, burns, and use half the amount of firewood as traditional smoky fires. The women have continued planting tens of thousands of trees each year since receiving the initial farmer training from AIRES technicians.

Contact

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