

2005 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LAMBI FUND OF HAITI

Supporting economic justice, democracy and sustainable development in Haiti

MISSION

The Lambi Fund's mission is to assist the popular, democratic movement in Haiti.

Its goal is to help strengthen civil society as a necessary foundation of democracy and development. The fund channels financial and other resources to community-based organizations that promote the social and economic empowerment of the Haitian people.



Organizational Principles. The Lambi Fund supports projects from peasant-led organizations that are non-violent, non-partisan, and community-based, promote the advancement of women, use education and training for empowerment, and promote the overall democratic movement. Integrated into all Lambi Fund projects is the opportunity to reinforce indigenous democratic practices. The Lambi Fund focuses on the grassroots level through four mechanisms: community organizing, organizational development, civic participation, and promoting leadership by women.

History. The Lambi Fund of Haiti was founded in 1994 by Haitians, Haitian-Americans, and North Americans. The Lambi Fund draws its name from the lambi (pronounced lahm-bee), the Haitian Creole word for conch shell, which was blown as a horn and used during the slave rebellion against the French colonialists in 1791, to alert the slaves to impending danger and the need to assemble. The symbol of the lambi was chosen to represent the Haitian people's hope, strength, resistance, and struggle for self-determination.



THE LAMBI FUND OF HAITI

Supporting economic justice, democracy and sustainable development in Haiti

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ANNUAL REPORT 2005

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

In 2005, the Lambi Fund concentrated on the following Program Initiatives:

Sustainable Development – Sustainable agricultural projects, ox plows and grain mills help increase food security and income for peasant families. Many of these projects benefit women, who bear more of the burden in the agricultural economy.

Community Micro-credit – Members of a community organization band together to form collective micro-enterprise funds to provide one another with much needed capital to start self-sustaining community projects.

Environment – The conservation of Haiti's waning natural resources is central to all Lambi Fund projects. Community cisterns and irrigation systems help communities secure safe and efficient water supplies while community reforestation projects curb deforestation – the most rapid in the Western Hemisphere.

Organizational and Leadership Training – Alongside our routine technical and management training programs, Lambi Fund provides organizational and leadership development training programs for peasant organizations and women's associations.



Proven Outcomes

According to a recently conducted evaluation of our first ten years of work, studies showed that Lambi Fund projects involved 76,896 entrepreneurial participants whose collective enterprises impacted 1,222,145 Haitians! Researchers found well-documented evidence that Lambi Fund projects create change with: improved economic conditions, increased availability of food, reduced soil erosion, improved environment, increased availability of potable water, increased gender equity, improved democratic functioning, increased management capacity of organizations, and increased collaboration among grassroots organizations. Download a copy of the Executive Summary of the evaluation conducted by INFODEV, an evaluation and consulting firm in Haiti, at our website at http://www.lambifund.org/news_evaluation10yr.htm

Why Lambi Fund Works

The Lambi Fund of Haiti works because its unique bottom-up collaborative approach is different from the top-down approach of many charities. The Lambi Fund's original, grassroots development model succeeds because it relies on Haitians themselves to determine the needs and the most effective solutions in each community. The Lambi Fund's emphasis on democracy, a community's actual needs, and peasant-led solutions ensures more successful outcomes.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES IN 2005

2005: A YEAR OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CHALLENGES

While the news media in 2005 focused on the deteriorating security situation and the elections in Haiti, the Lambi Fund of Haiti's priorities were intensifying reforestation efforts, increasing peasants' skills and knowledge through expanded training, and recovering from the damage incurred by Hurricane Jeanne. These priorities responded to the needs of our partner organizations and took place in the context of our ongoing commitment to support economic justice, democracy and sustainable development.

2005 Statistics	
New Community-led projects	9
Projects became self-supporting	15
Participants trained	2,011
Trees planted	+ 100,000
Community projects rebuilt after hurricane	27
Women participating in women's conferences	72



WORKING ON THE DEFORESTATION PROBLEM

Reforestation. Many of our grassroots partner organizations experienced lower food production due to floods or drought. These extreme weather conditions are emblematic of the massive deforestation and consequent climate change in the area. Lambi Fund began an aggressive reforestation policy in 2005 whereby all Lambi Fund projects must now include a reforestation component.

Thanks to your support, Lambi Fund is working with peasant organizations in Haiti to help fuel a grassroots reforestation movement. After reflection on the reforestation issue, Lambi Fund and its partner organizations now have two levels of reforestation:

- 1) Small reforestation projects that are a subset of a larger sustainable development project. These projects are planting 10-50,000 trees each.
- 2) Large environmental projects whose main focus is a major reforestation effort. These projects are planting 50-100,000+ trees.

One group's reforestation plans. The mountain in Pochét is severely eroded due to over-planting of peanuts and deforestation, causing landslides so devastating that part of the mountain has slid into a ravine. This is a disaster on an ecological level. In order to save lives, the village and the mountain, drastic steps must be taken to protect the land. Members of the **Assembly of the Peasants of Pochet (RPP)** asked Lambi Fund to help them reforest the area.



The members passionately want to recover the badly eroded land on their mountain. They will save lives by planting trees to stop mudslides and by training other peasants about reforestation to preserve the land. They will be building nurseries for reforestation and agro-forestry gardens. They will also create a campaign to raise awareness about the degradation of the environment due to deforestation and the continual planting of peanuts. Lambi will provide funds for training, tools, and six nurseries capable of raising 100,000 tree seedlings.

RECOVERING FROM HURRICANE DESTRUCTION

Hurricane Recovery Update. The Hurricane Jeanne Emergency Project started in Oct. 2004 and continued throughout 2005. Lambi Fund has received generous funding from people like you to help re-build the community run projects that were damaged by the floods caused by Hurricane Jeanne. We especially want to thank Bob Snow, Mary Lania and our friends with the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee for their loyal support during the disaster recovery.

In Ennri, one group needed their irrigation system repaired so they could continue with farming. Lambi Fund helped projects like the Peasant Organization of Garat replace their livestock for breeding purposes. The Planter's Association of Gros Morne needed to replace their irrigation pump in order to sustain their plantain farm. Lambi Fund also helped the Dibedou Federated Group for Community Action repair the irrigation canal so that farming in the area would continue. In all, over 27 grassroots organizations impacting over 25,000 people are now on the road to recovery, thanks to your help.

INCREASING PEASANTS SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

Expanded training. Thanks to your donations, Lambi Fund organized and conducted training in 2005 for over 2,000 members of 20 peasant groups on the following topics:

- Project Management and Simple Accounting
- Management of Micro-Credit Funds
- Managing a Community Irrigation System
- Sustainable Agriculture Techniques
- Water Management, Hygiene and Treatment of Water
- Management of Economic and Commercial Activities
- Management for Organizational Leaders

Regional Training Conferences. Lambi conducted two regional conferences for women with the theme "**Women Chat and Organize – Environment and Hygiene in the Family**". Lambi Fund Advisory Board Member Marguerite Joseph and Lambi Fund staff members Josette Perard and Pierre St. Cyr trained the gatherings of 72 women on organizing for social change, interdependency of lifestyle and the environment, importance of proper trash disposal, composting, hygiene in food preparation and disease prevention, and ways to purify water for safe drinking. The presentation on water purification techniques triggered much discussion since many of the women were from communities that lacked potable water. The conference concluded with singing, dancing and eating to celebrate and reinforce the solidarity and learning that took place at the three-day conference.

Lambi also organized two general conferences with the theme "**Agricultural Production in Solidarity**", which examined the techniques for successful management of a cooperatively-run sustainable agriculture project. The trainers were Donald Louis Cazeau, a specialist in "cooperative production," and Lambi Fund agronomists Ferry Pierre-Charles, Paul Rodney and Joseph Dorsainvil.

CONTINUING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Action towards achieving self-determination. Because of the support of people like you, nine new projects are in the preliminary stages: community farm projects, micro-credit funds, a pig and goat raising project, a fish raising project, two community cistern systems and four large reforestation projects (although all of these new projects have a reforestation component).



Progress towards self-sufficiency. As a result of your past support, 15 small-scale economic development projects became self-supporting, including grain storage projects, grain mills, community cisterns, irrigation systems, ox plow services, pig raising projects, micro-credit funds, and tool bank projects. Food production was increased for projects in the South. Food production was increased for projects in the Artibonite Valley but many of those harvests were destroyed by the flooding from Hurricane Jeanne.



What were the major challenges in 2005?

The Lambi Fund staff living in Port au Prince has been under a lot of pressure, with the unrest due to the social, economic and political conditions in the country. Visiting U.S. Board and staff members were kidnapped in April and thankfully released safely, minus their money, laptops and other valuables.

It is sometimes difficult for the Lambi Fund staff to travel to the provinces because of this unrest. Our two Field Monitors (Tidjo in the Artibonite and St Cyr in the South) have been lifesavers as they have been able to take on increased responsibilities when the program staff from Port au Prince could not travel to the countryside. The Field Monitors have been able to monitor, evaluate and provide field support to projects. When the insecurity level decreased, Ferry (Lambi Field Director) and Paul (Lambi Assistant Field Director) made visits to rural organizations and conducted trainings.

Public transport has become very expensive. The price of gasoline has doubled or tripled. The price of everything the peasants need - seeds, tools, water - is high. The economic situation is not improving and this demobilizes people as they focus exclusively on survival. For these reasons, in 2006 Lambi Fund plans to work more on projects that encourage food production in order to address the reality of hunger and high prices, and also with environmental projects in order to counteract the effects of ecologic devastation.

In view of all this, how did the Lambi Fund manage to maintain operations and help grassroots organizations? This is a testament to the ability of the Haiti staff to maintain its course in a country of conflict and strife. Because the program staff of the Lambi Fund consists entirely of Haitians who live and work in Haiti and have many years' experience as activists and agronomists, the Lambi Fund staff knows the terrain, the culture and how to flexibly deal with challenging situations.

2005 NEW PROJECTS

Micro-credit, Seeds, Training – Dibedou Federation of Gwoupman for Community Action (FEGACD) created an agricultural credit program for 150 farmers to access micro-credit loans at planting time. This will help increase food production in the area. Lambi Fund provided approximately \$8,000 seed money for the micro-credit fund to aid 150 farmers, and trained the farmers in organic farming techniques.

Pig and Goat Breeding – The Small Community Church of Dewonsre (TKLD) – increased their economic outlook by starting a pig and goat breeding enterprise. Lambi Fund provided funds to buy 21 pigs, 20 goats, establish a veterinary pharmacy, supply food for the animals and training for the farmers, as well as hire two veterinary technicians.

Reforestation – The Assembly of the Peasants of Pochet (RPP) built tree nurseries for reforestation purposes. They are also creating an awareness raising campaign about the degradation of the environment due to the continual planting of peanuts and deforestation. Lambi Fund provided funds for six nurseries capable of raising 100,000 seedlings, tools and training.

Reforestation and Water – The 600 members of the Konbit 2004 of Piko-Chato built ten rainwater cisterns, of 4,500 gallons each, so that they have potable water for the area and water to raise 100,000 saplings. Lambi Fund has already worked with this group on a micro-credit project and provided additional funds for the ten cisterns and the materials needed for five nurseries capable of raising 100,000 seedlings.

Fish Farming – Due to the severe lack of animal protein in the area, members of the Cooperative Association for the Development of Nava (CADN) created a fish farm. They are building a large fresh water basin to raise carp for commerce. They also are doing a reforestation project. Lambi funded the cost of the 783 sq. meter basin and the start up cost for the fingerlings and reforestation with 10,000 seedlings.

Manioc and Tools – The 601 members of Live Hope for the Development of Cap Rouge (Vedek) increase manioc production in the area with a micro credit program to encourage farmers to plant manioc and a tool bank for use by manioc farmers, as well as a reforestation project. Lambi funded the micro-credit program for 50 farmers, purchased manioc seeds, tools and organic pesticides, bought 10,000 seedlings to build a tree nursery for agroforestation, and provided training on sustainable agriculture techniques.

Microcredit, Seeds, Training – The 950 members of the Landless Peasant Protest Movement (MRPST) are getting free of the large landowners and the exorbitant fees they charge for loans by creating their own micro-lending program for farmers. They are starting a reforestation project, as well. Lambi funded the micro-credit program for 60 farmers, provided the training, and covered the expenses to build a nursery to raise 60,000 seedlings each year for reforestation.

Microcredit, Seeds, Trees and Training – The 300 members of the Organization of Peasants for the Development of Ennri (OPDE) are farming more land and learning sustainable agriculture techniques for increasing yields. Lambi funded the micro-credit program for 150 farmers, started a seed bank, provided sustainable agriculture training and bought the materials for the members to build a tree nursery for 10,000 seedlings for the reforestation project.

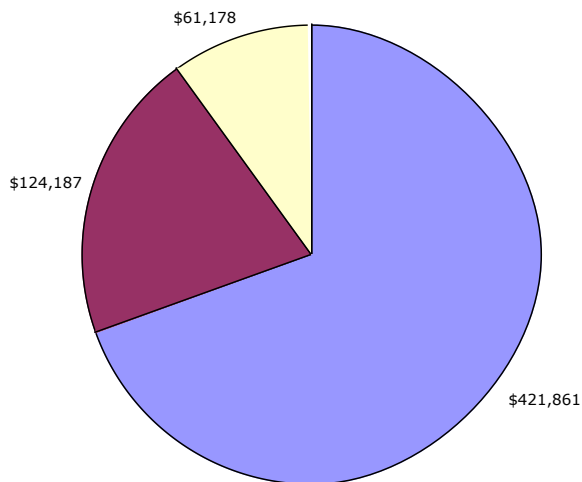
Potable Water – As a result of a lack of potable water, the members of the Peasant Organization of Geren provided 60 families access to portable water with the construction of ten rainwater cisterns. Lambi Fund provided the materials to build the cisterns and provided training on how to maintain and conserve the water and how to purify it before drinking. Members are also planting trees to reforest the area.

2005 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2005

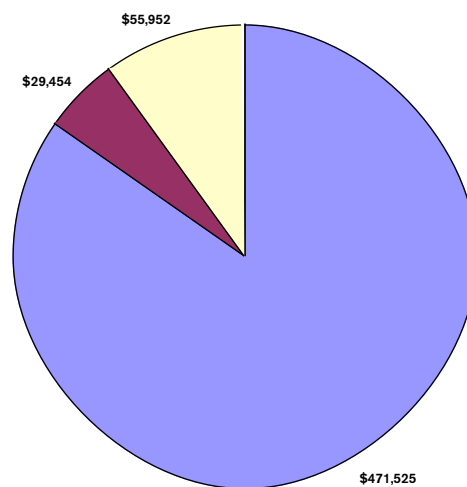
2005 REVENUES

Grants \$421,861
 Individuals \$124,187
 Earned Income \$61,178
Total Revenues \$607,226



2005 EXPENSES

Programs \$471,525
 Management \$29,454
 Fundraising \$55,952
Total Expenses \$556,931



BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash	
Funds held in U.S.	\$ 242,110
Funds held in Haiti	172,558
Total cash	\$ 414,668
Loans receivable	\$ 4,951
Grants receivable	7,454
Other receivables	21,857
Prepaid expenses	10,377
Total current assets	\$ 459,307

Fixed Assets	\$ 5,114
Furniture and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	

Total Assets \$ 464,421

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	
	<u>\$ 5,703</u>

Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$ 284,906
Temporarily restricted	173,812
Total net assets	\$ 458,718

Total Liabilities and net assets

\$ 464,421

THANKS TO MAJOR SUPPORTERS IN 2005

American Jewish World Service
 Changemakers
 Christ Church
 Community Foundation for
 Nat'l Capital Region
 Dewey Foundation
 First Data Western Union Foundation
 Global Greengrants Fund
 Headwaters Fund
 Intermon Foundation
 Maverick Fund of Peace
 Development Fund
 Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger
 New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
 Presbyterian Hunger Program
 Public Welfare Foundation
 St. John Student Parish
 Share Our Strength
 Sheehan Family Foundation
 Tet Ansanm
 Unitarian Universalist
 Service Committee
 Vanderbilt Foundation
 Woodbury Fund

.... And the hundreds of individuals like you who supported the Lambi Fund in solidarity with the people of Haiti.

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yes!

- Yes! I want to help peasant organizations in Haiti. Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____
- Yes! I want to help peasant organizations in Haiti. I pledge to contribute \$ _____ on a monthly/quarterly basis (circle one)
- Yes! I want to help spread the word about Lambi Fund. I plan to give this report to a friend who shares my values and ask them to help, too.

Please clip and return to
 Lambi Fund of Haiti, PO Box 18955, Washington DC 20036.
 Checks payable to Lambi Fund of Haiti.
 All donations are tax deductible

Name: _____

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