



LAMIN JAWARA MEMORIAL ECO FARM



Project Proposal

Introduction

Lamin Jawara, late father of Yankuba Jawara, was a successful farmer and set up the original farm on this land in Kiang Nema. In recent years economic and other forces have resulted in rural-urban migration which Yankuba has personally experienced causing the land to fall out of use. Rural-urban migration has also had a strong impact on village life.

The people of Kiang Nema have few of the advantages of modern life such as good nutrition, education and affordable healthcare which are so often taken for granted in other countries. Average income is low and there is little money to invest in building for the future.

This aim of this project is to improve the livelihood of the people of Kiang Nema and the surround villages. The project intends to achieve this by setting up the Lamin Jawara Memorial Eco Farm to produce foods for market which will also be sold locally at an affordable price. This will increase income and also improve nutrition within the village. The project will use permaculture and low environmental impact farming methods wherever possible and will aim to raise awareness of permaculture and sustainable farming methods in the district. It will also create employment.

Motivation

The project was initiated by Yankuba and his friends Richard and Faith Burfoot, from the United Kingdom, in response to the hardships experienced by the people of Kiang Nema and to counteract rural urban migration. Yankuba inherited the land from his late father Lamin Jawawa. Richard and Faith Burfoot have kindly given their support to the project and donated £1000 to fund work on the initial infrastructure including digging local wells and fencing.

Project Objective

The project has the following key aims:

- 1 Develop and maintain a successful eco farm
- 2 Generate income from the sale of produce
- 3 Create employment and develop farming skills
- 4 Raise awareness of permaculture farming methods

In addition to these main aims the project hopes to address the issues of rural urban migration and complement Government effort to reduce poverty in the area.

Project Details

Environment and Resources

The area of the land is 365 square metres located in Kiang Nema, Lower River Division, The Gambia. This land is owned by Yankuba Jawara and will be leased to the project, initially for a 5 year term, at a nominal rent.

The land is located approximately 1 kilometre from the river. The land is level and fertile grassland and the water table is less than 10 metres down. A 10 metre deep well would supply the water necessary for the initial phase.

Local agricultural hand tools are widely available for use in cultivating the land.

A laptop and printer are also available for the use of the project.

Human Resources

The project will be directed by Yankuba Jawara who has a detailed knowledge of the land and the surrounding area and has many existing contacts in the village.

Yankuba will be assisted by Rachel Fowler. Rachel is a NEBOSH qualified Health and Safety Manager with a background in business management. She will be working full time on the project from October 2006.

Advice and assistance will also be given by Richard & Faith Burfoot, Martin Tanner, Albert & Val Lambert, Richard Fowler and Paul Penny where possible.

Issues and Challenges

Financial resource - The main issue in the start up phase will be financial resource which we hope to cover by donations.

Insects and other pests - There is also the issue of insects and other pests which we hope to reduce the impact of by companion planting and other methods.

Transport – it is necessary to move produce to market quickly so that it arrives in good condition and can command a good price. The project will need to have access to appropriate transport for this purpose.

Electricity supply - Kiang Nema has no electricity supply. This will dictate which tools can be used and affect other areas of the project – for example charging the laptop will need to be done by solar panel.

Permaculture methods are not widely used in this area and the knowledge and skills will need to be gained to ensure success of the project.

Deliverables

A quarterly update will be sent to all contributors by email. In addition to this an annual report will be produced which will include a financial and budget statement. The project will measure its success by the income generated and by the employment created.

Timeline

2006

- July - Completion of planning phase
- August - Construction of infrastructure, fencing
- October - Digging of well and first phase planting

2007

- January - Construction of borehole

Project Approach

Yankuba will visit the UK in July 2006 to complete the planning phase of the project. During this trip he will also visit a permaculture smallholding in the Peak District to see how farming methods can be adapted to the land available.

Budget

Costs

Lease of land	D100 per year
Fencing – first phase	D
Fencing – remainder of fencing required	D
Well digging and construction – first phase	D
Transportation – purchase of vehicle	D
Transportation – fuel, maintenance, etc	D
Plant stocks	D
Tools and equipment	D
Administration costs -	
Registration of land	D1000
Taxes	D

Income

The main source of income for the initial start up costs will come from donations. The project aims to become entirely self sustaining after the first two seasons.

The following people, who are all UK citizens have pledged their support in this initial phase: Richard & Faith Burfoot, Martin Tanner, Albert & Val Lambert, Richard Fowler and Paul Penny.

Contact Information

Yankuba Jawara

00220 9980365
Jawarayanks15@yahoo.com

Richard and Faith Burfoot

Rachel Fowler

0044 (0)7841 437290
rachel.fowler@yahoo.co.uk