# PLANTING REPORT 2019 Let's plant a better future

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# **REFORESTATION PROJECT YUCATÁN PENINSULA, MEXICO**

We started our Reforestation Project near Campeche, Mexico in March 2015. Since then, we have already planted millions of trees.







### **CONFIRMATION BY CONAFOR:** REFORESTATION OF 3 MILLION TREES, NOTARISED ON NOV 21ST, 2018







La Comisión Nacional Forestal Otorga el presente

# Reconocimiento

A

## PLANT-FOR-THE-PLANET AC

Por el establecimiento de Tres millones de plantas forestales con fines de

Conservación y Restauración en el Rancho Las Américas I y II, Constitución,

Calakmul, Campeche.

San Francisco de Campeche, Campeche, 21 de noviembre de 2018.

Lic. Alonso Julián Pael Gerente Estatal





### **CONFIRMATION BY CONAFOR: REFORESTATION OF 2.2 MILLION TREES. NOTARISED ON FEB 6TH, 2020**





**MISION NACIONAL FORESTAL** GERENCIA ESTATAL CAMPECHE GECAM-0038/2020 SAN FRANCISCO DE CAMPECHE, CAMPECHE A 06 DE FEBRERO DE 2020

#### A QUIEN CORRESPONDA:

Por este medio, hacemos constar que la PLANT-FOR-THE-PLANET A.C., tiene como objetivo:

Promover entre la población la prevención y conciencia ambiental en la protección al ambiente, la preservación y restauración del equilibrio ecológico.

Así mismo, hacemos constar que PLANT-FOR-THE-PLANET A.C., ha realizado las actividades establecidas en su objetivo social desde 2011, tales como:

- Implementación de actividades de reforestación en espacios públicos en vinculación con el H. Ayuntamiento de Escárcega.
- Participación en la coordinación de charlas informativas para generar conciencia ambiental en escuelas y espacios públicos para los habitantes de nuestro país.
- Desde el 11 de Junio trabajando bajo convenio de colaboración con la Comisión Nacional Forestal en Campeche y en otros estados.
- Reforestación de 2, 200,000 plantas forestales en el rancho Américas 2, ubicado en centenario, Escárcega, Campeche.

Se extiende la presente CONSTANCIA DE VALIDACIÓN DE ACTIVIDADES SIN FINES DE LUCRO, a efecto de la organización civil acreditada, este en posibilidades de cumplir con este requisito para ser considerado donataria autorizada.

Sin otro particular, reciba un cordial saludo.

ING. RODOLEO ROMERO ORTIZ SUPLENTE LEGAL DE LA GERENCIA ESTATAL CAMPECHE

Calle Salvador s/n, entre calle Costa Rica y calle Querétaro, Col. Barrio de Santa Ana. San Francisco de Campeche, Campeche, C.P. 24050 t: (981) 816 3094 www.gob.mx/conafor NSANATE DE CANALE DE C







## THE LOCATION

We plant in four areas covering a total of 22,500 hectares near the small town Constitución in Campeche, Mexico.









## **TREE SPECIES**

We plant a variety of native species, which grow very well in our planting areas.



#### Balché

Mexican name: Balché

Botanical name: Lonchocarpus longistylus Pittier

Grows up to 10 metres high, with dense and round foliage.

Traditional use of the species: Sacred tree of the Maya.



#### Mombin plum

Mexican name: Jabín

Botanical name: Sponias mombin

Grows to a height of 20 meters.

Traditional use of the species: Utilised in beekeeping as the flowering period lasts four months.



#### American Mahogany

Mexican name: Caoba

Botanical name: Swietenia macrophylla

Grows up to 25 meters high.

Trunk up to 1.5 m in diameter at chest height. The crown is leafy and opens up in to the shape of a fan.

Small yellowish green flowers from May to June.



#### Trumpet tree

Mexican name: Maculís Botanical name: Tabebuia rosea Grows up to 15 meters high. Trunk is straight and cracked. Traditional use: The wood is used for rural construction work.

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## **TREE SPECIES**



# Guanacaste/Pitch (mimosa plant)

Mexican name: Pich

Botanical name: Enterolobium cyclocarpum Reaches 20 to 30 meters high.

Yellow flowers from March to May.

Traditional use of the species: The seeds are eaten roasted and are as nutritious as protein-rich beans.



#### Bread walnut

Mexican name: Ramón Botanical name: Brosimum Allicastrum Grows to a height of 30 meters. Evergreen, dense crown, simple leaves. Flowers from February to March.



#### Siricote/Cordia

Mexican name: Siricote

Botanical name: Cordia dodecandra

Reaches up to 30 meters.

Deciduous, very dense, rounded crown, notably rough, simple leaves.

Traditional use: The bark and wood are used to treat colds. It is often found as an ornamental plant in parks and gardens.



#### Mushroom/Chewing Gum Tree

Mexican name: Zapote

Botanical name: Manilkara zapota

Grows up to 40 m high, evergreen, single leaves.

Fruits in the form of berries with brown rough skin, very sweet and juicy flesh.

Traditional use of the species: The fruit is valued for its taste, latex collected from this tree is used to make chewing gum, its wood is used to build houses, furniture, etc.

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## THE TEAM

We employ locals and provide an income to both them and their families. The income is above what an forest worker in the region in average is payed.



Forest Engineer Alejandra Rayas Ruíz describes the average workers' day as:

"Persons who plant trees get up at 4:45 a.m., at 5:00 a.m. they are already planting trees, at 7:00 am they get back to the camp area to have a breakfast, then they continue working until 3:00 p.m.

All these workers need to eat enough food every day, so there are 10 cooks who prepare breakfast, lunch and dinner for all. Three workers are drivers since water, food for cooking, toilet products and other necessary things are needed in the planting area.

When the workers planting trees finish their work, the cooks have already prepared lunch, so the workers can eat. After eating, most of them get a shower and start playing cards. Around 6:00 p.m. they have dinner and then they go to sleep.

We have huts at the planting area because many workers would need to travel to the planting area for some hours. So they sleep at the site and always work for 10 days before returning to their families for some days."







## THE TEAM



Dr. Ing. Raúl Negrete President (voluntary) of Plant-for-the-Planet Mexico A.C.



Elder de la Cruz General Supervisor of all Workers



Ing. Carlos Luna Forest Engineer, responsible for the tree nursery



Ing. Alejandra Rayas Ruíz Forest Engineer, technical Supervisor of the planting projects





## **HOW WE PLANT**

JUNE

#### SPRING

Seeds are selected and soil is prepared. The seedlings grow strong in our own tree nursery. The seedlings are able to grow strong in our tree nursery. The small seedlings are protected from aggressive sun light.

#### Carlos Luna describes the

work in the tree nursery: "We produce 20% more seedlings than we need, so we can select the best trees and keep our high survival rate on the planting ground. With 35 workers, we are growing 8 tree species.Each species sprouts at a different time, so we schedule when to seed each species."















## **HOW WE PLANT**

#### JUNE

#### **SPRING & EARLY SUMMER**

We prepare the planting sites for the upcoming season. Furthermore, we repair machines and take care of infrastructure.

#### Paulina, Climate Justice

Ambassador from Mexico: "We plant our seedlings in two different kinds of areas: in flat lands, where the trees have been chopped down and with only grass left behind and also in degraded forests that have been plundered (of all tall and valuable trees) and then have been left behind. On empty lands, we clear the areas by hand first and then plant a tree every 4 meters. If we are planting inside of degraded forests, we respect the existing trees and plant our seedlings between them."













## **HOW WE PLANT**

JUNE





#### **EARLY SUMMER UNTIL WINTER** When the rainy season begins, we wait until enough rain has fallen to start planting trees. Usually, this is in June. We can then plant trees

until December / January.

Throughout the year, we take care of all the trees we have already planted. 94% survive the first year. After only 4 years, they are more than 4 metres tall. When single trees have not survived, we plant new trees in the free spaces.

In 2019 we already survived a fire on the plantation area, in June 2020 also a flood due to the heavy rainfall at the beginning of the rainy season. We have mastered both challenges.





Elder de la Cruz describes how important it is to take care of planted trees: *"It is really important to clear the area of weeds on a regular basis so that the trees can grow freely. We need to clean the area every 3 months so the trees get enough sunlight and we keep our 94% survival rate."* 







## **PLANTING SEASON DATES 2019**







## **EXPLORING THE SCIENCE BEHIND**

In 2019, we paved the way for a new planting area "Science Forest PlanBe". Plant-for-the-Planet offers this area to research institutions around the world for field trials. Since we are planting these trees anyway, thanks to your support, we might as well use them to better understand ecosystems. Researchers studying tropical dry forest restoration ecology and related topics are invited to apply. A first scientific experiment with 16,000 trees was started in January 2020 in collaboration with the Crowther Lab at ETH Zurich. A further study for Imperial College London will follow in summer 2020 and build upon this first study.

Located near a passable road, this area is very suitable for visits as well! Soon, a visitor forest will lead you through the research area(s) and let you experience science "firsthand". Furthermore, a tree nursery and a visitor center are planned for this site.





## Felix Finkbeiner, Founder of Plant-for-the-Planet and PhD Student at ETH Zurich:

"Global forest ecosystems absorb and offset nearly 30 percent of anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions storing carbon in living plant biomass and soil. Soil inoculation with native microbial communities increases seedling growth and survival as shown in greenhouse experiments as well as field trials in grassland ecosystems. However, to date, there is no reforestation field trial that actively manipulates the forest microbiome. As a result, whether or not we can restore the forest soil microbiome under realistic field conditions, and in turn improve forest restoration outcomes and C-sequestration rates, remains unknown. In Yucatán we have created a field experiment to directly test the impact of soil microbiome restoration on tree growth, survival and ecosystem carbon sequestration rates. We planted native tree species mixes with and without soil microbiome inoculation (the complex community of soil bacteria and fungi) from multiple environments. We measure tree growth, survival and carbon Sequestration and sequence the DNA of the micriobiome. By comparing inoculated and un-inoculated treatments we will be able to directly measure the impact of soil microbiome on restoration outcomes. If this is successful, not only will it improve our understanding of plantsoil interactions but also allow us to directly apply this knowledge in our restoration work to make our trees grow faster and capture more carbon "







# A HEALTHY FOREST IS GROWING AGAIN







#### **Donation Accounts**

Germany: Bank für Sozialwirtschaft IBAN: DE13 7002 0500 0000 2000 00 **BIC/SWIFT: BFSWDE33MUE** 

Switzerland: Luzerner Kantonalbank IBAN: CH06 0077 8202 4545 1200 1 **BIC/SWIFT: LUKBCH2260A Brasilien** 

Brazil: Banco Itaú (341) Agência: 0300 Conta Corrente: 42707-7 CNPJ: 20.346.141/0001-78 Holder: Plant-for-the-Planet Brazil

**Italy:** Banca Etica IBAN: IT70S0501811800000012284030 SWIFT/BIC: CCRTIT2T84A

Spain: BBVA SWIFT / BIC: BBVAESBB

Mexiko: BBVA BANCOMER Account number: 0193447065 Clave interbancaria: 0126 9400 1934 4706 59 **BIC/SWIFT: BCMRMXMMPYM** 

Czech Republic: Česká Spořitelna IBAN: CZ900800000005748490399 **BIC/SWIFT: GIBACZPX** 

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**Donate online:** plant-for-the-planet.org



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