



## IDEAS For Us: Liberia Tree Planting Proposal

### Primary Contact:

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### Branch Leaders:

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### Project Introduction:

**IDEAS For Us** (IDEAS) is an Orlando-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and an accredited NGO of the United Nations. Our mission is to develop ideas, fund action, and scale solutions that solve the world's most pressing environmental and social challenges. In 2012 the IDEAS for Us movement was extended to Liberia to reach communities that are being directly affected by climate change at a faster pace. The branch leader, Stephen Lavalah, has been working to engage the communities of Monrovia in climate action projects like clean ups, educational events, and tree plantings in order to mobilize the people and heal the planet. IDEAS for Us Liberia seeks to empower Oak Foundation to support the climate action movement in Liberia by supporting a tree planting project that will truly make a life-changing difference towards advancing sustainability.

### Problem:

Forests are essential to life on earth and **currently cover 31% of the land area on our planet**. They sequester carbon from our environment, produce oxygen, and provide wildlife habitat. Deforestation comes in many forms, including fires, clear-cutting for agriculture, ranching and development, unsustainable logging for timber, and degradation due to invasive species and climate change. This impacts people's livelihoods and threatens a wide range of plant and animal species. With increased natural disasters, urban sprawl, and a lack of ecological education, conserved natural land areas are losing more and more trees every year along with the endemic species relying on those habitats for survival. **We're losing 18.7 million acres of forests annually, equivalent to 27 soccer fields every minute.** It is estimated that 15% of all greenhouse gas emissions are the result of deforestation. Throughout our international branches, it is vital to bring community members together around tree conservation to plant for a better future.

### Solution:

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, a **single tree can absorb as much as 48 pounds of carbon dioxide per year, and can sequester 1 ton of carbon dioxide by the time it reaches 40 years**

**old.** The IDEAS For Us Liberia Tree Planting project plan is to engage the \_\_\_\_\_ community in a native tree restoration project that benefits the people and the ecosystems.

### **Proposal Objectives and Goals**

**Goal 1:** Gather community members to discuss the importance of trees and land conservation during the monthly IDEAS Hive community event.

- **Objective 1A:** Hold free tree science workshops where participants will learn the value of local forests and how to identify native trees in their areas.
- **Objective 1B:** Cultivate relationships between people and the planet by providing opportunities to care for it.

**Goal 2:** Plant up to 100 native trees per village throughout the span of one year and offset up to 30,000 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per year per planting site.

- **Objective 2A:** Host a community tree planting day by mobilizing residents, local students, and local businesses to plant trees on select locations.
- **Objective 2B:** Improve soil and air quality, reducing the impact of landslide, erosion, and air pollution.

**Goal 3:** Schedule maintenance and ecosystem check ups to ensure the success of the tree plantings.

- **Objective 3A:** Create long term climate solutions that will benefit the ecosystems.
- **Objective 3B:** Share the impact of these projects with the audience of IDEAS for Us and Ecosia to spread awareness and mobilize more people in the movement.

### **Desired Outcomes:**

- Support long term climate solutions in these communities.
- Empower individuals to lead and mobilize other leaders for the environmental movement.
- Provide the branch with supplies to plant native trees.
  - Track the progress in environmental and humanitarian activities.
  - Share their story online through IDEAS For Us media and marketing department.
  - Ensure on-going environmental action with support from International Director in training and leadership skills.
  - Provide full reports on the success of these projects in one calendar year.
- Cultivate sustainable practices through the educational events that take place when establishing native trees.



## Budget Breakdown

Item description	Unit cost in USD	Quantity	Total Cost in USD
Tree planting in _____			