

BANKERS WITHOUT BORDERS®

Dow Sustainability Corps Provides New Hope for Farmers



Dow employees Everton Luz and Anirban Ghose

Project: Facilitating Access to Finance Markets: An E-Warehouse for Kenyan Farmers.

Purpose: Review GF's processes and develop a risk management strategy for the e-Warehouse program.

Project Dates: May – July 2013

Volunteer Hours Invested: 100

Impact: A secure payment system has been developed that will allow farmers to sell their grain at higher prices. The program is working with over 4,000 farmers, 74% living on less than \$2.50USD /day.

"Volunteering with Dow allows me to give back a tiny fraction of what I've been granted," said Everton. "I enjoyed working on an initiative that will 'change the name of the game' for several farmers in Kenya. They will have the possibility to increase their profitability by changing the way they approach the market, raise their productivity, and enhance their knowledge about market dynamics."



Dow employees Katherine Cooke, Kathleen Jurman and Kathleen Manley

Project: Conducting corporate, interview-based research to inform the business model of agricultural programs in Latin America.

Purpose: Scale impact and sustainability of mobile information services that contribute to higher productivity and profitability of smallholder farmers.

Project Dates: April – July 2013

Volunteer Hours Invested: 100

Impact: Informed the business model of a program that helps 409 farming families, with a goal of reaching 100,000 families over the next three years.

"The research that Dow employees conducted provided important insights on the information needs of commercial companies when sourcing from smallholder farmers in Latin America," said Grameen Foundation's Regional CEO for Latin America, Alberto Solano. "Their recommendations are valuable input that will help us improve our field efforts to increase the inclusion of poor farmers in international markets and value chains."



Dow Employees: Liliana Velandia Centina and Carlos Madrid

Project: Building Information Content for Smallholder Farmers.

Purpose: Develop a database of information useful to poor Colombian farmers, who can improve their productivity by accessing the information through mobile phones.

Project Dates: October – December 2012

Volunteer Hours Invested: 400

Impact: Immediate help to 409 farming families with a goal of reaching 100,000 families over the next three years.

"Volunteering for this project was an amazing experience," said Liliana. "All in all, we are extremely happy with the results and very hopeful of the things that can be achieved to improve the activities and lives of our small growers in Colombia."