Rainforest Partnership is an international nonprofit based in Austin, Texas that is committed to protecting tropical rainforests. We do this by partnering with indigenous communities in the Amazon to help them make a sustainable income that allows them to protect their forests and their way of life.
FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Rainforest Partners,

Rainforest Partnership is now in its fifth year. We have been working with our partner rainforest communities in developing alternative and sustainable income streams. From the onset, our mission was to work with rainforest communities directly and with a bottom up approach and most will agree that this isn’t easy or simple. And yet, we have had many successes. But there are two parts to this equation. What we consume and how we consume it, has an effect on the choices that rainforest communities have to make. It is this aspect of the partnership that we will start focusing on in 2013.

We will reach out to all of you our supporters--and Rainforest Partners--as we embark on formalizing and expanding this unique aspect of our mission in 2013 so that together we can protect the lungs of the planet.

WHY IT MATTERS

Although it seems far away, the rainforest is an important part of our lives. It plays a crucial role in storing carbon, regulating water cycles and temperature, and it provides incredible biodiversity. We humans directly benefit from the many rainforest plants used in modern medicines. Currently, deforestation is responsible for more than 17% of carbon dioxide emissions worldwide.

HOW WE WORK

We partner with Amazon communities in Ecuador and Peru and provide resources to help them succeed in creating a sustainable income in a way that doesn’t lead to deforestation. We help these communities protect their way of life and in turn they help us by protecting the environment.

Board of Directors

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Anthony Dasari
Board Member

Niyanta Spelman
Executive Director

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Board Chair

Niyanta Spelman
Executive Director
“Starting off it wasn’t like this. What you see now, it’s different... we have advanced and moved forward with our crafts by the women. I just give thanks.”

Elvia, Sani Isla community member

Since March 2010, Rainforest Partnership and the women in the indigenous community of Sani Isla have worked together to develop the Sani Isla artisan project, a community-run artisan business; this is the first time the women in this community have been involved in an economic activity. The women are harvesting forest seeds, fibers and vines to make products using traditional methods and selling them to tourists from the nearby ecolodge.

In 2012, the women made many advances. They have learned effective business practices, improved the quality of their products and had a successful learning tour to Quito to see where their products can be sold, how much goods are sold for, and what other indigenous products are in the market. In 2012, the women became increasingly self-organized and managed, breaking into 5 alternating groups which tended to their nursery, artisan studio, and tourists. We formalized a schedule with the community ecolodge for visiting tourists and the women are seeing an increase in sales and confidence.

Due to outside pressure from oil companies wanting to extract oil on their titled land, in late 2012, the leaders of the women’s group asked for more education and a project coordinator that would be more hand on in working with them. Our goal for 2013 is to improve their business, leadership, and communication skills by having an actively involved coordinator in the community as well as provide the educational workshops they asked for.
Since 2009 Rainforest Partnership has been partnering with the San Antonio and Calabaza communities in the district of Pampa Hermosa in central Peru. Called Colibri Cloudforest, here we are working with the communities to protect their primary forest by developing basic infrastructure to support and market ecotourism. Colibri Cloudforest has unparalleled and accessible beauty and biodiversity.

After establishing a temporary ecolodge in Calabaza in 2011, we planned on creating a basic ecohostel in San Antonio for 2012. The community began to receive guests in Calabaza at the temporary hostel in late 2011 through 2012. The hostel is San Antonio was a much-needed addition to the community – not only to house visitors and tourists, but also to create a sustainable source of income for both communities and provide options to visitors at different elevations. Each site, 45 minutes apart, has endemic birds and birding opportunities as well as trails and waterfalls.

Accordingly, in 2012, we developed a design and budget for the San Antonio ecohostel. With collaboration between architectural support from the municipality, labor from the community and funding from Rainforest Partnership, planning and construction began in fall 2012. Using an unfinished community building that had been standing unfinished for 20 years, the first floor was completed and the second floor and bathrooms were to be added in 2013.
In 2009, Rainforest Partnership worked with the community of Chipaota to create a management plan to sustainably and legally harvest the piassaba palm fiber from their community-owned forest. In following years, we helped the community create an association, a legal business community business entity, created market links to sell their fibers, constructed a broom making facility to have a value-added product and worked with developing management skills among the members of this association.

In 2012, the community improved product quality and production efficiency as well expanded their market. ECOMUSA, the communal business of piassaba harvesters, reorganized its management in 2012 and also experienced challenges in leadership and management. With that in mind, 2013 is about focusing on improving communications, conducting leadership and management training so that ECOMUSA can continue to expand on its early successes and establish their business to its potential.

The partnership between Rainforest Partnership and the men and the women of Chipaota community that are part of the artisan association has allowed the basketweaving tradition in the Chipaota culture to be invigorated. Without this business endeavor, the basket weaving tradition would have permanently disappeared due to the replacement of plastic containers and the belief that producing baskets was not a suitable means for a sustainable alternative income.

In 2012, the Chipaota artisan community further developed its handicrafts business by creating an artisan studio and working toward the development of new markets. Product sales in 2012 were greater than in previous years due to improved quality, inspiring business growth. As a result, they were able to sell their products in nearby locations of Chipaota, Lamas, Tarapoto, and Lima.

Next steps for 2013 include transitioning this project to be self-sufficient and incorporated with the local municipality as well further developing markets in Tarapoto and Lima.
About

Films for the Forest is an annual international short film contest created by Rainforest Partnership. Films may explore any aspect of forests and rainforests. Suggested topics include any of the following: conservation, deforestation, indigenous and forest communities, biodiversity, climate change, sustainable development, community development, forest resources, and forest flora and fauna.

Why

We host this annual film competition to engage, educate, and raise awareness about the rainforest. 100% of sponsorships for Films for the Forest go towards rainforest conservation projects in the Amazon.

Winners

Professional Category:
The Guardians by Oribel Divine
This short film is dedicated to “The Guardians” of planet earth, the trees.

Grand Prize:
Kaleidocopia by Kate Miller
This short film is a kaleidoscopic look into the rainforest.

Judges

Richard Linklater, American film director and screenwriter
Philippe Cousteau, Jr., environmentalist
Elizabeth Avellan, film producer

For more information visit FilmsfortheForest.
# Financial Snapshot

## Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>$42,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising Events</td>
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<td>In-Kind Contributions</td>
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<td>Individual Donors</td>
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<td>Investment &amp; Interest</td>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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## Expenses

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Total Program Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management &amp; Fundraising</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program In-Kind Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management &amp; Fundraising In-Kind Expenses</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$622,154</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Net Income**: $-43,103
THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

2012 DONATIONS

$10,000 +
Shield Ayres Foundation
SXSW
The Marty Tomberg Charitable Fund
Winkler Family Foundation

$2,500 - $9,999
Alice Glasco
Anonymous
Apple (Match)
Brown McCarroll, LLP
Circuit of the Americas
DNC Travel Hospitality
EYA Productions
Harutunian Engineering
High Beam Events
IBM
John Doggett
Reagan Advertising
Stratus Properties
Texas Gas Service

$1,000 - $2,499
Calendar Holdings
Catellus
Nick Barbaro & Susan Moffatt
Maurine Thomason
Frank Lam
Hazel Barbour
Jasiel Spelman
Melanie Barnes
Steve Beurelein

$500 - $999
Anonymous
Anonymous
Armburst & Brown
Barry Lewis
Ben Vaughan
Charlotte Herzele
Craig Pederson
Dominic & Shafeeqa Giarratani
Francisco Boza
Jerry & Sharon Harris
Joel Kenty, Ameriprise Financial
John Donisi and Gina Hinojosa
John Scanion
Linda & Nick Van Bavel
MWM DesignGroup
Niyanta & Bill Spelman
Shaun Patel
Sam & Min Chen
Victoria Li

$100 - $499
Anthony Dasari
Allan Wing
Barbara Hornaday
Betsy Pilkington
Brad Scott
Bijal Mehta
Bobby Inman
Brenda Lee Bellochio
Carole Melville
Catherine & Nicholas Wagner
Chris Graff

$100 - $499 (cont.)
Corcoro
Cynthia Blizzard
Cynthia Evans
Cynthia Ruff
Deborah Dobbs
Denise Garza Steusloff
Dick Lavine
Donald & Susan Schaezler
Edward Barbour-Lacey
Eva Klein
Francie Frederick
Garron Guszak
Gary Cobb
Grace Li
Graves Dougherty Hearon & Moody
Harvey Davis
Helio Ostrovsky
James Dailey
Jane Silak
Jay Reddy
Jeb Boyt
Jo Ann Procacci
Karen Blizzard
Kyle Rhodes
J. McKetta
Laura Agnew
Lee Einsweiler
Lisa Duchon
Living Heart Productions
Michael Whellan
Mary Howerton
Margot Clark
Margot & Grant Thomas
Peter Hugil
Michael Blizzard
Rakesh Agrawal
Tracy Barb & Eric Lyman
A BIG THANKS TO OUR INTERNS & VOLUNTEERS

Adele Rife
Alex Vlahodimitropoulos
Amanda Kochak
Andrea Tuttrup
Andrea Ricaurte
Anna Trela
Bianca Guevara
Bobbie Edwards
Bret Engel
Brittany Pableo
Caitlin Harwood
Caroline Taylor
Catherine Mohin
Charles Zheng
Daniel Chen
Daniel Reyes
Deborah Cohen
Denise Garza Stuesloff
Denise Wickersham
Dianne Sebai
Eileen Keller
Elise McCollum
Emily Parker
Emmy Silak
Evelyn Gallante
Francisco Garcia
Gabi Herkert
Garima Jain
Gene Menger
Heather Correira
Jasiel Spelman
Jeromy Apena
Jesyca Barde
John Brundage
Jonathan Baumgardner
JR Cao
Julie McEntire
Kate Beamer
Kelly Katz
Lauren Rodriguez
Lauren Salazaar
Lisa Barsamian
Luke Wright
Maddie Janoch
Maggie Arrellaga
Maria Jose La Rota
Mariana Fernandes
Mark Yznaga
Meng Qi
Miguel Cobos
Molly Finneran
Natalie Rivera
Nicole Wagner
Paulina Urbanowicz
Pauline Lewis
Penny Potter
Sarah Deleon
Selena Xie
Shipra Mahajan
Tiffany Harelik
Valentine Rivet
Willa Kough

Rainforest Partnership would like to recognize the wonderful support of these dedicated individuals, who have donated their skills and time to our mission.
To learn more about our work and to become involved, please visit RainforestPartnership.org