

WHAT SIEMENPUU DOES?

The Siemenpuu Foundation aims at long-term cooperation with its partners in the Global South. We aim at recognising the root causes of environmental and social problems and searching for societal development alternatives.

The projects we fund are planned and implemented by organizations and communities in the South. They reduce poverty and inequality as well as limit climate emissions and depletion of biological diversity. At the grassroots level, the roles and capacities of communities as guardians of their own environment are strengthened. Project partners are supported in networking and capacity-building.

By 2018, Siemenpuu has funded more than 600 environmental

projects in more than 50 countries, mainly with the development co-operation funds of the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

In Finland, Siemenpuu works to increase knowledge and understanding about the environmental and development challenges of the Global South, as well as Finnish people's ability to reach the sustainable development goals. Take a look at Siemenpuu's theme publications on our website!

WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED?

During 2015–2017, with the support of Siemenpuu in 114 projects

- More than 43,600 people received legal aid and counselling related to land and forest rights
- Nearly 26,000 small-scale farmers and food producers were reached through food security and productivity-enhancing measures
- Approximately 3 990 000 hectares were brought under sustainable use and/or protection of natural resources
- Civil societies were strengthened with the support for around 260 organizations

In addition to these, many other results were achieved in the projects. See some examples of them in the map (reverse side), and at our website!

OUR WORK THEMES IN 2018–2021

Siemenpuu's support is organized under five themes. They guide the funding processes as well as the public awareness rising efforts in Finland.

Climate and Energy Justice

Siemenpuu promotes socially and environmentally sustainable energy solutions. Our project partners are involved in advocacy, developing alternative energy plans, and promoting community-based renewable energy production, that improves the position of women.

Rural Women and Food Sovereignty

We support strengthening of the status of female peasant farmers and food sovereignty through small-scale farmers' organizations and NGO

networks. Our partners promote ecologically and socially sustainable food production, e.g. by agro-ecological practices.

Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forest and Coastal Ecosystems

With our support, tropical forests, swamps, mangroves and seagrasses of global importance are protected. Local communities' rights and social sustainability are the basis of project activities.

Biocultural Rights of Indigenous Forest Communities

Biocultural rights recognize the indivisible link between culture and natural environment of indigenous peoples and traditional forest communities. With our support, community rights and capacities for

sustainable use, conservation and management of forests are strengthened.

Just Transition to Ecological Democracy

Changes needed to protect the environment can be achieved together with promoting social justice and democracy. We support the advocacy work of the organizations in the South in their search for sustainability, ranging from local solutions to system-level alternatives.

Siemenpuu was founded in 1998 by Finnish development and environmental organizations BirdLife Finland, Coalition for Environment and Development, Dodo, FEE Finland (formerly Sykse), Finnish Association for Nature Conservation, Finnish Nature League, Finnish Society for Nature and Environment, Friends of the Earth Finland, Green Cultural Association, Kepa, New Wind, Swallows of Finland, Technology for Life, Tinku Finland, and WWF Finland.



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Supporting
the environment and
environmental
defenders
in the South

The Siemenpuu Foundation provides funding for environmental and democracy initiatives by non-governmental organizations in developing countries, or Global South, and communicates about development themes in Finland. We defend the local communities, environmental defenders and threatened environments in the South.

You can support the environmental defenders, too!

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You will find us as *Siemenpuu* on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!



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EXAMPLES OF THE RESULTS BY THE NGOS SUPPORTED BY SIEMENPUU

MALI:
With the support of the *MFC-Nyetaa*, hundreds of women improved village food security and livelihoods in three municipalities. The *MFC* also created environmental awareness by organizing national forums.

LIBERIA:
The *SDI*, together with the *Kebbeh* and *Siahn* clans, jointly mapped communities and bio-cultural protocols for the sustainable use of natural resources.

BRAZIL:
Thanks to the advocacy work of *CNS*, 2.6 million hectares of new gatherer reserves were established in Amazonia.

SOUTH AFRICA:
In a jointly funded project with *EKOenergy*, 130 poor families participated in the *Mkuze* river conservation project in Zululand with the *ACT*, and received solar home lighting installations.

ZIMBABWE:
More than 2,000 farmers and their families benefited from *ZIMSOFF*'s trainings in agro-ecology and local seed rights.

INDIA / TAMIL NADU:
More than 2150 small-scale small fishermen supported by the *TRRM* were granted permission to collect seaweed and agreed with the authorities on local protection measures. The *JASuL* organic farming network promoted water conservation and the use of traditional millet varieties.

CAMBODIA:
Mother Nature and villagers stopped *Chey Areng* hydropower dam project in the protected area of the *Cardamom Mountains*.

INDONESIA:
The monitoring by *Jikalahari* and *Riau Corruption Trial* helped the Indonesian authorities to investigate corruption in the forest sector: several executives were imprisoned. *Jikalahari* also helped drafting of several community forestry proposals to the authorities.

NEPAL:
SADED-Nepal promoted grassroots level ecological democracy and sustainable reconstruction after the 2015 earthquake. The Nepalese government included *SADED*'s self-sufficient and ecological solutions in the reconstruction program.

INDIA / ADIVASIS:
In *Seba Jagat*'s project, forest rights registrations were granted to 459 Adivasi families for 710 hectares and a community registration for 23 communities with a total of 5200 ha. A forest management plan was made for 80 villages with a total of 22,000 hectares.

MYANMAR:
The proposal made by *MEE Net* for the *Green Electricity Law* of the *Shan State* was taken to the state parliament. Along the *Irrawaddy River*, 40 villages advocated actively on environmental issues.

LATIN AMERICA:
The newsletter of *Allianza Biodiversidad*, which promotes food sovereignty, had over 11,000 subscribers and there were 1.3 million website visitors a year.

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siemenpuu.org