

A tree for Kimbondo want to realize a sustainable plantation of ACACIA MANGIUM in order to produce vegetable carbon – in opposition to deforestation in Congo and guaranteeing an income to the Pediatric Hospital of Kimbondo - and to reforest ample spaces around Kinta (Kinshasa's province) to stop erosion and enrich the soil with nitrogen and start the association with vegetables and fruit-trees.



In the Democratic Republic of Congo there is the biggest part of the second largest rainforest of the world after Amazon, with a unique biodiversity – there are many endangered animals such as bonobo, okapi and gorilla. But the epochal climate change of our times, together with the dramatic deforestation in these last years (this country has lost 4 million hectares of forest also because of the ongoing conflicts in Congo) are destroying this habitat that is so important for the planet and for the future of the population of one of the poorest country in the world.

The 85% of the energy for the population of Congo is made from burning wood – mostly from carbon, used by almost all the families for cooking. Runaway cutting and destruction of trees to produce carbon is one of the main reason of deforestation and erosion of the soil.

The project "A tree for Kimbondo" want to realize in Kinta's farm – that was built to give a job to the orphans and disabled youth of Kimbondo and to support economically the Pediatric Hospital, that guarantees free cures to all the people who can't pay for them and give an house to many orphans in the Country - the ACACIA MANGIUM. This is a special type of acacia that *grows* rapidly - around 2-3 meters every year, and can reach 20 meters – and is very adaptable to sandy and acid soils as the Kinta's one. It can also prevent erosion thanks to its deep roots and it can enrich the soil because it is a nitrogen fixing plant.

Acacia Mangium can help to contrast climate change caused by *Carbon dioxide* emissions by human actions. A tree of Acacia Mangium can absorb 17 kg of CO₂ every year – the same quantity of *Carbon dioxide produced by a car every 100 km*.

The youth of Kimbondo who can work will deal with the seeds (prepare the seeds and boil them) and with the preparation of nursery for the plats. This job will permit them to gain an income. They will also work, together with other specialized workers of Kinta's village, to sowing, planting and plough the soil.



After 5-6 years the majority part of Acacia Mangium plants will be destined to make vegetable carbon that will be sold in the Market of Kinshasa. All the gains will be donated to the Pediatric Hospital of Kimbondo (about 500€). The other part of Acacia's trees will be left in the earth to make a plantation together with fruit-trees and vegetables, and also to continue the nursery and then the production of carbon to sustain economically the Pediatric Hospital of Kimbondo.

The total amount needed to start the project is 500€ that will be used for:

- the management of the seed (buy or pick up, prepare and boil them)
- Prepare the nursery for the plants.
- Sowing and hoeing the Acacia Mangium.
- Rent the land to make the Acacia's forest.
- Expenses for monitor and care the plantation.

