



Friends of
IFOSuD

International Farmers' Organization
for Sustainable Development

Celebrating Another Graduation!

On March 21st, the celebration of the 9th anniversary of IFOSUD, a spiritual event was organized. More than **SIX HUNDRED** people from different religious backgrounds showed up to praise the living God with IFOSUD, including legal authorities like mayors, judges, Police Chaplains and the Police Chief department representative for the area.

They all gathered to celebrate the graduation of 46 *beneficiaries*, each wearing the official green IFOSuD graduation gowns and caps! It was all the pomp and circumstance Imelda could muster. A joyful occasion much needed. The Gospel was presented several times, encouraging all who were there to turn their eyes upon Jesus and trust in His saving grace. The worship music was met with much enthusiasm as the attendees joined in with the bands. It was a time of celebration, encouragement, and evangelism.



It is no small task to graduate from the IFOSuD program. IFOSuD has quite the reputation now. The beneficiaries attend meetings for two years, memorizing Scripture, receiving training and loans, and demonstrating their skills. Families are involved. The community is involved. The scope of the impact is difficult to even calculate. And the graduation ceremony is the culmination of it all with hundreds of friends, family, and community members coming to see that God is real, hard work pays off, and hope remains.



"Today is the happiest day of my life."

One the most amazing parts of the day was the testimony of a lady enrolled in small business:

"Today is the happiest day of my life and I found my treasure in IFOSUD since the day I belonged to the group. Besides the small business training, I received additional training like literacy class, yard gardening etc. I can confess that in front of you all, I didn't know my real full name. I only knew my nickname "Doudoune". But after the literacy class, I know my full name. I can sign my name, and I can spell my name which is: first name: M.A.R.T.H.A and last name: D.O.R.C.E! Before IFOSUD intervention in my community, I considered that I was blind, but now with IFOSUD support I can see... With IFOSUD I am growing up!"

HOPE THAT STANDS

A Note from Josue, IFOSuD Co-Founder and President

Over the last nine years, IFOSUD has made decisions to be involved in community development while working hand in hand with the population in order to identify development problems and to find out relevant solutions to poverty (spiritual and physical). Changing communities, changing lives, and transforming the nation of Haiti is what IFOSUD has been doing. It remains a challenging assignment in a country like Haiti where solutions to development problems are unpredictable because of the existence of multiple bottlenecks (internal and external) in the development chain. But, the Scriptures strengthened us in Lamentations 3:22: **“It is of the LORD’S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.”** We are managing to get through the challenges in the name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Despite the above-mentioned issues, IFOSUD continues to operate on a daily basis in Haiti in order to bring HOPE THAT STANDS in communities across Haiti by promoting Christ’s love in word and deed in terms of social solidarity, long term relationships with the beneficiaries, training, capacity building, experience sharing, graduations, and thanksgiving celebrations.

FFH Testimony

The students really enjoy learning about farming. They learned every single step from soil preparation to the fructification phase. A proud mom from Bongnotte in Leogane said to one of our field monitors:

“Since the day that my daughter began taking the Ag Class in her school, I can’t allow myself to waste any type of seed like citrus seed, water melon seed, pepper seed, avocado seed... she collects all types of seeds in order to produce plants or to prepare her own seedling at home and teaching me to plan for future generation. She even told me there is opportunity in trash, but I don’t know how this can be possible? I am encouraging her to go to the Ag class because I feel that I am learning from her knowledge and her optimism about her future. Thank you IFOSUD for this wonderful program.”



PLANT A SEED.

We hope you are encouraged by the activities of IFOSuD. This ministry continues to grow, and the impact is staggering. This summer we will be adding 100 new beneficiaries in two new areas. If you are so moved, please consider making a donation. We have included an addressed envelope, but you can also donate online using our new giving platform. It gives you as a donor more control over your giving, especially when making monthly donations. We could not continue this ministry without you. Keep our staff and beneficiaries in your prayers as they confront very real spiritual and physical difficulties. Thank you!!

