

The LATA Foundation Spring Newsletter 2009



The LATA Foundation is dedicated to promoting responsible business practices in the tourism industry as well as sustainable development, conservation and poverty relief in Latin America.

PROJECT UPDATES

Peru

The tree planting in January was a great success. With thanks to your support and in collaboration with Asociación Ecosistemas Andinos in Peru (ECOAN <http://www.ecoanperu.org>) and the involvement of 215 families from 3 communities, 20,500 Polylepsis seedlings were planted in the Lares and Urubamba districts. The project will provide habitat for endangered species of flora and fauna and produce essential and sustainable energy resources in an area that has suffered deforestation due to the demand for firewood both from local communities and for tourist campfires. Our involvement with the communities will continue with the provision of Medical Supplies and First Aid Kits for four villages and we are looking at exciting possibilities for ongoing work in the area.



Guatemala

Our project in Guatemala to fund the development of a cottage industry to produce natural cosmetics has begun and is making good progress. Working with As Green As It Gets (www.asgreenasitgets.org), we have arranged sufficient funds to buy a 20 ton oil press to process coconut oil, cocoa butter and avocado oil, a filtration system and vacuum distiller, scales, blenders and all the necessary equipment for producing and packaging a range of products, including hand cream and a line of scented oils. These should be ready by this summer and we are on target to produce a shampoo, soap, hair conditioner, skin butters, foot care products and exfoliators by Dec 2010. Our goal is to create a viable cottage industry which will become financially independent and profitably run by hard working small producers from disadvantaged communities.



Colombia

In 2009 we will be supporting the work of the UK based charity Children of the Andes (www.childrenoftheandes.org/) which provides support to Colombia's most vulnerable children. Current projects include a community programme in the Coffee Region that works to give vulnerable children the support they need to return to school, offering them vocational training to prepare them for a better future, and an important research programme that is investigating the damaging effects of some aspects of the tourism industry in Cartagena.

New Projects

Our goal is to have activities in as many Latin American countries as possible and we welcome ideas and suggestions for projects to support. If you have contact with or knowledge of suitable local projects then we would love to hear from you.

EVENTS

LATA AGM

The LATA AGM on 19 May at Canning House will be followed by a brainstorming event for the LATA Foundation. We hope that you will join us to share your ideas and to enjoy delicious refreshments kindly sponsored by the Mexico Tourist Board.

THE LATA FOUNDATION

- *Preservation, conservation and the protection of the environment.*
- *Relief of Poverty.*
- *Promotion of sustainable means of achieving economic growth and regeneration.*
- *Promotion of ethical and responsible business practices.*

The LATA Foundation

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Registered Charity No. 1123580

HOW TO DONATE

In order to continue and expand our work we need your financial support and hope that you can help us with a donation.

Donate Online

Just go to www.justgiving.com/lata to make a single or monthly donation or to support us with your own online fundraising page.

Donate by Bank Transfer

Lloyds TSB, Victoria Branch, London, SW1
Account Name: The LATA Foundation
Account Number: 00875148
Sort Code: 30-90-69
IBAN: GB70 LOYD 3090 6900 8751 48
BIC: LOYDGB21189

Donate by Cheque

The LATA Foundation
20 Upper Tachbrook Street
London SW1V 1SH

If you are making a personal donation please help us by completing and returning a copy of our Gift Aid form which is downloadable from our website.

If you are making a corporate donation, don't forget that donations of £500 or more entitle you to use the LATA Foundation Donor Logo.



Thanks to our Fundraisers!

Many thanks to both Dave & Helen Hamlet (Passion for Travel) who led the way by running the Hastings Half Marathon in March and Anna Francis (Mango PR) who ran the London Marathon in April, finishing in an amazing 3 Hours 25 Minutes. Between them, and thanks to donations from many friends and LATA Members, they raised a fantastic £1,440 for the LATA Foundation. If you would like to help our work by becoming a fundraiser please contact us.

