



Burkina Faso, September 5, 2008

We've finally arrived in Gaskinde. The sun is directly above us, beating hard. We squint as we climb out of the truck. It must be 40°. I fantasize about a cold beer but settle for a sip of lukewarm water. The rainy season is almost over, so we discover a much greener landscape than usual on this border to the mighty Sahara. Still, there hasn't been enough rain lately. The soil is desperately thirsty and I can almost place my whole hand into one of its deep cracks. I think, 'how can people possibly grow food here?' I soon had an answer.

Amidou is one of many young farmers for whom USC Canada's Seeds of Survival (SoS) program offers training and technical support. Concerned about the migration of young farmers to crowded urban slums, our SoS partners are working to encourage them to stay in the countryside. It seems to be working. In nearby Malian villages, our colleagues tracked a 50% decline in the number of young women heading to poorly paid, often oppressive city jobs.

This Jottings captures stories of youthful determination in the global South. It also describes the journeys of two young Canadians who travelled to our programs to meet young farmers and learn about food

production systems that are kind to the environment. Like Amidou and the other young people I met in Africa, their passion and desire to confront the growing hunger, conflict, and climate chaos worldwide is truly inspiring.

We children of the '60s, who vowed to build a more peaceful and just world, clearly have not earned the right to hand over the torch to our children. But if we're to correct our mistakes and redress the injustices we helped create, we need their help. We need their ideas, energy, and skills to breathe new life into an inter-generational campaign for a healthier, more caring global community. When you read their stories, please think about how you can contribute.

My colleague, APN Sahel's Director, Richard Minougou, leads us to the field of a young farmer. Amidou Boureima, 21, has managed to turn fields of sand into a thriving organic garden of millet; a food staple in his country. Through soil and water conservation techniques, intercropping, and the use of farmer varieties that resist drought, he has succeeded in growing enough millet to divide four ways: for his family, for next year's seeding, for the new village seed bank, and for sale at the local market. "That way," Amidou explains with a shy smile, "I'll earn some income for myself."



Photo: Susan Walsh

Amidou Boureima in his fields.

And do share their stories with all the wonderful young people in your lives. 🌱

Susie Walsh, Executive Director

PARTICIPATION, EXPERIENCE, HOPE: *My Time Among the Farmers of Honduras*

by Claire Kane

A young Canadian studying at the University of North Carolina, Claire Kane was looking for bridges between Ottawa, her hometown, and her campus work. Passionate about food sovereignty, Claire got involved with a student non-profit organization, Nourish International, and realized that might be the connection.

She knew about USC Canada, based in Ottawa, and in autumn of 2007, she approached us to see about connecting Nourish with our Seeds of Survival program. We were happy to put her in touch with our Honduran partner, Foundation for Participatory Research with Honduran Farmers (FIPAH). A few months later she and a Nourish team of six students arrived in Central America to support FIPAH's work.

We arrived in May 2008 and spent two busy months in Honduras meeting farmers, teaching English to youth groups, building greenhouses, helping with a climate change program, and learning



Photo: Max Rose

Claire Kane (L) plays a game with members of a youth group during a workshop to help them develop English language skills.

about participatory farmer research. Little did I know the time I spent in Honduras would turn out to be one of the most meaningful experiences of my life.

One of the friends I made during my time in Honduras is Claudia, an 18-year-old from Ojo de Agua, a small community high in the mountains surrounding the region of Jesus de Otoro. Claudia's mother, Isidora Garcia, is a rural leader and farmer-researcher, who has been

working with FIPAH for many years.

Claudia in turn has come to be involved with FIPAH, doing agricultural research with a young people's community group. I met Claudia a few times over the course of my stay but I hadn't had the time for a deeper conversation until my last week in Jesus de Otoro. Claudia and I were paired together to work on FIPAH's baseline research about soil quality, harvest, social capital, and all kinds of other factors that affect a community's ability to adapt to climate change.

Together we went door to door and spent the better part of an hour with each household, asking questions for our survey. In the fading light of the late afternoon, sitting on a rock or stool in the homes of hillside farmers, we would ask, "How do you know when the land is ready to sow your seeds?" Our quiet interviewee would think for some time and then say softly, "The moon."

The farmers in Honduras that work with FIPAH form community-led agricultural research teams, known by the Spanish acronym CIALs. Farmer-researchers like Isidora then identify their most pressing agricultural problems and, with help from FIPAH, work out solutions. Isidora's CIAL, for instance, is working to improve organic pesticides.

Isidora Garcia – Claudia's mother – works with a CIAL that's working to improve organic pesticides and fertilizers (shown).



Photo: Faris Ahmed



Photo: Sally Humphries

Francisco Mencia prepares his field in Rio Abajo village for planting beans.

While Claudia probed further, asking, “When the moon is full? A few days after?” I would take note of their answers. Although their comments about soil fertility and crops often varied, the moon was a common, if not universal response for judging the readiness of the soil. Observing the effects of lunar cycles has been part of traditional agricultural practices for thousands of years and many farmers have found that planting at certain points in the moon’s cycle yields better harvests.

We would nod, flip the page, and ask another question. Sometimes, if we were not quick enough with our survey, the sun would set and we would finish the last page by candlelight. We would thank the farmers for their time and make our way out to the road, united against

the dark and staring up at the stars.

After a week working on the survey, I realized that one of the most incredible things about participatory research – which engages the farmers and draws on their experience - is that it allows FIPAH to contract youth like Claudia to be part of the process. Not only does it offer Claudia employment, she is able to develop professional skills and become a better steward of the land.

This experience and my time in Honduras made it clear to me that FIPAH’s food sovereignty approach – facilitating farmers’ ability to grow their own food and control their production systems – is not only one of the most hopeful efforts at solving the ecological crisis of my generation, it also gives the people of marginalized communities the tools they need to build their own future.



Photo: Faris Ahmed

Claudia worked with Claire to record the wisdom of local farmers.

It was an enormous privilege to see the work of an effective NGO first hand, to see the changes they are making, and to see that there really is a way to support sustainable development and social justice. It gave me a lot of hope for the future.

Farmers working the steep hillsides of Honduras



Photo: Beatriz Oliver

INDIGENIUS SEED

By Marion Dulude

Douentza, Mali

For visitors, Douentza, Mali might mean the starting point for a journey to Timbuktu. They might know it as the land of the area's indigenous people – the Dogon – or simply as the gateway to the Hombori region, where the scenery resembles the Wild West! For me, Douentza will always mean two things: seed conservation and community.



Photo: Kathleen Butler

Marion Dulude (L) with Adam Maïga of the USC team in Douentza.

After a year working in Togo as a volunteer with two small local organizations, my mother came to visit me in October 2007, and we travelled together to Mali.

I am by nature analytical and sceptical when I first see projects. I was worried my experience in Douentza might be limited, especially as I don't speak the local language, Bambara. This was my first time in the region and I doubted I would be able to get a feel for the work. But with help from the Douentza-based staff of

USC Canada-Mali, I was able to experience the energy of the land and the wonderful people in the communities we visited. I opened my heart and let my instincts guide me.

Our first stop was the village of Badiari where we were invited to see their community seed bank – the traditional, indigenous (or should I say indiGENIUS!) ways of preserving and sharing seeds. These are the foundation of life; they tell a sacred story. I had heard of seed banks before, but here, with all the varieties gathered in one small room, I felt the sacredness of each seed.

Next, we visited a farmer's land and were inspired by his dedication. He was growing all sorts of trees, even fruit trees, as windbreaks and ground cover to provide shade and to regenerate the soil on a once-barren parcel of land. He has transformed it into a lush nursery!



Photo: Mohamed Ag Hamada

Allaye Ongoïba (L) and Aïssata Ongoïba, the dedicated managers of the Seed Bank at Badiari village.



Photo: Susan Walsh

Farmers have recovered in Danza following last year's floods

At an arboretum in the yard of a nearby school we took note of the vital importance of youth having a space to learn about native plants and agricultural biodiversity.

Two days later we were in Danza, where farmers lost 67 hectares of crops in last year's floods. Floods are not common in the area, and it was a stark reminder to me how countries in the global South are already facing extreme weather variations because of changing global climates. They might now be hit by drought one month and floods the next.

We in the North are fortunate to live in such relative comfort and abundance. This visit made it clear to me that we have a responsibility to protect seeds, the sacred carriers of life. We must help maintain what's left of the world's seed diversity, both here in our gardens of the North, and especially in the global South where hundreds of crop varieties are lost every year.

We were touched by the enormous generosity and spirit of the people we met. Their eyes radiated a glow of stewardship. I wish them courage and hope to return to these inspiring communities of the Sahel. 🌱

FARMING A FUTURE : *Young and Old farmers Work Side by Side*

By Courtney Clark, Bangladesh Program Manager

Thakurgaon , Bangladesh

Despite a tropical climate that might seem ideal for farming, Bangladesh is exceedingly disadvantaged. Northern Bangladesh in particular is especially prone to flooding. While farming is the major source of livelihood there, seasonal food shortages are a fact of life. Now, in districts like Thakurgaon and Lalmonirhat, USC is piloting a program to help young women develop farming skills suited to the precarious agriculture of the region.

Photo: Courtney Clark



A pilot program is helping older farmers pass on their knowledge to youth.

USC has been working in northern Bangladesh for years, supporting the Lifeskills and Education for Adolescents Development (LEAD) program. Every year, more than 14,000 teenage girls from poor farming families take part in the program; a mix of basic education and life skills training geared to prepare girls for the challenges of adulthood.

Once they complete the 18-month course, graduates can continue to learn through a network of Adolescent Resource Centres (ARCs). ARCs provide a community space where girls can socialize, receive health care, get legal advice, and learn employment skills.

Recognizing the importance of agriculture in the lives of these young women, USC wanted to ensure the ARCs were providing appropriate skills training. Some of the girls had attended organic farming workshops, but many wanted to learn more. So last year, village leaders and girls from two of the ARCs met with older farmers to

take stock of the crops and farming methods used in the area.

As they shared their experiences, it became clear that traditional knowledge, skills, and even agricultural diversity were not being passed on to the younger generation. They spoke of the neem tree, traditionally used as a natural pesticide, which has almost entirely disappeared. They noted that many indigenous rice varieties had all but vanished. Only one girl spoke about how her mother taught her to select and store seeds; the others had no such traditional skill.

The farmers and youth set themselves a task: to work together to re-gain the knowledge and practices that were disappearing from their communities.

They also agreed to begin experimenting with organic farming to help reduce costs associated with chemical pesticides and fertilizers. They committed to share this message with others in their communities.

Now, 278 girls from those two ARCs are learning how to save local seed varieties for use in small homestead vegetables gardens. They are planting gardens using only organic fertilizer, local seeds, and traditional farming techniques. Older farmers are sharing what they know, and together they are finding out how young people can adapt their knowledge and skills to today's farming needs.

This inter-generational learning is helping build skills and create opportunities for the young women involved. It's also providing farming communities with a new way to conserve traditional seed and knowledge, building on their proud, rich heritage. 🌱

DONOR PROFILE: *Climbing the Ladder of Engagement*

It began on New Year's Eve 2000, in North Vancouver, BC. While reflecting on her life, Marianne Pengelly recognized how much she had to be thankful for and decided to find ways to share her blessings with others.

"It was important to me to feel connected to the causes I support and I was drawn to the work of USC Canada. It's a small organization and a trusted charity with a good track record, and I appreciate their values and vision."

In 2001, Marianne sold 150 of her garden plants at her workplace. In this first try at collecting funds to support our work with famers, she raised \$300. In her spare time, Marianne is an artist, and she next decided to donate money from her art sales – a total of \$1200 to date.

Over time, as she learned about how the farmers we work with are turning fields of sand into healthy food, Marianne's commitment grew even stronger and she became a regular monthly donor.

She then decided to go that extra step and started asking others to join with her. "I didn't need material gifts from my family and friends, so

I asked them to make a contribution instead." She also honours their birthdays by giving gifts to USC in their names.

Recently, Marianne took an even bigger step up the ladder of engagement. "I decided to leave a gift in my will, so that USC Canada will continue to help people long after I've gone."

We would like to express our great appreciation for the wonderful support of Marianne and our many other committed donors, both in their creative fundraising projects and by their trusting investment in the future of both the organization and the partner communities USC is serving. 🌱



Photo: Courtesy Marianne Pengelly

Marianne Pengelly is committed to USC's work



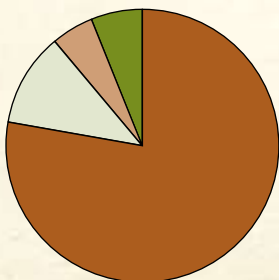
Remembering Lotta

USC will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the birth of our founder, Dr. Lotta Hitschmanova, on November 28th, 2009. To honour Dr. Lotta, USC has also established the Lotta Hitschmanova Legacy Fund. This Fund offers caring Canadians the opportunity to support communities in Africa, Asia, and Latin America for generations to come.

If you have any personal stories or reflections to share about Dr. Lotta or USC Canada, or are organizing 100th anniversary events yourself, we'd love to hear from you!

To share stories or for more information, please visit www.usc-canada.org/lotta or contact David Rain by phone (1.800.565.6872 x231) or email (rain@usc-canada.org). 🌱

Where Your Money Goes – USC Canada 2008



International Programs – **77%**

Canadian Programs - **6%**

Fundraising - **6%**

Administration - **11%**

Download a copy of our most recent audited financial statements at www.usc-canada.org, or order a copy by contacting us at 1-800-565-6872 x233. Financial support for *Jottings* is provided by the Canadian International Development Agency.

BEYOND BORDERS: *Youth in Newfoundland and Labrador Reach out to the World*

Troy Mitchell, Two Villages

Something amazing is happening with a generation of young people in Newfoundland and Labrador. In 2005, Troy Mitchell and Krista Percy of the small port town of Clarenville formed a little organization, Two Villages. They wanted to provide the young people of their community a chance to see themselves as global citizens.

With USC's support, they connected with our partners in Nepal and the remote mountain village of Sindhuli. On International Rice Day (October 15), the young people of four area schools sat down to a bowl of rice and donated their lunch money to the Sindhuli community school project. The event was infectious. Three years later, young people are taking the lead.



Clarenville, Newfoundland –

The coming together of people for a common good exists in communities throughout the world. When we find this spirit across generations, countries, and cultures, there is potential for substantial change. The youth of North America have been raised with extraordinary access to information and an awareness of global realities. There is an opportunity to engage an entire generation.

Last fall, Two Villages partnered with USC Canada for its fourth project, this time to raise funds for the Wollo Community Seed Bank in northern Ethiopia. As well as storing seeds for a community of

villages as insurance against hard times, the seed bank will be a model for visiting farmer groups from around the world. To raise funds for the seed bank, 48 schools took part enthusiastically in what has become 'Rice Day' across Newfoundland and Labrador.

Students are interested in learning about another culture and can articulate why our society must engage in international development.

Across the province, student leaders prepared classroom presentations to build awareness, but it didn't stop there. In late October, after their school Rice Day event, a group of 11-year-olds turned a Halloween party into a Two Villages fundraiser. At the provincial student leadership conference, the students of Tricentia Academy chose the Wollo project for their presentation.

(L to R) Alexa Thorne, Kayla Sheppard, and Mette Madesen celebrate Rice Day at Clarenville High School.



Photo: Omar Gallardo

Selecting seeds for a gene bank in Ethiopia

The media took note with interviews and stories, and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador even got on board, encouraging student participation with a letter of support.

Grade 12 student Alexa Thorne, who spent Rice Day serving up rice at Clarenville High School (CHS), made this observation. "We realize that the world is getting smaller, and working together with people from all over the world, as we get older, will become increasingly important. Two Villages and USC Canada gave the students of CHS and Newfoundland and Labrador

(Continued on page 12)

Photo: Troy Mitchell



RE-ENGAGING THE YOUNG FARMERS OF TIMOR LESTE

By Brian McFarlane, Director of Fundraising

Kalohan, Timor Leste

Before you plant a tree, first you must plant a tree in their hearts.” Xisto Martins, the leader of USC Canada’s programs in Timor Leste, explained his philosophy about working with youth to me as he watched the young adults suit-up for a soccer game in the late afternoon sun.



Photo: Courtney Clark

Farmers transform the land, creating terraces.

Xisto was sharing a simple truth that he and our colleagues in Timor Leste discovered during the course of their work. He says Timor Leste has seen so much hardship and so many years of conflict that young people across the country became alienated and cynical about the future. “We must work with the younger generation if we hope to bring new life to this land,” says Xisto. Investing in youth has been critical for progress in communities across the tiny half-island nation. Now, their alienation is being redirected as they find opportunities to play an essential role in rebuilding their communities.

Young people are channelling their energies into farming and local cultural activities. They are staying on their land and continuing to farm. And not only are they engaged, they are encouraging their parents to be involved as well.

Xisto pointed to a carefully terraced hill. He explained to me that the young farmers took the initiative to

transform that once-barren hillside. Now the land is covered in promising gardens. “In a few years that small sapling you see will be an avocado tree, and that one there will be a fruit tree. These projects are giving hope to the young people in the villages.” Word has spread and young people from neighbouring villages are asking USC Timor Leste to start projects with them.

But it can’t be work all the time. A few years ago, USC Timor Leste invested in a few soccer jerseys and balls, as a reward for the young people’s hard work. Now one of the highlights of the year for the young village farmers from Kalohan is a soccer tournament involving the six nearby villages. “It’s very important. It gives the young people something to look forward to and it’s helping plant the seeds of community.”

“A few years ago, we also donated used musical instruments to thank the young farmers for their hard work. And now, every day after work, all they do is play music. It’s crazy!” Xisto shakes his head and laughs loudly as he turns to look me in the eye. “Thank God there are no electric lights in these villages, or they would play all night!”

To watch the young farmers play a song of welcome for visitors from USC Canada, go to www.usc-canada.org/timor-leste.

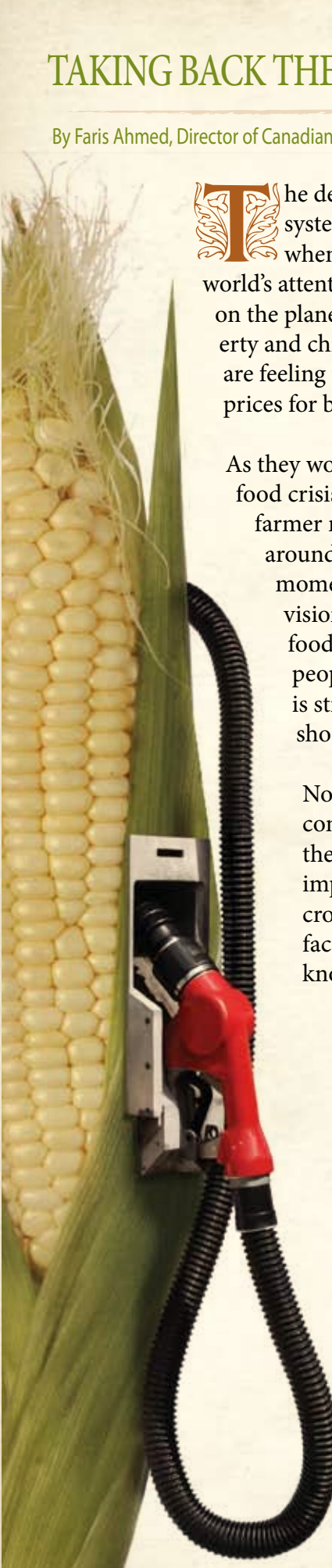


Photo: Brian McFarlane

Ready for a game: young farmers in their soccer jerseys

TAKING BACK THE FOOD SYSTEM: *Influencing food policies in Canada and around the world*

By Faris Ahmed, Director of Canadian Programs



The deep flaws in our global food system were exposed last year when the food crisis came to the world's attention. Almost a billion people on the planet are forced to live in poverty and chronic hunger. Now, millions are feeling the additional pinch of high prices for basic foods.

As they work hard to respond to this food crisis, the communities and farmer networks USC supports around the world are using the moment to articulate their own visions of a healthy and resilient food system; a system that feeds people, builds livelihoods, and is strong enough to withstand shocks from the outside.

Nonetheless, even these communities are starting to feel the social and environmental impacts of another threat. Food croplands are being turned into factory farms for biofuels, also known as agrofuels.

Working with Canadian partners, our campaign against agrofuels - *Crops, Cars, and Climate Crisis* - struck a chord with supporters, media, and policymakers alike. Last spring, 12 farm leaders from Latin America, Asia, Africa, and Canada, spoke at public forums in six Canadian cities. Speakers questioned the viability of the industrial agriculture model used to promote agrofuels in the South.

“The amount of investment in agrofuels is staggering compared with investment in agriculture and food production.... What do we eat if all of Asia goes into agrofuels?”

- Dittit Pelegrina, USC Board member and Director of SEARICE (South-east Asia Regional Initiatives for Community Empowerment), Philippines.

Altogether, 1,500 people across the country came out to hear passionate descriptions about the negative implications of agrofuels production on land, human rights, and the environment. The story reached thousands of others through the media. But despite the attention, Parliament passed legislation last June requiring 5% average agrofuel content in Canadian gasoline by 2010. We are concerned that, to meet these targets, Canada may import plant materials from the global South to produce ethanol or biodiesel here at home. USC and our Canadian partners are monitoring the implications of this legislation. 🌱

Agrofuels Facts

- *75% of recent food price increases were caused by the use of food for fuel (World Bank)*
- *Corn ethanol uses 30% more fossil fuel energy to produce than it offsets at the pump. (Cornell University and University of California-Berkeley)*
- *“There are 1.5 billion hectares of arable land in the world, and 10% of that – 120 million hectares – is already being used to grow agrofuels.”*

– Alberto Gomez, La Via Campesina

BUILDING OUR AGRICULTURAL ANCESTRY

The world has lost almost 75% of crop varieties, and crop genetic diversity is vanishing at the rate of about 2% per year. In North America alone, over the past century we've lost 90% of our fruit and vegetable varieties! This means market farmers have a shrinking choice of seed varieties available to them. For Canadians, that means a less stable food supply. That's why five seed farmers from across the country have stepped up to help reverse this troubling trend. They're working with USC to turn ordinary Canadians into Seed Saviours, by donating packets of organically produced seeds for USC to distribute free at events across the country.



Photo: Peregrine Riley

Andrea Berry is helping get people interested in food and seed issues.

“ Donating seed is an easy way for me to contribute from my remote corner of the world. ”

Andrea Berry of Hope Seeds in Knowlesville, NB, is one of them. “Donating seed is an easy way for me to contribute from my remote corner of the world,” says Andrea. “You immediately get people interested in growing food for themselves on a little patch of their own.” In this way, a simple, local action can have a major impact. Andrea hopes it will lead to public awareness about the importance of diversity in a healthy food system. Only by planting a good variety of seeds can farmers be assured that at least part of a harvest will survive; that a pest or disease won't wipe out an entire crop.

The Seed Saviour program is a way of spreading diversity and also

preventing the loss of older heirloom plant varieties. “Not every heirloom variety on the verge of extinction is a treasure,” she says. “Some yield tomatoes that always crack or carrots whose tops pop off before they can be pulled from the soil. But if as much effort was put into conserving the best heirloom varieties as was put into the development of hybrid seed (seed developed in labs instead of adapted over time in farmers' fields), farmers would have an enormous base of seeds to choose from.”

The free exchange of seed among growers is a time-honoured way of conserving seed and spreading diversity. The Seed Saviour program has a role to play in preserving that exchange. “That's how our agricultural ancestry has grown,” says Berry, “We want each other to eat well, so we share our food and the seed we have.”

With the Seed Saviour program, USC hopes that Canadians will recognize how important agricultural diversity is to a strong local food system – not just in the global south, but here at home. Become a Seed Saviour and help protect seed diversity in your own backyard! Visit us online at www.usc-canada.org.

We at USC would like to offer our most sincere thanks to Andrea Berry (Hope Seeds, NB), Dan Jason (Salt Spring Seeds, BC), Greta Kreiger (Greta's Organic Gardens, ON), Marti Martin-Woods (Two Wings Farm, BC), and Patrick Steiner (Stellar Seeds, BC), without whom the Seed Saviour Program would not be possible. 🌱

IN A NEIGHBOURHOOD NEAR YOU

Early every spring, there are more than 40 Seedy Saturdays across Canada to exchange seeds, learn about sustainable agriculture, and celebrate biodiversity. USC will attend many of them to share our commitment to food sovereignty.

Guelph, ON	(Feb 7)
Montreal, QC	(Feb 8, Sunday)
Victoria, BC	(Feb 21)
South Peel/Mississauga, ON	(Feb 28)
Sault Ste. Marie, ON	(Feb 28)
Toronto, ON	(Feb 28)
Vancouver, BC	(Feb 28)
Ottawa, ON	(Mar 7)

USC often joins Unitarian congregations across the country for speaking engagements, sharing information about our programs. Look for us this spring.

February 1	Montreal Unitarian Church (Montreal QC)
February 8	Unitarian Fellowship of Sarnia and Port Huron (Sarnia, ON)
February 22	First Unitarian Church of Victoria (Victoria, BC)
March 1	Greater Toronto (Details TBA)
March 8	First Unitarian Congregation of Ottawa (Ottawa, ON)
March 15	Unitarian Fellowship of London (London, ON)
March 22	Peterborough Unitarians (Peterborough, ON)
March 22	Unitarian Congregation Of Guelph (Guelph, ON)
April 19	Lakeshore Unitarian Universalist Congregation (Beaconsfield, QC)
April 19	Unitarian Congregation of Niagara (St. Catharines, ON)
May 31	Kingston Unitarian fellowship (Kingston, ON)

Reel Food Film Festival: Ottawa's film series dedicated to food is returning for a third year. Starting March 12, 2009, we'll screen films at St. Paul University. Each night will include a feature length film and a few shorts. Admission is free!

Food Sovereignty: Solutions to the Food Crisis. That's the theme of our 2009 agriculture campaign. Watch for details in the new year about events near you, brought to you by USC and our partners across Canada and around the world.

East Coast Food Weekend. On March 27th in Truro, NS, the Living Earth Council will kick off 3 days of concerts, film, seed exchanges, and discussion around food issues. For details about Foody Friday, Seedy Saturday, or Sustenance Sunday, contact Mark Austin (maustin@truro.ca).

For details on any of these events, check our website or contact Kate Green (1.800.565.6872 or KGreen@usc-canada.org).



Photo: Faris Ahmed

(L to R) Folk music legend Pete Seeger, with his grandson Tao Rodriguez-Seeger and musician Guy Davis. The trio teamed up for a series of concerts to benefit Seeds of Survival, playing sold-out shows in Montreal, Toronto, Kingston, and Ottawa.

We are extremely grateful to these musicians, who raised more than \$35,000 for USC Canada's work!

(Continued from page 7)

a wonderful opportunity this year, and we are very proud to help build the seed bank for the people in Wollo.”

The concept of ‘community’ has expanded. Students are interested in learning about another culture and can articulate why our society must engage in international development. Student leaders have emerged.

By providing tangible opportunities to support local solutions, USC Canada has helped foster the development of Two Villages, to engage the youth population as global citizens. Clearly, engaging student leaders and building Rice Day beyond Newfoundland and Labrador is an attainable goal. 🌱



Feedback is important to us. Please feel free to contact us with your opinions about Jottings, and let us know how we can improve future issues.

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USC Canada was founded in 1945 as the Unitarian Service Committee of Canada.

The Seed Map

This year USC Canada and ETC Group released the Seed Map: Food, Farmers, and Climate Change. This educational tool examines the state of global biodiversity today, as well as the threats and the efforts to protect it. Look for an interactive web version later this year. In the meantime, you can download the seed map at www.seedmap.org

Young Farmers Today... and Tomorrow

