



## Rain Forest Restoration Initiative (RFRI) 2011 *International Year of Forests (IYF)* Activities

THE RAIN FOREST RESTORATION INITIATIVE (RFRI) is composed of organizations and individuals from the academe, peoples' organizations, non-government organizations, and business sector advocating *rainforestation* as a strategy to rehabilitate degraded landscapes and restore key ecosystem services and functions, while providing forest-dependent communities with an alternative source of livelihood. The network was established to better coordinate the activities of its members in all areas related to native species reforestation, including environmental education and advocacy, research and development, project implementation and capacity building. The ultimate objectives of the network is to protect the remaining forests and restore degraded land, and by doing so, conserve native biodiversity, improve the livelihoods of forest-dependent communities, and return the full range of ecosystem services.

The RFRI was formally established in 2009 with the combined efforts of the members and currently includes active members from the Institute of Tropical Ecology-Visayas State University (ITE-VSU), Environmental Leadership and Training Initiative (ELTI), Philippine Tropical Forest Conservation Foundation (PTFCF), Foundation for the Philippine Environment (FPE), Haribon Foundation, National Power Corporation (NPC), Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF), University of the Philippines Los Banos-College of Forestry and Natural Resources (ULPB-CFNR), Philippine Federation for Environmental Concern (PFEC), Philippine Native Plant Conservation Society, Inc. (PNPCSI), and the Non-Timber Forest Products-Task Force (NTFP-TF).

The network disseminates *rainforestation* to interested group of implementers as a strategy to restore the Philippine forest cover. It develops a Rainforestation Trainers Training Program which provides participants the knowledge and skills on how to establish rainforestation sites and native tree species nurseries in their respective areas. Presently, the network is collaborating with the Philippine Forestry Education Network (PFEN) members to systematize data collection and design a national database on native species germination, growth, phenology, and maintenance. The RFRI network likewise identify groups its members can engage with like the League of Governors, League of Municipalities in the Philippines and CSR Group events, by providing presentations and getting more directly involved in policy work with DENR. To strengthen public awareness about environmental issues, it also aims to participate in international and national events such as International Year of Forests, Arbor Day, Earth Month celebration, DENR outreach events, Environmental Awareness Month, and others. that would strengthen public awareness about environmental issues, particularly about forest restoration and biodiversity conservation. The following are the

consolidated activities of the RFRI organizational members and their many non-member partners as tribute to the International Year of Forests celebration.

### **2011 RFRI Past and Present Activities**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Participants/Organization(s) Involved</b>
January 29-February 7	Native Flora Exhibit at PHSI Horticulture 2011 Show	PNPCSI
February 1-5	Training on Rainforestation for Mindanao Protected Area Superintendents	ELTI, VSU
February 3	IYF Celebration (tree planting, "How will I protect our Forests" poster-making contest) in Silago, Leyte	ELTI, VSU, FPE, PTFCF, RFRI
February 19-20	Field Botany in Zambales with UP Manila Students	PNPCSI
April 17	Earth Day Celebration	Haribon Foundation
April 19-25	Palanan Sierra Madre Trek (Rapid Flora Assessment)	PNPCSI
April 26-29	Rainforestation Research and Monitoring Training for PFEN members	ELTI, VSU
May 9-13	Rainforestation Training for Watershed Managers	ELTI, VSU, RFRI, NPC
May 23	Inauguration of the Leonard Co Garden of Native Flora at NAPWC	PNPCSI
June 1-7	Restoration Site Assessment in Palauig, Zambales	Haribon Foundation
June 4	PNPCSI Lecture Series: Philippine Plant Diversity- "So Rich Yet So Fragile" by UP Manila Professor Elena	PNPCSI

	Ragragio	
June 6	Sikad/Padyak para sa Kalikasan (MMB bike tour and network launch)	Haribon Foundation
June 8	Launch of the Eco-Cultural Heritage Center of Palawan	NTFP-TF
June 19	Arbor Day Tree Planting at NAPWC with UST Faculty Members, Including Field Lecture at the Leonard Co Garden of Native Flora and Lecture on the Importance of Native Trees and Philippine Plant Diversity	PNPCSI
June 27	Green Mondays Seminar Series "A Paradigm Shift in Forest Restoration" by Dr. Paciencia Milan, VSU former President	VSU, RFRI
3 <sup>rd</sup> week, June	RF Training in Sablayan, Mindoro Occidental	Haribon Foundation
July 2	U.P. Diliman Native Tree Walk	PNPCSI
1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> week, July	Conduct Restoration Monitoring Activities in Surigao del Sur	Haribon Foundation
July 4	Seminar Series Green Mondays "The Arakan Forest Corridor Development Program" by Dennis Salvador, PEF Executive Director	RFRI, Philippine Eagle Foundation
July 8	Rainforestation Festival	NTFP-TF

July 9	Haribon Staff and Volunteers Planted 360 Seedlings at Caliraya Watershed	Haribon Foundation
July 23	Green Parade: Gawing Luntian ang Tuwid na Daan	Haribon Foundation
August 1	Green Mondays Seminar Series "Forest Conservation in the Philippines: Past Efforts and Emerging Approaches" by Atty. Jose Canivel, PTFCF Executive Director	RFRI, PTFCF
August 6	PNPCSI Lecture Series: "Self-Regulating the Floriculture Industry" by Ms Luz Corpus of PAWB-Wildlife Division at the DENR-NCR Nursery	PNPCSI
August 23-24	Rainforestation Training in Caliraya, Laguna	Haribon Foundation
August 29	2011 National Heroes' Day: Tree Planting in Marikina Watershed	FPE
September 4	Tree Walk at Makiling Botanic Garden and Mudsprings	PNPCSI
September 5	Green Mondays Seminar Series "Seedling establishment in tropical rain forests: understanding the evolutionary strategies" by Dr. Edwino Fernando, Professor, UPLB-CFNR	RFRI, UPLB-CFNR
September 10	Save Sierra Madre Day launch	Haribon Foundation
September 16	Launching of the Native	PNPCSI

	Plant Forum E-Magazine	
September 24	Native tree planting activity at La Mesa Watershed with UST faculty volunteers	PNPCSI
	Volunteers from Procter & Gamble Philippines planted 3000 seedlings within the vicinity of Rizal Provincial Government under the "Road to 2020" Campaign	Haribon Foundation
Sept 26	Biodiversity Talk in St. John Montessori School in Tanauan, Batangas	Haribon
October 3	Green Mondays Seminar Series "Community-based NTFP management: The case of AGMIHICU's traditional forest management systems" by Benny Cumatang AGMIHICU Tribal Leader	NTFP-TF, RFRI
Oct 3-7	Week long exhibit during the 33 <sup>rd</sup> SOF-AMAF meeting	NTFP
October 13	1 <sup>st</sup> National Indigenous Peoples Cultural Summit	NTFP
October 22	Tree planting at Brgy. Cuyambay, Tanay Rizal	Haribon
Nov 14	Green Mondays Seminar Series "The Forest Resources Bill: Legislative Advocacy for Forest Restoration"	Haribon, RFRI
Nov 16	16 <sup>th</sup> National Environmental Congress	PFEC
Nov 19-20	First International Symposium of PNPCSI: Legacy of Leonard Co and Philippine Botanical Treasures	PNPCSI

Nov 19-20	Leonard Co Award for Best Native Forest Tree Nursery	RFRI, ELTI, PTFCF
November 21-23	Post Symposium Tour in Ilocos Norte: Botanic and Heritage Tour	PNPCSI
December 5	Green Mondays Seminar Series "Evaluation of selected Philippine native trees for landscape design use"	PNPCSI, RFRI
4 <sup>th</sup> week, Dec	Tree Planting Site revisited	PNPCSI
<b>2012</b>		
January 9	Green Mondays Seminar Series "COMMUNITY – BASED RAINFORESTATION FARM ESTABLISHMENT: FPE's Strategy for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development"	FPE, RFRI
January 13	Gig talks: let's talk about the environment	PNPCSI
January 15	FPE 20th Anniversary Celebration-Tree Planting Event	FPE
2009-present	Continuing efforts to reforest and develop some 21,000 ha riparian habitat in Arakan Valley integrating RF and incorporating training from Thailand	Philippine Eagle Foundation
January 2011-present	Conduct identification and regular monitoring of mother trees for seeds and wildlings collection in all restoration sites	Haribon Foundation
	Publication of reference materials on RF ( <i>i.e.</i> nursery establishment in Bisaya and	FPE

	Tagalog, reprinting of RF Farming 2 <sup>nd</sup> ed.) – support from FPE3	
	Supported native species nursery establishment – Misamis Oriental, Zamboanga, Abra, Sibuyan, Compostela Valley, Bukidnon, Mindoro	FPE
	Development of more RF-related materials; Provide support to NGP	FPE, PTFCF, RFRI
	Grant making org; support 30 project/year for refo activities- nursery establishments; transplanting; share experiences; advocate the use of native, understanding phenology, germination, planting and maintenance	PTFCF
	As CODE REDD member, integrates RF into refo program in pilot sites in Gen. Nakar and Palawan	NTFP-TF
	PFEC Campaigns for Planting of Indigenous Trees in Philippine Forests Rehabilitation and Development	PFEC
	Community development and Extension Programs (watershed protection, rehabilitation) and research programs	NPC
August-present	Native Tree of the Month Campaign	PNPCSI

2011-2012 RFRI Upcoming activities

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Feb 4, 2012	Workshop on Native Species Reforestation in Singapore	ELTI
Feb 16-18, 2012	Forest Governance Research & Practice: Building Bridges through Capacity Building and Training	ELTI
Feb-March 2012	RFRI Green Mondays Seminar Series	RFRI, ELTI
March-April 2012	Parataxonomy Training for Forest Restoration	RFRI, ELTI, UPLB-CFNR
April 2012	ROADSHOW	RFRI, NTFP
April 2012	Rainforestation Training for Luzon-Visayas PASUs	ELTI, RFRI
mid 2012	Seedling Production and Nursery Management Workshop	RFRI, ELTI, VSU