



# WINDOWS ON OUR WORLDS

## Agro-ecology Resource & Cyber Center (“ARCC”) Nears Completion



The “ARCC” will provide classroom and a computer lab space for students and teachers EGD (Ecole Gamaliel Deslandes). When school is not in session, the ARCC will provide community meeting space and access to the Internet. Farm resources, such as tools and soil testing equipment will also be housed here.

Multiple “green” building strategies incorporated into the design will maximize the cooling ability of the compressed earth block walls. Seventeen (17) builders also received additional carpentry training as part of construction.



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## Konbit Members Set Goal: Teach 100 Farmers Agroecology Techniques by End of 2015

Farmers in the Konbit Vanyan Kapab (“Together We Can” in Haitian Creole) Agroecology Project (“KVK”) have nearly **doubled crop production** over the last two years. They’ve done this by using simple techniques for improving soil biology that farmers have tested and advanced in collaboration with **Partners in Progress**.



**“When I began using agroecology strategies, people laughed at me. Now they want to be my friend and they ask me to teach them the strategies”**

*SAINFINA CUES, PICTURED ABOVE, LEFT*

KVK members have set a goal of teaching these agroecology techniques to 100 additional farmers from Deslandes and surrounding villages. To help farmers realize their goal, Catherine Twohig, University of Minnesota Adult Education professor, will facilitate a 5-day, experiential training in adult education methods this summer for KVK members who have committed to serving as agroecology trainers.

## St. Antoine School Lunch Program Buying Local and Improving Sustainability

The St. Antoine School serves approximately 1,544 nutritious meals each week to children who would otherwise be without the basic fuel needed for learning. To increase lunch program sustainability, the Little Sisters of St. Antoine have begun purchasing more food locally. Over 60% of lunch program food now comes from local farmers. Buying local means fresher fruits and vegetables at lower cost and increased income for local farmers. More farm household income means more farmers are able to send their children to school.