

The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program (TIST)

The History of TIST

TIST is a reforestation and economic development project. TIST works with Small Groups who want to plant many trees to improve their land and help raise money. TIST now works around the world. With more groups in more places, this history – and the TIST Trees -- will continue to grow!

July-August 1998 and 1999

- Mission Teams from the United States invited to the Anglican Diocese of Mpwapwa, Tanzania. They give Small Group Leadership seminars for Bible study, support and planning groups.
- “Best practices” identified by seminar participants and mission team
- Bible study, support, and planning small groups are formed

August 1999

- Expanded Small Group Leadership training seminars and training of trainers
- Seminar participants identify specific needs and goals for their diocese and their country:
 - Reforest areas devastated by crop rotation and trees cut for fuel and charcoal
 - Eliminate famine
 - Trained trainers give small group “best practices” seminars

December 1999

- 40 participants of small groups in the diocese and Clean Air Action Corporation develop initial TIST program
- “Phase I” begins...

January – March 2000

- 40 groups join and implement the TIST program

May 2000

- Representatives elected from each geographical area to serve on Board of Directors

June- September 2000

- Continued small group leader training and training of trainers
- Conservation Farming best practices training begun for small groups
- First *Habari Moto Moto* monthly newsletter distributed to small groups
- Phase I Completed, Phase II begins...

January – October 2001

- 472 additional groups join the TIST program
- Additional training: tree planting training, nurseries, seedling care, Conservation Farming

January – March 2002

- 140 additional groups join the TIST program

May 2002

- Over 900,000 TIST trees counted in Mpwapwa and Kongwa Districts of Tanzania

June 2002

- TIST program begins in Morogoro, Tanzania

June - August 2002

- TIST program begins in villages near Chennai, India
- 51 small groups start nurseries

September 2002

- Phase II Complete! Phase III begins...