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We are pleased to present a new issue of our newsletter! Continue to check our **website** for realtime updates connecting you to our projects. With this newsletter APD optimizes the communication flow on a regular basis towards clients, suppliers, investors, stakeholders, sympathizers and other interested parties. Remember to forward this to your friends and contacts!



About the Company

Africa Product Development LTD (APD) was established in 2008. APD develops commercial projects in Africa with a strong emphasis on sustainability and a positive engagement towards the local people, environment and economy.

We are convinced that Africa is poised to develop over the next few decades to increase and replenish the world supplies of food and energy resources.

Read all about it on WWW.APDHOLDING.COM

The past two months...

I am proud to present our restyled newsletter. APD is constantly optimizing the communication flow in order to connect as much as possible with you. Recently we launched our Spanish and French website as a consequence of the mounting attention we receive from Latin America, Spain and France. To all our French and Spanish speaking friends: "Bienvenida / Bienvenue".

The past two months we saw APD making huge strides in order to complete and have an operational farm and oil palm cultivation at the beginning of Fiscal Year 2012. We completed phase 2 of construction which consisted of creating the foundation for the animal pavilions, building the "Snail Barn" and clearing the nursery site. Battling unprecedented rain, we navigated the situation successfully and are still on schedule for a Christmas surprise!

Gerrit Anton Valkenburg, CEO



Palm Oil Land

The Ekrawfo oil palm plantation will be an example of Crude Sustainable Palm Oil (CSPO) production for the Ekumfi-region. Expecting to grow over the next years, the Ekrawfo plantation's first phase is in pole position for a fertile future of about 26 years.

The first phase of the Land Lease program is closed. All preparations are in place to plant out the first 200 hectare in the second half of 2012. The second investment phase of the land lease program is open now. Be a part of this rewarding project. Interested? **READ MORE HERE...**

Not convinced why Palm oil is a commodity with a perspective? Read the overview on page 4 of this newsletter and watch out for our next editions to read all about the Ekrawfo plantation.



About our integrated farm

APD is always concerned with the threats lying in wait and how to manage or exclude them. One of the basic rules in each business is to diversify within your model. The integrated farm model in Ekrawfo has a threefold diversification : Traditional oil palm and chili pepper cultivation, Aquaponics vegetable production and livestock production.

Besides that an ecosystem always consists of separate elements depending on each other to survive, bear fruits, replicate, etc. An integrated commercial farm is a well balanced ecosystem in which certain elements are important to optimize the results and profit.



Tenant Farmers

In Ghana most farmers are growing produce on the subsistence level, meaning they farm on land which does not belong to them in order to have a bit of income roughly equally \$1 US per day. APD is hyper aware of the precarious situation in which these farmers are placed upon the ladder of economic development.

On the land we acquired we made sure that they are all compensated fairly instead of simply moving these farmers off the land.

In numerous community meetings, APD set a new standard for dealing with small agricultural producers paying them fair market prices and engaging them in employment to help create the Ekrawfo Farm.

Construction Phase 2

APD's operations, besides oil palm and chili peppers, will be constructed on four hectares of land. This includes an 8,000 square meter controlled vegetable production area, 400 square meters of snail production able to house 40,000 snails, and a commercial nursery.

To increase development opportunities from the village which averages nearly 60% unemployment, we have hired 30 temporary workers in addition to our full time staff. The village has shown their appreciation for us being in the community by working hard to complete the construction.



Bees!

APD is proud to announce the first installment of bees on to our farm land! In partnership with the Honey Centre located outside of Cape Coast Ghana, we have installed 50 bee hives into our farm operations.

While the annual yield of the honey will not be hugely impactful, bees are the hardest workers on the farm helping to pollinate other crops and allowing us to achieve higher yields. If you are not a believer in the impact of bees take a look at this **Study from the University of California at Berkley.**





Social housing in Ekumfi Ekrawfo

Our company plans a small scale housing project in the territory of Ekumfi Ekrawfo. Initially the houses will be let at low rates to the labourers working on the agricultural projects. At a later stage there will be the possibility to purchase against affordable conditions.

It is the companies intention to outscale this project to other regions in Ghana. Negotiations with possible partners have been initiated and there is already a European building company who has shown interest to construct the building as pre-fab buildingkits.

The houses have been designed by "Stijl en Stoer", a Dutch interior design company.



"Stijl en Stoer" specializes in all facets of interior design and decorating. Trends are followed very closely, however this is just a minor part in designing. The way and where we live, work and execute our hobbies is much more important for the creation of a suitable design. We look at a space from the perspective and goals of our clients.

We are proud that we were able to contribute to the social housing project of Africa Product Development ltd. with our designs. During the intake we made sure to gather all necessary information regarding the future inhabitants and their surroundings. Our starting point for the design was "Future", since this project will create a solid future for the local people involved.

The way this project is carried out by Africa Product Development and the enthusiasm of Gerrit Valkenburg and his team convinced us to offer our services at no charge!

Anita van den Berg
Patricia van Baaren





About Palm Oil

Although the attractive characteristics of palm oil are widely known, it might be interesting to bundle the most important points once again.

A lot more about Palm Oil and its sextuple impact on our website: **READ MORE...**

The Palm Oil Biology

- Palm oil is a "fruit oil" like olive oil.
- No chemicals or solvents are used in the extraction of palm oil.
- Fibre from oil palm fruits and shells are effective as boiler fuels. This is used to generate electricity for processing.
- Palm oil is considered a green fuel, also an excellent feedstock for producing biodiesel, which can help preserve fossil fuel reserves.
- Empty fruit branches are found to be suitable for making craft and printing paper.
- The shells are so tough, it can be used to make lightweight concrete that is strong enough for roads and low rise buildings

Healthy Benefits of Palm Oil

- It's trans fat free.
- It contains high levels of anti oxidants as well anti cancer and cholesterol lowering properties.
- Consuming palm oil may lower the risk of thrombosis.
- Palm oil is the richest natural source of tocotrienols, a super antioxidant. Tocotrienols lower cholesterol levels and protects the brain.
- Red palm oil is one of the richest natural sources of carotenoids, the safest source of vitamin A.
- People who cannot metabolize fats the normal way use MCT, made from palm kernel oil.

Manufacturing Benefits of Palm Oil

- Detergents made from palm based oleochemicals are rapidly and fully biodegradable.
- Products such as lipsticks, gels, creams, lotion, and other cosmetics and personal care products are found to use palm based oleochemicals. It's gentle on the skin, human friendly and green.
- Palm based oleochemical products are proven to be more environmental friendly than the products of petrochemical origin.

Interesting uses of Palm Oil

- Used in Europe to stabilize peanut butter
- Palm oil based cream and confectionary melts quickly in the mouth, imparting a smooth and cool feeling in the mouth. Also increases the shelf life.
- Palm oil is an important ingredient in infant formulae for emulating the fat profile of human breast milk.
- Best oil for frying as it is absorbed at a slow rate by fried foods and does not contain linolenic acid, which imparts fish odours on food.



Economic Benefits of Palm Oil

- As oil palm bears fruit the whole year round, continuous supply is guaranteed.
- An average plant has an economic life of 25 to 30 years.
- Oil palm is the most productive vegetable crop. It is 6 to 7 times more productive than soybean, cottonseed, groundnut, sunflower or rapeseed.
- It is a good carbon sink, absorbing greenhouse gases therefore reducing concerns on global warming.

Colophon

Kjell Tahon....editor
Maurice Valkenburg....layout

Sources
www.palmoilshorties.com

Office Kumasi
Plt 22, BIKS, Ayeduasi
PO Box ST138

Office Accra
Mandelastreet 7
PO Box 1337

T: +233 (0) 302 854 919
E: info@apdholding.com
W: www.apdholding.com

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