



NEWS BULLETIN OCTOBER 2011

Catnip month for the fight against malaria in Africa, through local production of mosquito repellents by, for and with the population.

October was catnip month in Burundi and ACECI's main activities during that period revolved around the project to manufacture a bio-based mosquito repellent based on catnip. Catnip exhibition October 5th to 26th in Bujumbura; the "5 à 7 de la coopération ici et ailleurs" on October 7th; the second International Conference in Bujumbura October 17th and 18th; and finally a Keynote lecture at the Canadian Conference on Chemical Engineering, in London, Ontario, October 23rd to 26th, 2011.

ALIKSIR AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING OF THE ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE DE MONTRÉAL AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE PARTNERSHIP CATNIP PROJECT WITH ACECI

The Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal and Aliksir – a private company – have confirmed their involvement in the catnip project during the "5 à 7 de la coopération ici et ailleurs" on October 7th at the Museum of Civilization. For Michel Perrier, head of the Department of Chemical Engineering, the involvement of professors and students in this project meets the need of the department to assist in the transfer of technology help achieve the millenium development goals through sustainable development.

Michel Perrier masters the issues and challenges of this project, having attended the first conference for the launch of the catnip project in Burundi in October 2010, with Gilles Savard, Vice President of Research of the École Polytechnique de Montréal. Once again, he has expressed his full support to the ACECI.



Lucie Mainguy in Burundi ; she Studies aromatic plants

ALIKSIR and the network of « Distillateurs aux pieds nus sans frontières »

One of the highlights of the "5 à 7 de la coopération" was the unveiling by Lucie Mainguy, CEO of ALIKSIR, of the network "Distillateurs aux pieds nus sans frontières". Like the "barefoot doctors", the distillers will share production techniques of essential oil-based natural products with local southern communities. According to her, it is only fair to give back what they give to the North. Many raw materials used in the North come from the South, but these materials do not benefit them from lack of research, technology and knowledge.

The catnip project promotes North/South exchange, technology transfer and development in the field of aromatic plants for the benefit of the local population.

A few days after the '5à7', the CEO of Aliksir, Gregory Patience and the CEO of ACECI traveled to Bujumbura, Burundi, to participate in the second International Conference on the project that is part of the catnip month at the French Institute of Bujumbura.

« It is no longer a dream, it is feasible, it is real and achievable. » Ginette Karirekinyana - ACECI

Thus spoke the Executive Director of ACECI regarding the catnip project to fight malaria at the opening of the second International Conference in Bujumbura on October 17th. The conference lasted two days. The objectives of the conference were: to educate young people and show them their role in the project, to advocate the need for the use of mosquito repellents as a strategy against malaria, to implicate African and international leaders in the project because of the potential benefits that go beyond Burundi's frontiers to cover the entire Great Lakes region and even the rest of Africa, and finally to raise the interest of financial partners.

AN UNEXPECTED VISIT AND A SUPPORTING MESSAGE FROM JEAN LAMY, FRENCH AMBASSADOR IN BURUNDI

In his short speech at the opening of the Conference, Lamy called for the real support of all African countries in the catnip project. He assured French cooperation in developing pilot projects related to the catnip programme. He said that the mosquito repellent "has to end up developing, because it is a matter of common sense and efficiency."

France contributes 360 million Euros annually to the Global Fund against AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, making it the second largest contributor worldwide.



France ambassador Jean Lamy, in front of a display of catnip-based mosquito repellents at the exhibit.

CATNIP PROJECT: COMPLEMENTARY TO THE PROGRAM TO DISTRIBUTE NETS FOR PREVENTION OF MALARIA

Participants at the second Conference in Bujumbura stressed the fact that the use of mosquito repellents is important as a complementary measure to mosquito nets in order to eradicate malaria in Burundi. USAID - U.S. Agency for International Development Assistance, has closely followed the conference activities and participated in the discussion.

University partners (FACAGRO, ISA) and broadcasters (ABR) and NGOs working in the field of development from civil societies (CEAA, ALUMA, Community for Burundi, ABEM, etc...) also reiterated their commitment to this project for the good of the local population. All emphasized the innovative aspect of the project initiated by the ACECI in terms of comprehensive development, sustainability and responsibility.

The second conference that took place in Bujumbura was part of an exhibition devoted to the catnip project that lasted the whole month of October and had a very high turnout.



CIRGL – INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE GREAT LAKES REGION AND EGL – ENERGIE GRAND LAC – READY TO SUPPORT BURUNDI'S GOVERNMENT IN THE CATNIP PROJECT.

Support from the CIRGL and EGL, two intergovernmental organizations, give a regional and African dimension to the catnip project. Burundi is a pilot country and the success of this project will benefit people across the region representing at least 20 million people. Whereas expertise of the EGL in the energy field is required for the implementation of the project, political support is expected from the CIRGL.

On the left, Salvator Sunzu, from *Énergie des Grands Lacs*; on the right, Roger Nsibula from the *Conférence internationale de la région des Grands Lacs*.



SUPPORT IN CANADA

The executive director of ACECI, Ginette Karirekinyana and Gregory Patience, board member of the Agency and professor at the EPM, presented the catnip project to the 61st Annual Meeting of the Canadian Institute of Chemical Engineering in London, Ontario - from October 23rd to 27th.

The Canadian Institute of Chemical Engineering - CIC, reiterated the support he had already given the catnip project to fight malaria in Africa.



ACECI's executive director, accompanied by M. Legros (EPM) and Roland Andersson from CIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ALIKSIR is launching a variety of catnip oil based natural products whose profits will fund the catnip project in Burundi. For more information, visit the site:
www.aliksir.com

As of October 28th, 2011, **ACECI became a member of AQOCI - Association québécoise des organisations de la coopération internationale** - after a meeting of its Board of Directors.

For the second consecutive year, **ACECI is participating in Journées québécoises de Solidarité internationale** - JQSI in November 2011.

The Catnip Project bases its vision on sustainable development.



The Board of Directors thanks all its volunteers and everyone who supports ACECI.

To support the projects of the ACECI:
www.aceci.org, and **www.antimalariaomd.org**
or: **418-524-7648**

 **Aceci.org**
Agence consultative en éthique
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