

TIST Benefits

The TIST program provides numerous types of benefits across a range of operational areas. These benefits are created by a broad diversity of peoples in different climates and conditions. Because the TIST program is voluntary, benefits are not evenly distributed; rather, they are created and accessed at the discretion of each TIST member. Below is a partial list of benefits created from trees, the Small Group structure, and TIST project management.

Benefits of Trees

Trees that provide shade from the hot tropical sun, cooling their house, allowing grass for their cows to grow
Trees along streams or rivers clean and retain the water and protect the banks
Trees that prevent erosion on steep or hilly areas
Trees that provide a windbreak - that keeps the laundry on the line, and the roof on the house
Trees that provide firewood for the family without long and dangerous walks to a forest
Trees that provide medicines from the bark
Trees that provide fruit to eat and to sell
Trees that provide fodder that keep cattle alive during drought
Trees that provide food and shelter for bees that make honey to eat and to sell
Trees that provide fertilizer for the farm and garden

Benefits of Small Groups

Opportunities to work together on a joint project
Opportunities to learn together about health, or farming, or food
Opportunities for leadership experience and growth
Opportunities to discuss ways to improve their farms
Opportunities to work together to implement improved farming practices
Opportunities to develop best practices and share them with others
Opportunities to make joint financial decisions
Opportunities to support each other in times of need

Benefits of TIST's Approaches to Project Management

Opportunities to learn from each other and gather information they need in Seminars
Opportunities to develop local organizational approaches
Opportunities to "Go and Do" with energy and without hindrance
Opportunities to learn and use group facilitation skills
Opportunities to learn technical and administrative skills
Opportunities to travel, teach, encourage other TIST farmers
Opportunities to measure results and assure quality