



Grown in Haiti

10-Year Impact Report

GROWNINHAITI.COM





Foreword

It is with great gratitude that we share Grown in Haiti's first impact report. We are a small team whose mission is to empower Haiti's people and communities to become fully autonomous through sustainable development. Over the last ten years, we have been growing multiple regenerative food systems and establishing a global community, which have made a visibly lasting impact in the economy and agriculture of Cap Rouge as well as other Haitian communities.

With your support, we will continue our work to encourage for sustainable living around the world, in pushing for a long-term climate and collective action.

It starts with a seed.



Contents

Who We Are.....p.4-11

Introduction

Statement of Need

Our Strategy

Our Ecosystem

Our Community

Testimonials

Environmental & Community Impact.....p.12-15

Access to Resources

Environmental Impact

Access to Education

Stories of Change

Ongoing Projects.....p.16-20

Community Center

Agranatif Training Program

Mushroom Cultivation

Looking Ahead.....p.21-25

Future Projects & Goals

Partnerships & Collaborations

Stories of Support

Get Involved.....p.26-31

Donate

Recent Press

Spread the Word



Grown in Haiti (est. 2014) is a Haitian founded and led organization dedicated to promoting ecological health and sustainability through the teaching of regenerative land practices.

Our mission is to empower Haiti's people and communities to become fully autonomous through sustainable development.

We are a grassroots organization that is a fiscally hosted charity in the USA.

Statement of Need

The Grown in Haiti team has identified 3 main gaps in restoring and maintaining the health of Haiti's agricultural systems.

1 RESOURCES

Haiti has had mixed progress in accessing basic services such as clean drinking water, sanitation services, internet, and medical aid. In 2020, only 43% of Haiti's rural population had access to basic drinking water. To address this, Grown in Haiti aims to improve water accessibility and sanitation through our ecological projects, requiring support in resources and partnerships.

2 EDUCATION

The average Haitian citizen, age 25 years or older, has less than 5 years of schooling. 90% of Haiti's primary schools are non-public and prohibitively expensive to attend. Rates of school enrollment are dramatically lower in rural than in urban areas, and dropout rates are higher. Grown in Haiti seeks to bridge this educational gap through workshops and community centers, necessitating funding for educational materials and trained facilitators.

3 FINANCIAL & IN-KIND SUPPORT

As a grassroots organization primarily funded through GoFundMe, the escalating costs of materials and economic volatility have put our projects at risk. We urgently require more substantial and consistent funding to continue transforming communities and safeguarding Haiti's ecological future.

Grown in Haiti's Strategy

Grown in Haiti believe that real change in the reforestation of Haiti will come from Haitians themselves. However, we create global partnerships and alliances that further this goal. We spread knowledge of agroforestry and sustainable living that is community led and can be universally applied.



1

We work with community-led climate organizations
(i.e. our Partners) to provide access to education and resources.



2

We engage a global community
(i.e. potential Supporters) to provide knowledge and source direct resources and donations that support our tangible initiatives.

Grown in Haiti's Ecosystem

Grown in Haiti's ecosystem is made up of 3 groups, of equal importance:



Grown in Haiti Team
is made up of our co-founders
and fundraising lead.



Grown in Haiti Donors
are individuals who donate
financial and/or in-kind
materials.



Grown in Haiti Volunteers
are people interested in supporting
grassroots climate change.

Our global ecosystem is *grassroots, collaborative and growing.*

The Grown in Haiti Community

We are a core family-led team that has grown into a global community. Grown in Haiti was co-founded in 2014 by Sidney-Max Etienne, a regenerative farmer, community activist, and artist. He, along with Yi Liu and his mother, Paula Hyppolite, to promote ecological and community health. In 2020, Grown in Haiti expanded to include lead fundraiser Sadaf Padder.

Grown in Haiti has worked with six local communities located in Les Cayes, St. Louis du Sud, Chalon, Cap Rouge, and La Valley in Haiti, fostering resilience and regenerative practices.

Grown in Haiti has several volunteers and supporters who have contributed their time, resources and skills to the proliferation of our organization. Grown in Haiti has directly impacted at least 800 individuals in Haiti and engaged over 500 international volunteers from 40 different countries including Australia, Brazil, China, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea (South), Mexico, Namibia, Peru, Russia, Spain, Taiwan, and Ukraine. This does not include the countless people who have been inspired by our work and paid that inspiration forward.



SIDNEY ETIENNE | FOUNDER



PAULA HIPPOLYTE | CO-FOUNDER



YI LIU | CO-FOUNDER



SADAF PADDER | FUNDRAISING LEAD



Hear from our supporters!



"At its current scale without an internationally recognized structure like a non-profit or NGO, Grown in Haiti has accomplished tremendously more with less funding and have shown consistent and tangible results in every area. Grown in Haiti has shown me that small impactful investments not rooted in institutional funding can create a path forward for reforestation, education and community building in Haiti's rural areas."

- Chef Chris Paul



"I believe in Grown in Haiti because it promotes self sufficiency. Far too often nonprofit organizations in Haiti and other developing nations start great programs that only work with their presence. Once they leave, so does the hopes and dreams of the people who depended on that program. GIH promotes self sufficiency. I know in my heart of hearts, whenever God calls Sidney home his community will be ok because he's taught them how to take care of themselves and those around them. I wish him nothing but health and time."

- Kareen Ulysse M.Ed,
Founder/President of Centre Hospitalier de Fontaine Foundation



"Between the wealth of information and what GIH has accomplished in Cap Rouge, the now food jungle has created a very organic path towards sustainability for people in Haiti."

- Jean Paul Marcellin,
Executive Director of fePouli



Access to Resources

In our initial phase of development from 2014 - 2016, Sidney worked diligently to restore the soil health of our first regenerative food system. This land went from being severely malnourished due to oil rigging to now bearing over **90+ species of fruit-bearing trees**.

Grown in Haiti also established our first nursery which provided fruit-bearing saplings to community members as well as Cap Rouge's first water cistern which allowed access to clean water. The construction of water catchment systems has eliminated the need for dozens of families to hike for two hours to collect water from the local spring.

Grown in Haiti regularly provides the local community with access to emergency first aid, water, agricultural and construction tools, educational materials and training, annual scholarships, and emergency financial aid for funerals, operations, and repairs.





Yi, co-founder of Grown in Haiti, with freshly harvested plantains. All the images here are of fruits and root plants grown at Grown in Haiti.



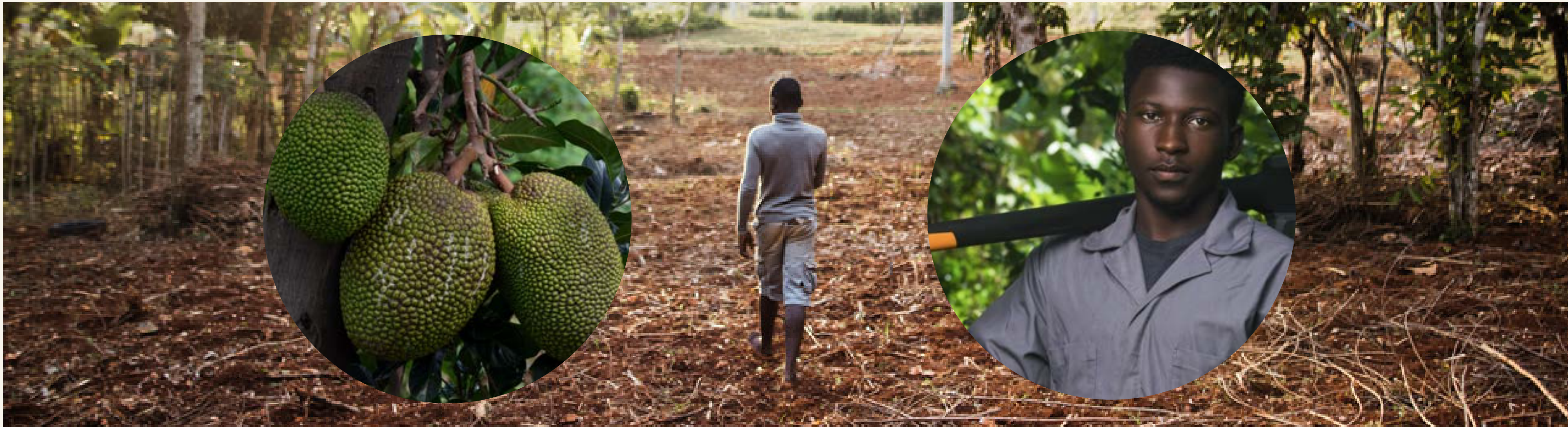
Environmental Impact

Since our inception, Grown in Haiti has sprouted and freely shared **over 10,000 fruit-bearing trees** including jackfruit, breadnut, mahogany, guava, coffee and even Vanilla. This diversity has led to improved soil conditions, including loamy soil rich in organic matter, mycelium, and microbes. The land we steward is no longer suffering from erosion and nutrient degradation but is building up annually. These systems have also witnessed temperature changes and **an increase in biodiversity** including rare species such as *Callipogon sericeus*.

The regenerative food systems implemented by Grown in Haiti have ensured food security, resilience during dry seasons, and adaptation of regenerative practices in the lives of the community members.



Stories of Change



Jaquelin's success: Jaquelin, one of the community members, has been able to generate a steady profit from the jackfruit trees grown from Grown in Haiti's nursery.

Peter's transformation: Peter has transformed his barren field into a lush regenerative food system with a diverse collection of food-bearing trees, local hardwood trees, and support species. This transformation has enhanced the overall growth and balance of his system.

Access to Education

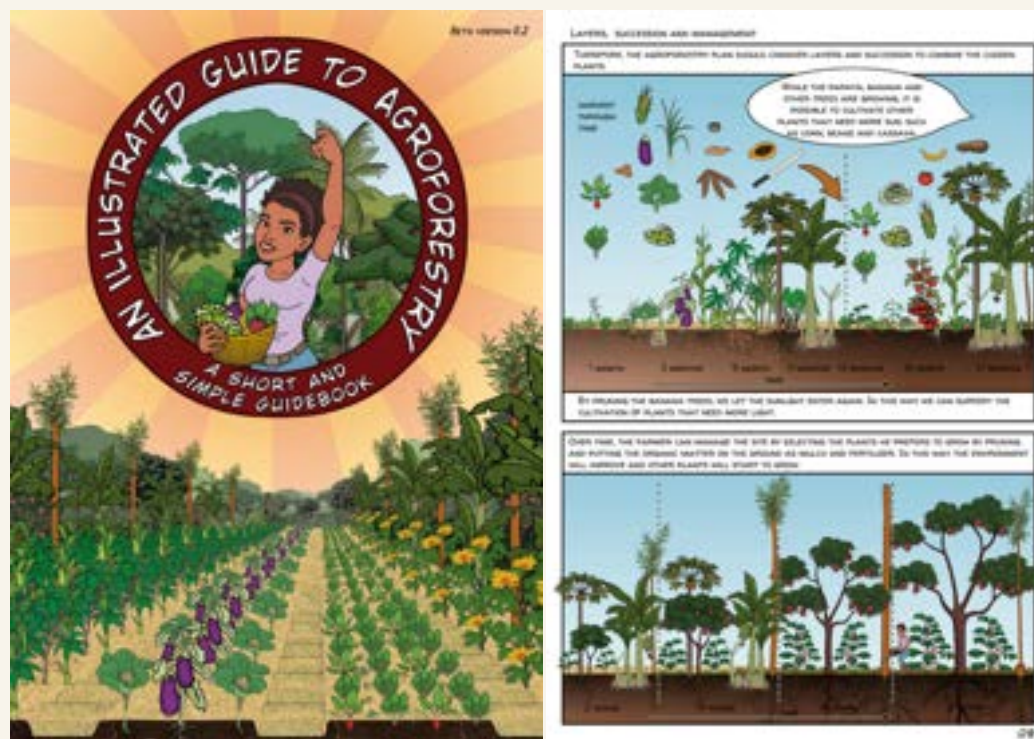


Through local and global methods that involve in-person training as well as virtual courses, Grown in Haiti freely distributes knowledge around agroforestry and syntropic farming.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Grown in Haiti provides annual scholarships for 50 kids, lessening the financial burden on families and allowing them to invest in repairs for their homes or small businesses. This has contributed to the pride and security of the children and their families. The scholarship recipients are now graduating and expressing interest in contributing to the community center by tutoring future generations.

Two bright young minds from Cap Rouge proudly wear their school uniforms, their futures brightened through Grown in Haiti's annual scholarship initiative. This transformative program aims to dismantle educational barriers and empower the next generation of community leaders.



AGROFORESTRY WORKSHOPS

In 2023, Grown in Haiti conducted our first agroforestry workshops series with 35 participants who have since implemented techniques learned in their agricultural practices.

YON GID ILISTRE POU AGWOFORRESTRY

In 2023, Grown in Haiti published an illustrated guidebook entirely devoted to regenerative agriculture in Haiti written in Haitian Creole. This book is the first of its kind and is a free downloadable resource.

SYNTROPIC FORESTRY WITH EARTHED

In this 8-module virtual course hosted by earthed, Sidney Etienne models how syntropic rows, stratification, and successive planting work with simple, natural processes for growing abundant food. The course is available for earthed members.



Ongoing Projects

Political instability in Haiti has created challenges in terms of resource availability, traveler safety, and community growth opportunities. Grown in Haiti has learned to adapt, be flexible, and seek advice from the community of supporters and local community members.

COMMUNITY CENTER

There are over 200 young people between the ages of 5 and 18 who live within a 2-mile radius of Cap Rouge. These youth have no consistent access to educational and recreational spaces where they can safely learn and play.

Since 2019, Grown in Haiti has been fundraising for Cap Rouge's first community center. This storm-proof center will be a safe place for the Cap Rouge community to gather, learn life-altering vocational skills, and seek shelter in the event of a major weather event. The space currently houses a community water cistern, nursery, food forest, tool library and studio annex. We have already begun hosting agroforestry and yoga workshops as well as Agrinatif team meetings.

Challenges include fundraising and an actionable construction plan due to limited access to materials. Our main method of funding has been through GoFundMe. We have had over 400 donors contribute \$60,000 to this initiative, the majority of which has been used already to build a nursery, annex, toolshed and water cistern.

Due to the current state of the country, alternative methods of construction are being explored, and completion estimates are uncertain.



Agranatif Training Program

In April 2022, Grown in Haiti (GiH) embarked on an ambitious three-year hands-on training program in collaboration with the AgriNatif team. This initiative includes five dedicated members from the Cap Rouge community, carefully chosen for their passion and potential. My aspiration for this talented group is that they will emerge as the leading force in regenerative agroforestry work in Haiti. Through committed training, shared knowledge, and practical experience, they are being equipped to not only foster ecological sustainability but to become catalysts for transformative change in Haitian agriculture. GiH's vision of cultivating a greener, more fertile environment aligns perfectly with this endeavor, promising a thriving future for our beloved Haiti.





Two distinct regenerative food systems have been innovatively deployed across varying terrains, leading to the thriving planting of hundreds of trees without a single loss to date. This accomplishment represents more than mere numbers; it reflects a deep understanding of local ecosystems and tailored approaches that foster plant growth. The benefits extend beyond immediate success, as these systems have demonstrated enhanced plant resilience and vigor even during the most challenging dry seasons. This success not only contributes to the green landscape but also stands as a testament to the potential of sustainable practices in shaping a more resilient and fertile environment.



Challenges in our efforts have not been insurmountable but require concerted attention and strategic solutions. Among these, the task of conveying complex technical concepts in Haitian Creole has called for a nuanced understanding and careful communication. Additionally, the current instability within the country has led to a scarcity of opportunities and materials essential for our mission. These obstacles underscore the need for adaptability and resilience as we continue our commitment to fostering ecological sustainability and local empowerment, despite the unpredictable landscape in which we operate.

Mushroom Cultivation

While experiments in cultivating mushrooms have faced challenges due to the lack of a sterile environment and necessary equipment, Grown in Haiti is hopeful about finding effective methods using local resources to provide alternative food sources for communities.





Looking Ahead

Change can only happen when individuals make personal choices for themselves. Longevity in endeavors relies on personal choices for change and growth rather than relying solely on external incentives.

FUTURE GOALS

Grown in Haiti hopes to train more people through agroforestry workshops and witness participants taking the initiative to share what they have learned with others in their community. The organization aims to see more people adopting regenerative land management practices and envisions a resilient and self-sufficient Haiti that no longer relies on aid. Grown in Haiti hopes to complete fundraising and begin construction on our community center in 2024.

FUTURE PROJECTS

Grown in Haiti plans to start projects focusing on post-harvest management, community recycling programs, and meal programs for young children and the elderly. Suggestions for achievable programs in the community of Cap Rouge are welcome.

Partnerships and Collaborations

Grown in Haiti expresses deep appreciation for the partnerships and collaborations it has fostered over the past 10 years. These relationships have enabled the organization to leverage resources, expertise, and networks to maximize its impact and reach.

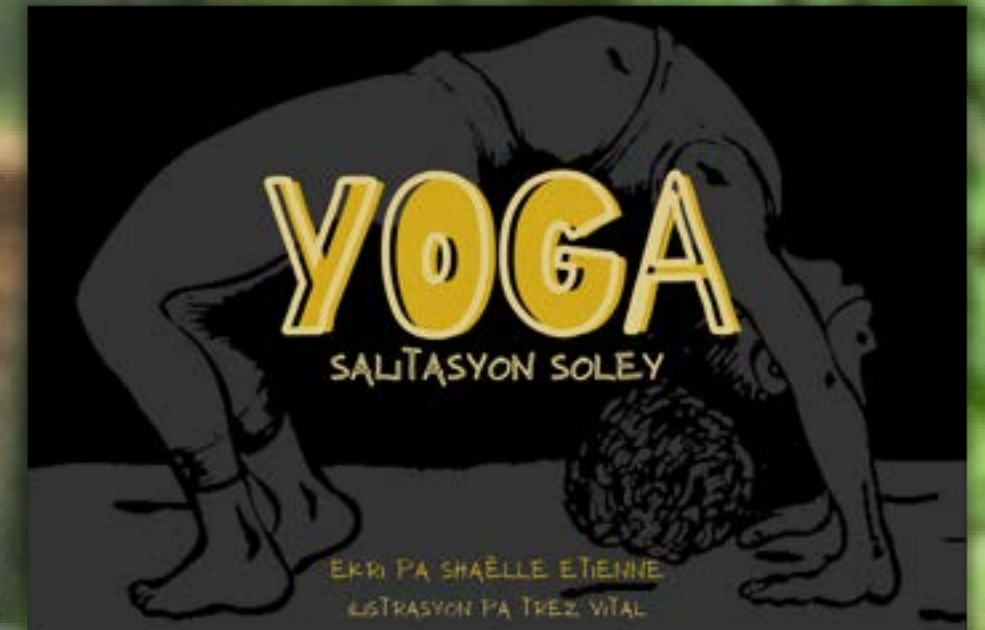


To inquire about becoming a partner, email growninhaiti@gmail.com

Story of Support

YOGA Salitasyon Soley

In 2022, Shaelle Etienne published *YOGA Salitasyon Soley*, a bi-lingual coloring book that takes readers through a simple sun salutation flow and mindfulness prompts in Haitian Kreyol and English. The book was created for the children at Grown in Haiti as a resource to refer to when wanting to do a full body stretch. It can be purchased with a percentage of proceeds benefiting Grown in Haiti.



Story of Support

Alpha Arts Alliance

Since 2020, Alpha Arts Alliance has hosted three art exhibition fundraisers for Grown in Haiti, raising over \$30K for the organization. Many of the artists who participate in these exhibitions are of the Haitian diaspora but have not had the chance to visit the country.

Both Shaelle Etienne and Alpha Arts Alliance will host their first retreats to Jacmel, Haiti this year, bringing along folks who wish to engage with Haitian culture and learn more about Grown in Haiti.

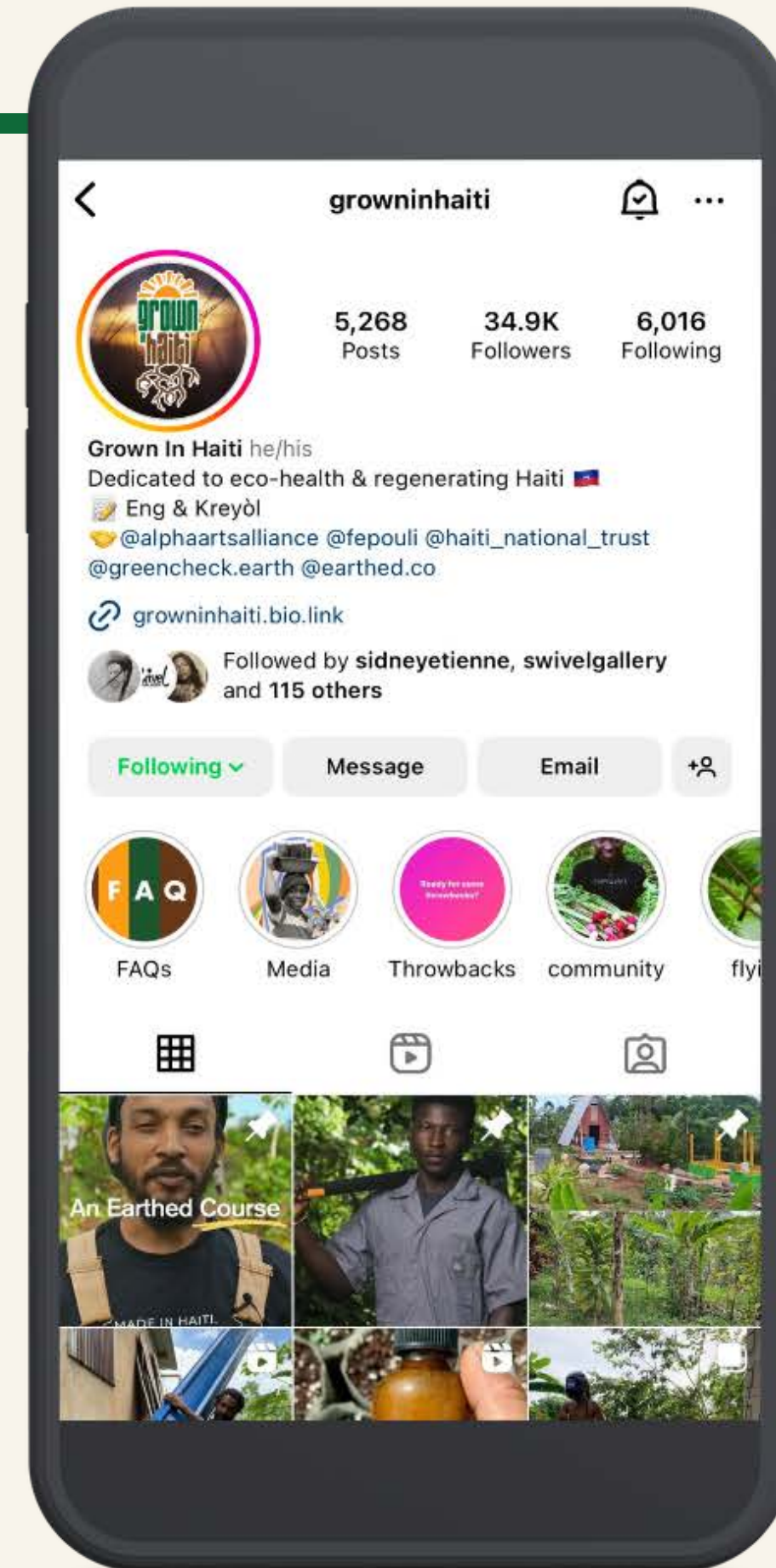


Global Reach

Grown in Haiti's presence on platforms like Instagram (@growninhaiti) has allowed the organization to reach a wider audience and create awareness about its work. The engagement and support received from social media followers have been invaluable in spreading the message and attracting new supporters.

We have amassed a following of over 30K.

Through this format, Grown in Haiti has inspired countless people globally through its work.





Get Involved!

Grown in Haiti extends heartfelt gratitude to all its supporters, donors, volunteers, and partners who have believed in its vision and contributed to its success over the past 10 years. The engagement and support of volunteers, both locally and internationally, have been instrumental in driving the organization's mission forward. Their time, dedication, and contributions have made a significant difference in the success of Grown in Haiti's projects and bringing positive change to Haiti.

Looking ahead, Grown in Haiti seeks continued support from individuals, organizations, and communities to sustain and expand its impact. There are various ways people can support, including sharing the organization's work, initiating fundraising campaigns, volunteering their time and skills, or providing financial contributions. Grown in Haiti is open to suggestions and collaborations that align with its mission and goals.

[Get in touch.](#)

Donate Today

Join our giving circle by becoming a monthly donor.
Every dollar makes a difference.

You may also choose to make a one-time donation via our
GoFundMe, Venmo, CashApp or check.

Donate Online:

Venmo: @GrowninHaiti

CashApp: @GrowninHaiti

PayPal: alphaartsalliance@gmail.com

Donate by Check:

Alpha Arts Alliance

1243 Herkimer St

Brooklyn NY 11233

Tax-Deductible Donations

Tax-deductible donations are available via our fiscal sponsor Sybarite Productions.

For your tax receipt letter, please email the amount and method of donation to alphaartsalliance@gmail.com.

Donate Online:

Venmo: @sybariteproductions

PayPal: sybaritesanctuaries@gmail.com

Donate by Check:

Sybarite Productions, Inc.

634 NE 71st St.

Miami, FL, 33138

Recent Press

Download press kit [here](#). For all interviews and media requests, email: hello@annalustberg.com



Colonialism Created Food Insecurity in Haiti, Now Climate Change Compounds It



Following Haiti's Devastating Earthquake, These Environmentalists Are Busy Supporting Their Community.



Localised Food Systems and Community Development - Grown in Haiti with Sidney Etienne

Spread the love.



www.growninhaiti.com

Instagram: @growninhaiti





Thank you.

Special thanks to our partner GreenCheck for providing the template for this impact report.

