



Community

We continuously seek to improve the socio-economic conditions of the communities where we operate through various programs aimed at promoting sustainable community empowerment and providing healthcare access.

Young entrepreneurs program

Ecuador
The Dale foundation contributes to the young entrepreneurs program. This program, supported by the International Labor Organization, provides work training for young entrepreneurs from rural communities allowing them to generate their own micro businesses.

In 2007

- 912 students benefitted from scholarships.
- 63,055 textbooks were donated, and 887 teachers trained.
- US\$400,000 was donated to maintain existing housing.
- 100,000 people benefitted from free screenings/tests for prostate, uterus and breast cancer and 724 people underwent major operations.
- 691 tons of products were distributed around the world.
- US\$34,000 was donated for emergency relief.

Amazone School

In May 2008, the inauguration of the brand new 'Ecuador País Amazónico' elementary school was the result of a joint project equally financed between the Dole Food Company, Inc. and an important European distributor. The new school is located in a very poor region of Ecuador and will provide over 300 students with a modern building including well-ventilated classrooms, spaces for recreational activities, a teachers' room, a kitchen and a cafetería.



Employees

At Dole, we start by providing a workplace that treats employees with openness, candor and respect.

In 2007

- We employed 87,000 employees worldwide.
- Including:
- 3,500 white collar employees.
- 83,500 blue collar employees.
- 55% full time employees.
- 25,872 employees affiliated to unions.
- 23,375 employees in Latin America.
- 27,853 employees in Asia.



Alvaro Francisco Nuñez

On 15 June 2008, Dole in Honduras celebrated the retirement of one of its most distinguished and exemplary employees, Alvaro Francisco Guerrero Nuñez. His career with Dole began in 1954. He worked his way from a field worker and gradually became first mechanic. He soon became most known for his commitment to workers' causes. He became President of Dole's main union in Honduras (SUTRASFCO), President of a National Honduran Union (FESITRANH), Secretary Coordinator of the Central American Worker Confederation and Vice President of the Regional International Labor Organization (ORIT) for 14 years. Dole publicly acknowledged Mr. Nuñez for his honesty, dignity, and high commitment towards workers and is proud to have been able to work with him.



Environment

Dole's commitment to the environment starts with the goal to find sustainable, environmentally friendly, healthy and safe ways to grow products throughout our worldwide operations.

In 2007

- 5,500 tons of plastics were recycled (= 24 Statues of Liberty).
- 28,000 tons of cardboard/paper were recycled (= 1/2 Empire State building).
- 311 hectares of organic farms were planted (= 622 soccer fields).
- 233,000 trees were planted worldwide.
- 456 million gallons of water (1,700 million liters) were recycled worldwide (= daily Chicago city consumption).

Chairs-for-Trees Program

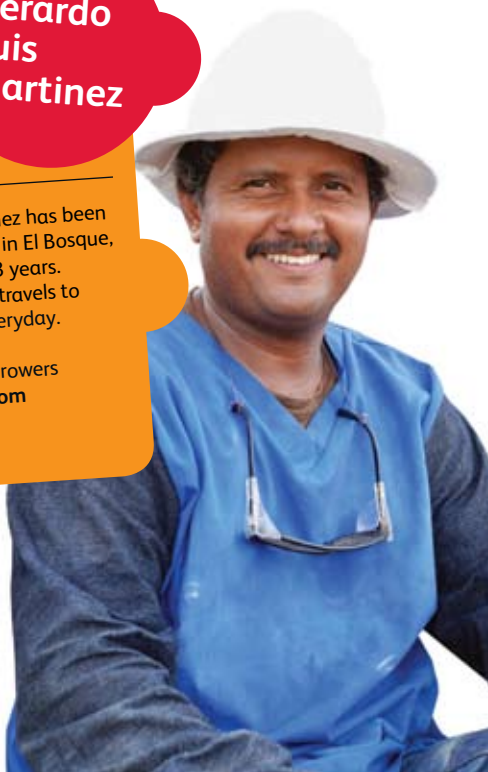
For the last four years, Dolefil has been an active participant in the Chairs-for-Trees program, which is a corporate-cooperative community partnership combining reforestation, recycling and community life improvement in the Philippines. Under the program, Dolefil's wooden pallets are turned over to a local cooperative which recycles and converts them into desk-chair combinations, kiddie tables, chairs and church pews which are then delivered to pre-identified beneficiaries. As a reciprocating action, the recipients then collaborate by planting a tree. In December 2007, the number of trees reached 1,000,000.

Costa Rica

Mr Gerardo Luis Martinez has been working as a harvester in El Bosque, Costa Rica for almost 3 years. He lives in Humo, and travels to the farm by bicycle everyday.

Meet him and other growers at www.planetdole.com

Gerardo Luis Martinez



Certifications
We are committed to applying responsible practices that respect and help to conserve the environment and our people, by using new technologies and by adhering to international standards.

Dole's environmental management systems are certified to ISO 14000, which demonstrates that our environmental practices go beyond all applicable laws.

The Rainforest Alliance works with us to conserve biodiversity and ensure sustainable livelihoods and ensure sustainable livelihoods by transforming land use practices, business practices and consumer behaviors.

The SA 8000 mission is to promote human rights for workers around the world through ethical management systems and a certification process measuring companies' social commitment.

The GlobalGAP standard is designed to reassure consumers about how food is produced on the farm by minimizing detrimental environmental impacts of farming operations.

Dole's organic program offers consumers an alternative to conventionally produced fruits and vegetables while continuing to meet Dole usually high standards of quality.



Small Organic Banana Farmers

Peru

Our organic bananas are produced by approximately 2,000 small independent growers, who receive a premium invested in social and development programs.



Carbon Footprint
The Company has always been a pioneer in environmental good practices. Our latest challenge is to neutralize the CO₂ emissions for our bananas and pineapples from Costa Rica.

Some of the methods to decrease our current CO₂ emissions:

- Produce and use renewable energy, such as bio-gas through the biodigestion of organic waste. The gas is then used in the farms' cafeterias.
- Optimize agricultural practices, which use fertilizers more friendly to the soil and the atmosphere.
- Reduce fossil fuel consumption, through training employees on driving techniques that save combustible fuel when driving the Company's and their own vehicles.
- Use new low consumption equipment, such as new lighting systems, or more environmentally friendly refrigerant containers...

...and compensate the remaining CO₂ emissions:

- Purchase of carbon credits (used for national reforestation projects) in amount equal to the emissions generated by the inland transportation of owned bananas.
- Reforestation programs, through our commitment to plant 1 million trees within the next 5 years in the country.

Objective: to produce "carbon neutral" bananas and pineapples in Costa Rica!

The Dole Promise
Our promise is to be highly responsible towards the people we work with, within the communities in which we operate, and for the environment where we work and live.

- Awards:**
- Chosen by Ethisphere Magazine as one of the 2007 and 2008 World's Most Ethical Companies
 - Recognized by the 2007 American Chamber of Commerce for its environmental and social programs for the communities in Costa Rica and Thailand.
 - Commended by the 2007 Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria for our program on Tuberculosis in the Philippines.

Dole Food Company, Inc. is the world's largest producer of fresh fruit and vegetables. Dole markets a growing line of packaged and frozen foods and is a produce industry leader in nutrition education and research. Founded in 1851, Dole has grown from a small pineapple producer into a truly global enterprise, sourcing and selling over 200 products in more than 90 countries.

For Further information on Dole's CSR Programs visit: www.dolecsr.com

Printed on 100 % post-consumer recycled paper

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At the heart of what we do



Packed full of goodness

