2012 DPRK Tree Planting Project Report

I. Overview

In 2012 the DMZ Forum succeeded in planting 10,000 trees (aronia) in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) with a generous donation from the Caipirinha Foundation and the Schaffner Family Foundation. This small step is significant in opening communication with the DPRK government officials and local people and assuring them that this tree planting effort has a pure goal of achieving the environmentally sustainable Korean peninsula including the DMZ areas.

Our initial tree planting focused on agro-forestry in order to accommodate DPRK’s need for improving food production and environment at the same time. But we ultimately aims to set up the DPRK national reforestation program as its mountains and fields are in dire situation due to massive deforestation for fuel and food. For this, we plan to have a meeting with the DPRK officials in late 2013 to set up a short-term agro-forestry project and a long-term national reforestation project.

II. 2012 DPRK tree planting

Time period: February – December 2012

Place: Baekhak-ri, Rajin-Sunbong, DPRK

Partners: Eco-AgroForestry Technology Center (EAFTC), founded on August 12, 2011 at Pyongyang University of Science & Technology (PUST) in DPRK as a consortium among the DPRK Ministry of Land and Environment Protection, PUST, and LFAN (Love for All Nations).

Donor: Caipirinha Foundation and Schaffner Family Foundation

Tree type: 10,000 aronia saplings are growing in the area of about 1.5 jungbo (1 jungbo=100m x 100m) in DPRK as shown in the photo below.
Baekhak-ri, Rajin-Sunbong, DPRK