

# Drylands Natural Resource Centre (DNRC)

## **Background**

Drylands Natural Resource Centre (DNRC) is a fast growing non-governmental organization that promotes the sustainable development of natural resources in the dryland regions of Kenya. Founded in early 2007, DNRC utilizes agro-forestry and farming best practices to boost economic agricultural yields in farming communities around Mbumbuni, Kenya. Benefits to participating families include of enhanced soil fertility, reduced soil erosion, improved water retention and preserved biodiversity in order to increase overall agricultural productivity.

## **Core activities of DNRC**

- Operation of an expanding tree nursery of 15,000+ saplings with over 10 tree species
- Cultivation and development of native grass species in the nursery for land restoration purposes
- Consulting and educational services to community members on alley and perimeter cropping (agro-forestry), charcoal production and small business development
- Rapidly expanding commercial operations
  - Target sale of 100,000 tree saplings annually by 2011
  - Charcoal production utilizing state-of-the-art retort kiln, which will be sourced with wood from sustainable tree farms
- Management of two full-time employees and multiple part time employees

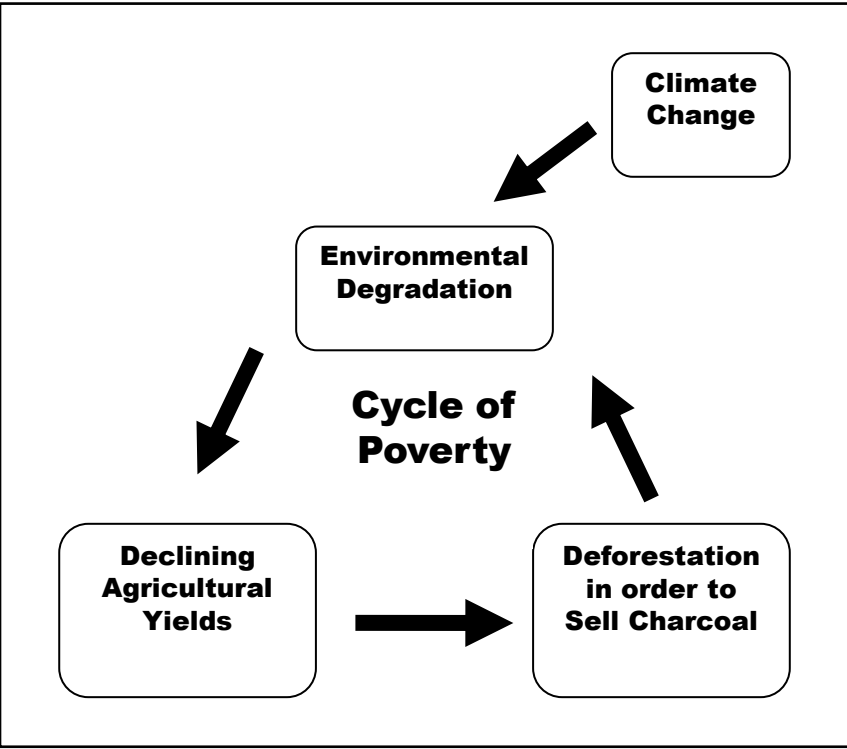
# DNRC is looking for interns starting summer 2010

1. Marketing and Sales Associate
2. Operations and Charcoal Production Associate
3. Community, Communications & NGO Liaison
4. Agro-forestry, Agriculture and Science Associate (TBD)

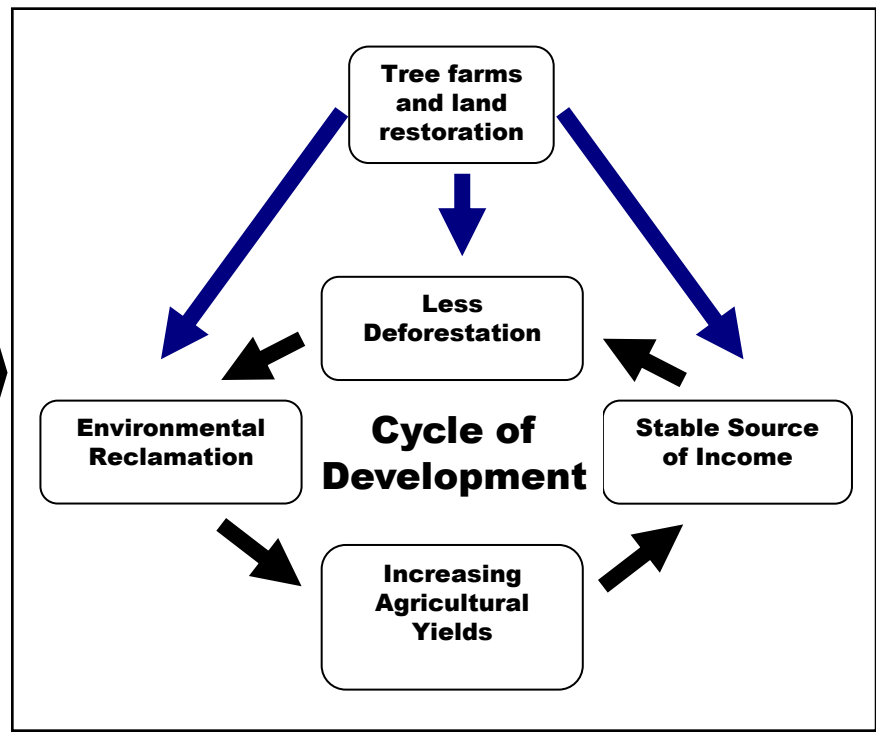
**See “Call for Interns” document for more details on the roles and responsibilities**

# The land restoration idea

From...



To...



# Mechanics of agro-forestry and land restoration



# Tree farm operations and day-to-day work



# House visits and education



# Participating community members



- 40-50 member families (~300 people)
- 15,000 saplings disseminated
- 1000s more saplings sold to non-members
- Women are the most active and important participants
- Strong growth planned with good rains and proof-of-concept

# Strategic goals for Drylands Natural Resource Centre

1. Establish an internship program
2. Increase fundraising
3. Increase tree sapling revenue
  - 100,000 tree saplings annually by 2011
  - Hire local Sales & Marketing Manager
4. Develop native grass nursery and grassland community services
5. NGO/partnering liaison (CCR, Kenyan government, NGOs in Kenya)
6. Pursue other economic and income-generating opportunities
  - 'Green Charcoal' business development
  - Gum Arabic harvesting from the Acacia Senegal

**There are  
many ways  
to get  
involved!**

# Reality check

## **It's not easy...**

- No electricity
- No running water
- No private bathroom
- Waking up at dawn, sleeping soon after sunset
- Language barrier
- Malaria risk

## **...but very rewarding**

- Meaningful contributions
- Very safe
- Family environment
- Home cooked food
- Safe water
- Wholesome country-living