



In 2017, the MHAIA embarked upon a reforestation initiative in the State of Michoacán, in partnership with the La Cruz Habitat Protection Project and Forests for Monarchs.

During the initial phase of this important relationship, we have already planted 200,000 trees in the buffer-zones surrounding the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve and in the watersheds of Pátzcuaro and Zirahuén and we expect to plant 800,000 more over the next four years. As a part of the tree planting work, educational programs are often presented to schools in planting areas, raising awareness for future generations by providing hands on, practical learning opportunities.



MHAIA's effort compliments the existing, robust reforestation activities taken on by APEAM whose goal is to have over 1 million trees planted by 2018.



Besides improving the Monarch butterfly habitat, these reforestation projects recharge aquifers, improve air quality and captures carbon dioxide, helping to mitigate climate change. As part of Forests for Monarchs Educational Initiative, they promote sustainable forest management among local land owners by teaching landowners sustainable planting techniques along with maintenance and harvesting of trees in maturity. Landowners must agree to these sustainable measures before FFM donates seedlings. Important facts about deforestation in Mexico:

100 years ago, 53% of the lands in Mexico were covered in forests. If deforestation continues at this rate, 4,000 species will disappear. In 2002, between 220-270 million monarch butterflies died due to a severe winter

storm and continued deforestation in and around their winter resting grounds. Forest for Monarchs provides sustainable forest management education to local land owners allowing the region to grow economically. To learn more about Monarch Butterflies and these important reforestation efforts, click on the links below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBfUhdJh1Yc>

<http://www.forestsformonarchs.org/>

