

Uses of Moringa in Guinea:

1. Moringa powder has been used to rehabilitate malnourished children in community based health programs, and to improve the health of pregnant women in pregnancy support groups;
2. Moringa leaves, flowers and roots are used in traditional remedies to cure menstrual cramps, treat sinus infections, alleviate eye infections, reduce dental and back pain, and for deworming therapy,
3. 3000 moringa trees have been planted at local health centers and distributed to households to promote moringa use;
4. Two health centers sell moringa powder to rehabilitate malnourished children at pediatric centers;
5. Moringa leaves are used as ingredients to fortify cakes, omelets, leaf sauce, and as a garnish for fish;
6. Animals appreciate moringa trees for their forage value;
7. Moringa plantations have been started to meet local demand for leaf powder and traditional remedies;
8. Moringa powder is sold in the market 500 grams for 1000 GF (0.15 USD);
9. Moringa trees are included as integral components of household food security and livelihood strategies in Africare's Food Security Program in Guinea, funded by USAID.

Moringa in Guinea

Moringa oleifera trees have existed in Guinea for many years – since the time of El Hadj Oumar Tall, who came to Guinea from Senegal to spread Islam hundreds of years ago. In the area where his family settled around Dinguraye, moringa leaves are commonly used in sauce with maize couscous. However, their nutritional value was never appreciated until recently, when development agencies started to promote their use. In 2005, HKI supported a local NGO, Moringa Oleifera Diffusion (MOD), to promote moringa production, transformation and use in the region of Dinguiraye. Six groups with over 600 members planted 1 ha of moringa as a result of this intervention, and 268 kg of powder has been sold.





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Helen Keller International

Founded in 1915, Helen Keller International (HKI) is among the oldest international nonprofit organizations devoted to fighting and treating preventable blindness and malnutrition. HKI is headquartered in New York City, and has programs in 26 countries around the world, including the United States, Asia and Africa. HKI builds local capacity by establishing sustainable programs in partnership with existing institutions and civil society groups, and provides scientific and technical assistance and data to governments and international, regional, national and local organizations around the world.

HKI programs combat malnutrition, cataract, trachoma, onchocerciasis (river blindness) and refractive error. The goal of all HKI programs is to reduce the suffering of those without access to needed health or vision care and ultimately, to help lift people from poverty.

Mission Statement

The mission of Helen Keller International is to save the sight and lives of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged. We combat the causes and consequences of blindness and malnutrition by establishing programs based on evidence and research in vision, health and nutrition. Our vision is to strive to be the most scientifically competent organization in improving vision and nutrition throughout the world.

“The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart.” – Helen Keller