

Summary of Your Design Narrative: Please provide a summary of your design in 500 words or less. *

Where is it located? Who is the community impacted? Problems solved? What goals does it achieve?

Project Name: Enouf (named after the historical neighborhood designation)

Location: Fond-des-Blancs, Haiti

Community Impacted: Local residents of Fond-des-Blancs, with a focus on immediate neighbors and potential expansion to the wider community.

Problem Addressed: Food insecurity in the local area.

Project Goals:

1. Create a sustainable, year-round food source for the immediate neighborhood
2. Serve as a model for other local farmers, homeowners, and community members
3. Alleviate food insecurity in the broader community
4. Establish long-term food resources through strategic planting of fruit trees
5. Demonstrate effective crop rotation techniques for continuous harvests

Design Elements:

1. Fruit Tree Orchard:

- Selection of fruit trees well-suited to the local climate
- Focus on varieties that produce abundant yields
- Trees chosen for their long-term productivity to benefit the community for years to come

2. Rotating Crop Garden:

- Implementation of a crop rotation system to ensure year-round harvests
- Careful selection of crops that thrive in different seasons
- Emphasis on plants that complement each other in terms of soil health and pest resistance

3. Educational Component:

- Educational Outreach and Youth Engagement:
A key component of the Enouf project is its after-school program designed for local children.
- Clear signage and information about the garden's layout and techniques
- Regular community workshops on gardening methods, crop selection, and sustainable practices
- Open invitations for neighbors to observe and participate in gardening activities

4. Water Management:

- Efficient irrigation systems to maximize water use
- Potential rainwater harvesting techniques to support the garden during dry periods

5. Soil Health:

- Composting area to create nutrient-rich soil amendments

- Cover cropping techniques to maintain soil fertility

6. Community Engagement:

- Establishment of a system for fair distribution of harvests among neighbors
- Creation of a volunteer program for garden maintenance and harvest events
- Regular community gatherings centered around the garden to foster a sense of ownership and pride

Expected Outcomes:

1. Increased access to fresh, nutritious produce for immediate neighbors
2. Gradual reduction in food insecurity as more community members adopt similar gardening practices
3. Enhanced community cohesion through shared gardening activities and harvest distributions (Educational Outreach and Youth Engagement).
4. Improved local knowledge of sustainable agricultural practices
5. Long-term food security through the establishment of productive fruit trees
6. Potential economic benefits as surplus produce could be sold or traded

Scalability and Replication:

The Enouf project is designed to be a blueprint for sustainable, community-centered agriculture that can be replicated throughout Fond-des-Blancs and potentially other areas of Haiti. By focusing on simple, effective techniques and emphasizing community involvement, the project aims to create a model that is both impactful and easily adoptable by others.

Through the combination of immediate impact (rotating crops for year-round harvests) and long-term planning (fruit trees for sustained production), the Enouf project seeks to address both current and future food security needs. By rooting the project in the historical context of the neighborhood and emphasizing community engagement, it aims to create a sense of pride and ownership that will contribute to its long-term success and adoption by others in the area.

Design Impact and Visibility: We are looking for designs that reach multiple partners and stakeholders and that shine light on permaculture solutions. *

Who benefits from this design? Who sees and interacts with it? What potential does your design have to become a permaculture viral meme (aka catch on with media and spread)?

Educational Outreach and Youth Engagement:

A key component of the Enouf project is its after-school program designed for local children. This program aims to:

1. Teach young community members about sustainable land management and permaculture principles.
2. Foster a deep respect for the land and its resources among the next generation.
3. Provide hands-on experience in gardening, composting, and sustainable farming techniques.
4. Emphasize the importance of environmental stewardship and its impact on food security.
5. Create a fun, interactive learning environment that connects children to their natural surroundings.

The after-school program will involve:

- Regular scheduled sessions where children can participate in garden maintenance and harvesting.
- Age-appropriate lessons on ecology, plant biology, and the local ecosystem.
- Activities that demonstrate the connection between healthy land and healthy communities.
- Opportunities for children to take home produce and share their knowledge with their families.

This addition not only enhances the project's educational impact but also significantly increases its visibility and potential for becoming a "permaculture viral meme." By involving children, the project creates a ripple effect of knowledge sharing within the community and sets the stage for long-term cultural change towards sustainable practices. It also provides a compelling narrative for media coverage, potentially attracting attention from educational institutions, environmental organizations, and government agencies interested in replicating the model.

Budget: The winner will receive \$5,000 to kick-start their design. Consider this seed money to implement a key portion of your larger vision/design for high-impact, high-visibility permaculture project. *

How would you spend the \$5,000 Grand Prize to implement your design in the next year? Please be as detailed as possible.

1. Fruit Tree Orchard: \$1,200
 - 20 fruit trees (mango, avocado, citrus) @ \$30 each: \$600
 - Soil amendments and fertilizers: \$300
 - Irrigation supplies (drip system): \$300

2. Rotating Crop Garden: \$800
 - Seeds and seedlings for year-round planting: \$400
 - Tools (shovels, hoes, rakes, watering cans): \$300
 - Organic pest control supplies: \$100

3. Educational Materials: \$600
 - Signage for plants and garden areas: \$200
 - Printed educational materials: \$200
 - Basic gardening supplies for children (small tools, gloves): \$200

4. Water Management: \$700
 - Rain barrels (2) @ \$150 each: \$300
 - Guttering and piping for rainwater collection: \$400

5. Composting System: \$300
 - Materials for building compost bins: \$200
 - Composting tools and thermometer: \$100

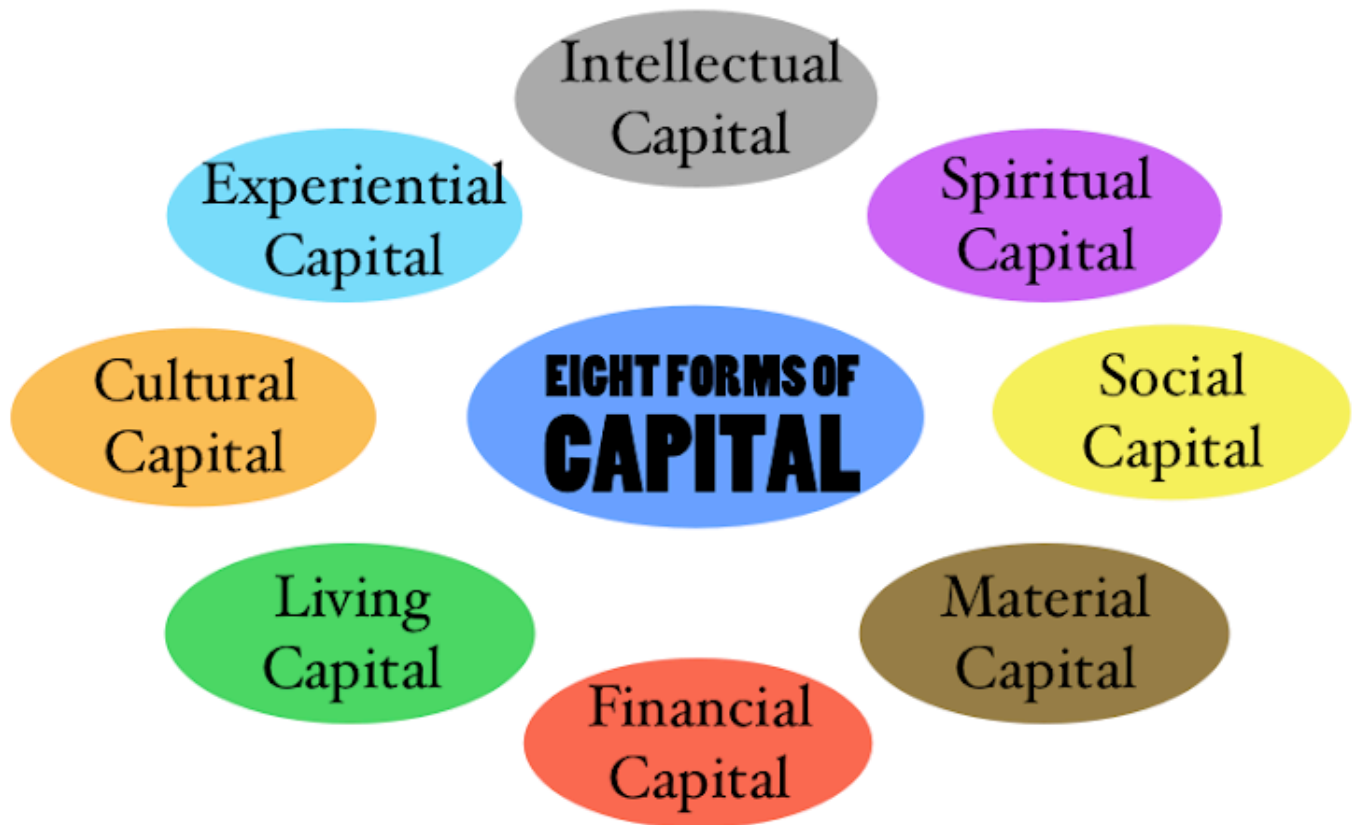
6. After-School Program Supplies: \$900
 - Art supplies for activities: \$200
 - Notebooks and writing materials: \$200
 - Snacks and refreshments for participants: \$500

7. Shipping and Import Costs: \$500
 - International shipping for seeds, tools, and other necessary supplies
 - Import fees and customs clearance

Total: \$5,000

8 Forms of Capital: For large and impactful projects, \$5,000 may not be enough to achieve the full results. However, permaculture urges us to utilize ALL forms of capital by design. *

How does your design leverage the 8 Forms of Capital? How can your design utilize the cash award to bolster the other forms of capital abundance surrounding your project?



Financial Capital:

The \$5,000 prize serves as seed money to kickstart the project.

Potential for future funding through grants or community contributions.

Material Capital:

Garden infrastructure, tools, and plants established with the initial funding.

Potential for community donations of additional materials or land.

Living Capital:

Fruit trees and diverse crops enhance local biodiversity.

Improved soil health through composting and sustainable practices.

Social Capital:

Community engagement through the after-school program.

Networking opportunities with local farmers and organizations.

Intellectual Capital:

Knowledge sharing through educational programs and workshops.
Development of local expertise in permaculture and sustainable farming.

Experiential Capital:

Hands-on learning for children and community members.
Accumulated knowledge from implementing and maintaining the garden.

Spiritual Capital:

Fostering a deeper connection to the land and nature.
Building community pride and cultural identity through traditional farming practices.

Cultural Capital:

Preserving and promoting local agricultural traditions.
Integrating permaculture principles with Haitian cultural practices.

Site Analysis and Assessment: Tell us about the current conditions of the land. Please include * something about the Climate, Soil, Water, Sectors, Zones of Use/Access and Circulation, Existing Plants, and Social Conditions involved in your project.

Climate: The area experiences harsh summers with constant heat. There's a distinct rainy season with potential for heavy storms, which can cause temporary flooding. Shady areas on the property provide some relief from the intense heat.

Soil: The soil condition is poor, facing challenges of erosion and degradation. There's potential for improvement through strategies to enhance organic matter, encourage microbial diversity, and manage soil compaction.

Water: The property is located near a river, which contributes to flooding during major storms. There's good potential for rainwater harvesting, especially during the rainy season. The current water management system includes both natural and treated water sources, with greywater reuse practices in place. Well water is non-potable, and there are issues with wastewater management.

Sectors: Water flow is a significant factor, with the driveway becoming a water route during storms. Shady areas play a crucial role in protecting crops, plants, and trees from harsh summer conditions.

Zones of Use/Access and Circulation: The analysis mentions improvements in Zone 1, where ground covering has begun. The driveway serves dual purposes as access and a water route during heavy rains.

Existing Plants: The property features ornamental and fruit plants, contributing to its beauty and productivity. There's a good supply of mulch available for soil enrichment. However, the overall ecological diversity is low.

Social Conditions: The surrounding community faces food insecurity. This project aims to serve as an educational opportunity for both adults and children, demonstrating the feasibility of growing food in their local environment.
