

U.N. IN ACTION

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BIOFUEL IN HAITI

<u>VIDEO</u> <u>AUDIO</u>

NARRATION

CAR REPAIR WORKSHOP

In a back street of Port-au-Prince this unassuming car repair workshop hides a surprising secret - one which could offer a sustainable way of generating fuel. Here they're converting used cooking oil given away by fast food restaurants in the capital into bio-diesel - a green alternative to diesel which can be used to run generators and even vehicles. Reginald Noel is a production manager of the Haiti

MACHINERY / OIL IN TUBES

REGINALD NOEL: (English)

Bio-diesel Group. (31")

REGINALD NOEL ON CAMERA
WITH BOTTLES OF OIL

"This is the first step; we just finished collecting from the processor. It has two parts: the top one, which is lighter, is the bio-diesel, and the bottom one, darker, is the glycerin. Stage two, we remove the glycerin. We put some water in it to remove the excess of glycerin that is still sitting in there. You can see the top part is a little bit blurry. And the bottom is like wash, laundry water. After a couple of sessions of washing, you get something like this, with the water totally clear on the bottom. We

remove the water, we dry it up, and then we get the final product that can be used inside our motors and taxis." (38")

NARRATION

REGINALD NOEL WITH JATROPHA SEEDS

Once production is scaled up they'll use jatropha seeds which are rich in natural oil. Jatropha is known locally as "gros medsiyin" - and it can help prevent soil erosion, as well as supplying around three thousand five hundred liters of oil per hectare. (17")

REGINALD NOEL: (English)

REGINALD NOEL ON CAMERA

"This should create about seven jobs per acre, once the law is passed, once the government is going to enforce a mixture of bio-diesel with petrol-diesel." (8")

<u>NARRATION</u>

MACHINERY

Farmers in rural areas will be supplied with machines like this to extract the oil. And beyond bio-diesel, there's a whole range of useful byproducts stemming from the process. (13")

REGINALD NOEL: (English)

REGINALD NOEL ON CAMERA

"The first sub-product that you have is the cake. We call it 'too-toe'. The one that we have in Haiti currently is toxic, and you can not use it as cattle feed. But it can be used as a fertilizer, to implement the agriculture of other products such as rice, potatoes and corn." (14")

<u>NARRATION</u>

BOWL OF BIODIESEL / TRUCK BEING REFUELED From a frying pan to a truck's engine, bio-diesel is certainly useful. This is one of the vehicles that runs purely on bio-diesel. The fuel can be used on its own or mixed with regular diesel. (12.5")

The people behind this small scale venture hope it can pave the way for a unique answer to Haiti's problems of soil erosion and reliance on fuel imports. (10")

This report was prepared by Jaldeep Katwala for the United Nations.

UN LOGO