



ACTION STORY

ENHANCING LANDCARE PRACTICES IN KAARA

Tool Provision and Knowledge Sharing

This report details the positive impact of tool provision and knowledge-sharing activities undertaken by the Kaara Landcare group, focusing on soil and water conservation.

Tool Provision and Capacity Building:

The Kaara Landcare group received a significant donation of tools specifically designed to facilitate the construction of check dams. These tools were crucial in enabling the group to effectively address issues of runoff and land degradation. The provision of these tools directly enhanced the group's capacity to implement effective soil and water conservation measures. This practical support was a key element in the project's success.

Knowledge Exchange and Best Practice Sharing:

To further enhance their skills and knowledge, members of the Kaara Landcare group participated in an exposure visit to the Ikamiro Landcare Association. This visit provided valuable opportunities to observe best practices in land management and soil and water conservation. The experience gained during this visit will undoubtedly inform and improve the group's future landcare efforts. The exchange of knowledge and experience between these two landcare groups is a valuable aspect of fostering best practice across the wider region.

Community Impact and Awareness:

The project has had a significant and far-reaching impact on the Kaara community. Awareness-raising activities, targeting both group members and the wider community, directly benefited over 200 people, increasing understanding of soil and water conservation and the importance of revegetation. A total of 5000 trees, specifically *Calliandra* and *Sesbania* species, were strategically planted along the newly constructed check dams. This action not only protects the dams from erosion but also actively promotes the revegetation of previously degraded landscapes, contributing to a healthier and more resilient ecosystem. The project has demonstrably increased community awareness of the significant benefits associated with soil and water conservation and the positive impact of restoring bare landscapes.



Positive Outcomes and Long-Term Benefits:

The project has yielded several significant positive outcomes:

- **Increased Awareness:** Community members now have a greater understanding of the benefits of soil and water conservation and the importance of revegetating bare landscapes. This increased awareness is crucial for fostering long-term community engagement in landcare practices.
- **Improved Land Management:** The construction of check dams, coupled with strategic tree planting, has significantly improved land management practices in the Kaara area, reducing soil erosion and runoff. These improvements contribute to the long-term health and productivity of the land.
- **Enhanced Community Capacity:** The provision of tools and the exposure visit have enhanced the Kaara Landcare group's capacity to undertake effective landcare activities, ensuring the long-term sustainability of their efforts.

Conclusion:

This project successfully combined practical support (tool provision) with knowledge sharing (exposure visit) to significantly enhance the capacity of the Kaara Landcare group. The positive outcomes – increased community awareness, improved land management practices, and enhanced group capacity – demonstrate the effectiveness of this approach in promoting sustainable landcare. The project's success lays a strong foundation for ongoing community engagement in environmental stewardship and the long-term health of the Kaara landscape.