



ACTION STORY

MAUKURUS FOUNDATION

A Burst of Green in Fatuquero: An Agroforestry Adventure

We poured Global Landcare's generous funding into a vibrant agroforestry project in Fatuquero, Timor-Leste, transforming a patch of land (100m x 75m) into a blossoming mini-farm. Imagine the scene: sun-drenched earth, the scent of rich soil, and the promise of a bountiful harvest.

A Hands-On Transformation:

The project wasn't just about planting trees; it was about nurturing a community's future. We:

- **Cleared the land:** We tackled the overgrown plot, wielding our tools to unveil the fertile ground beneath, preparing a welcoming space for new life.
- **Brewed liquid gold:** We mixed up batches of nutrient-rich liquid compost, a potent elixir that would nourish the plants and help them thrive. The air buzzed with activity as we blended the ingredients, creating a powerful concoction for healthy growth.
- **Sourced seedlings of paradise:** We carefully selected a diverse range of fruit trees – rambutan, papaya, bitter bean, dragon fruit, apples, and coconuts – each a promise of sweet rewards and vibrant colour.
- **Gathered our tools:** We assembled our arsenal – nets to protect delicate seedlings, sturdy buckets for the compost, and all the other essentials for a successful planting.
- **Fueled the planting frenzy:** We provided hearty meals for our energetic team, fuelling their efforts to transform the landscape. Expert guidance ensured we were planting with purpose and precision.

A Collaborative Effort:

This wasn't a solo mission. Twenty enthusiastic agroecology students from Gleno – a mix of bright-eyed young women and determined young men – joined us, their hands stained with earth and their spirits soaring. We also worked hand-in-hand with a local family of eight, sharing our knowledge and building lasting connections.

A Harvest of Success:

The result? One hundred and fifty flourishing trees, a testament to our collective efforts. But the impact goes far beyond the numbers:

- Skills blossomed: We empowered the students and the family with practical agroforestry skills, equipping them to build a sustainable future.
- Compost magic: We shared the secrets of liquid compost, a natural way to boost plant growth and improve soil health.
- A diversified bounty: The family's farm became a vibrant tapestry of diverse crops, promising a more secure and varied food supply.
- Spreading awareness: We ignited a spark of awareness about climate change and sustainable farming practices, inspiring others to join the movement.



A Future Bursting with Life:

This project isn't just about planting trees; it's about planting seeds of hope, knowledge, and community empowerment. We're incredibly proud of what we've achieved together, and excited to see the future unfold in Fatuquero.

