



ACTION STORY



DAEP Doctorwala, Pakistan

Food Forest Protection: Project Renewal

Background

In 2024, the Doctorwala Agriculture Extension Program (DAEP) and the community of Chak 377/EB, Doctorwala, near Burewala in Pakistan's Vehari District, planted a fruit forest as a long-term answer to food insecurity, environmental decline and climate change. Without fencing, the young trees were exposed to grazing animals, theft and human encroachment, and around 40 percent had already been damaged or lost.

Solutions

With a Global Landcare small grant of AUD \$1,000 (PKR 187,576), DAEP installed sturdy barbed wire fencing around the whole 340 by 198 foot site. The project set out to cut tree damage by 90 percent, involve local youth and farmers in building and monitoring the fence, and grow a stronger sense of community ownership of the forest.

Securing the Food Forest

Proper fencing now surrounds the food forest, keeping out grazing animals and preventing damage, theft and encroachment. The young trees inside can finally grow undisturbed.



Where the Funds Went

Barbed wire: PKR 76,200

Fittings: PKR 65,070

Labour: PKR 45,600

Other: PKR 700

Total: PKR 187,570



A Shared Green Space

The protected food forest is a living resource for the wider community, including 300 school pupils, 100 smallholder farmers and 100 households.



Moving Forward

Protecting what has already been planted is just as important as planting more. With the fencing in place, DAEP's food forest can mature into a productive, shady and diverse space that provides food, shelter and learning opportunities for years to come. This was one of two Global Landcare grants to DAEP in 2025, alongside a farmers' plant nursery in Sahiwal District.



300 Pupils



100 Farmers



100 Households