

A Glance of Buol

INDUCING CHANGE FOR SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES PROVISIONING

After three years of partnership with the local communities and government, the Smart Tree Invest ends its activities in March 2017. The research activities undertaken by the project in the first year were continued with the activities of tree-farming learning groups and participatory watershed monitoring in Buol watershed and coastal area.

The Smart Tree-Invest project activities stimulate changes to the communities in the project site, in particular their awareness, knowledge and skills in tree-farming management and in monitoring the environmental quality. These changes have brought hopes to the communities for better livelihood as well as awareness and knowledge to better managed their landscape.

The featured photos and stories here are excerpts of the hopes, passions, and ideals shared by the local communities in the Smart Tree Invest project site in Buol. Expectations and aspirations to improve their welfare that increase along with the improvement of their knowledge on tree-farming and environmental management in their area.



I will replace the patchouli in my garden with the pepper seedlings that I produced in the farmers' learning group. I have planted the gliricidia poles and will build fences around the plot so the seedlings are safe from the roaming livestock. Then I will use the gliricidia leaves as fodder for my goats. If I succeed in cultivate pepper, I want to use the income to return to Java.

Yuliyani

Agroforestry farmer from Lomuli Village



Until recently, I never put much effort in managing my garden, because I didn't have any proper knowledge in tree-farming. A year ago, I studied top grafting techniques and side grafting to rejuvenate garden. The new knowledge makes me enthusiastic to manage my garden.

Abdul Aziz

Agroforestry farmer from Matinan Village



Animal manure is the main material of organic fertilizer. In our village, Boilan, the community has received training to produce organic fertilizer from various agencies, such as from ICRAF through tree-farming learning group. I hope there is synergy between the government and community, so in the near-future the government support us to produce and use organic fertilizer.

Suryanto

Boilan Village Head



From this activity, we will know the average of monthly rainfall level. With such information, the farmers will be able to plan their cultivation time. This activity is very usefull because by knowing the rainfall pattern, we can develop a better farming schedule in Kokobuka Village.

Wayan

Kokobuka Village Secretary

In our village, Kokobuka, farm depends on rainfall for water. Now, irrigation system has been built. I hope the water will reach my ricefield and abandoned garden. My husband will start retirement soon, so I must start thinking for our future. I will start to cultivate my garden again and implement the knowledge that I gained from the farmers' learning group.

Iswati

Rice farmer from Kokobuka



After harvesting rice, I have a lot of spare time. During that spare time I start to cultivate trees in my garden. After I joined ICRAF's tree-farming learning group, I started to plant gliricidia and pepper in my cacao garden. Although planting rice is my main livelihood, I also want to cultivate trees in my garden to increase my income.

Ngatono

Rice farmer from Boilan Village



“The road behind me has never been submerged by flood. Apparently there is a change in the river condition, yesterday the flood rose up reaching this road. I am very grateful that I am trusted by ICRAF to conduct hydrological monitoring. This measurement is useful because we will know the condition of our river, and it would be better if such hydrological stations can be build in many places along the river.”

Sarini

A villager from Lomuli



“This bridge was destroyed by the flash flood. Frequent erosion on the riverbanks has widened the river, even the coconut trees that I planted on the riparian were washed away by the flood. As a resident here, I hope this bridge can be rebuilt with stronger permanent construction.”

Hasim

Agroforestry farmer from Kokobuka Village



“I collected the rainfall sample during heavy rain, and it always got me wet. After the first sample was taken from the rainfall station, then the station would shortly full again. I did not have any significant problem in monitoring river height, because I could see the water meter from the edge of the river. On days without rain, the water level was about 80-90 cm. But during the heavy rain, the water level would go up pass the water meter.”

Nur

A secondary school student from Lomuli Village



“I will convert this maize field into a vast agroforestry systems, intercropping maize with nutmeg and cacao. I will work together with other land owners. I challenge the farmers community to dare to change and dare to dream, to get wealthy in the next four or five years. My question to the farmers in this village, would you like to get rich?”

Salim

Taat Village Head



“Nine years ago, this garden was worthless. Then ICRAF came and shared with us the knowledge that we have been dreaming to learn. I immediately apply the knowledge in my farm. I hope I can get good production. To achieve good results, the knowledge that we have learned must all be applied.”

Nursal

Agroforestry farmer from Air Terang Village



“Pruning will boost cacao productivity. Flowers will appear on the branches when cacao gets pruned during rainy season. When the flowers reach the size of a forefinger, they will definitely grow into fruits.”

Sartia

Cacao farmer from Taat village



“Recently I have started the preparation for planting trees in my garden. In the land that was previously abandoned, I will plant durian, pepper, and nutmeg. These seedlings are my hope to improve our family livelihood. I hope the yield from the trees in my plot can support my children education to college.”

Maida

Agroforestry farmer from Balau



“The farmers' learning group has inspired me that my choice to be a farmer is amazing. I will return to my background as an alumnus of an agricultural vocational high school. Previously I worked as a furniture-maker and never paid attention to my cacao garden, and as the result I only harvested 2 kilograms cacao every week. Now I can do cacao pruning, top grafting, side grafting and I can harvest more than 20 kilos.”

Yusran

Agroforestry farmer from Matinan

