FLIGHTSFORFORESTS

Be Our Partner in Rainforestation, Support Flights for Forests

Aviation accounts for 4 to 9 per cent of the climate change impact of human activity. With more and more people flying, air travel is a major contributor to environmental damage and global warming in the world.

We number among these people, as the Jesuit mission requires many of us to fly frequently as we work together.

Flights for Forests program is a carbon offset scheme that aims to mitigate the impact of travel undertaken by the Jesuit Conference of Asia Pacific (JCAP). It seeks to develop a greater awareness of our impact on the environment, and to foster an understanding of attitude that expresses our care and responsibility for our local environment and to plant the trees of our natural forests.

Participating Provinces, institutions and individuals are asked to provide records of the number of flights undertaken. The contributions forwarded to JCAP Ecology every six months are managed in a dedicated account.

Pedro Walpole SJ is the current Coordinator of JCAP Ecology, with Environmental Science for Social Change (ESSC) providing institutional and administrative support.

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Flights for Forests assist rainforestation activities in Cambodia, Indonesia and the Philippines

All contributions go into a fund that is used for rainforestation activities (as an alternative to reforestation) undertaken by youth groups in rural parts of Cambodia, Indonesia and the Philippines.

Cambodia: Jesuit Services

Jesuit Services built a simple structure of wooden posts and a nylon mesh roof for the purpose of growing seedlings of hardwood trees native to Cambodia. Located within Banteay Prieb, which is the Jesuit-run vocational school for people with disabilities, the tree nursery is a collaborative effort of the agriculture students of the center and their teacher Mr. Mam Sony.

To date, the nursery has produced around 5000 seedlings available for planting by different church and village communities. The nursery, at present, houses nearly two thousand seedlings of seven species of Cambodian hardwood trees.

It is hope that that through the support of Flights for Forests, this little nursery in Banteay Prieb run by people with disabilities can somehow contribute to the restoration and preservation of Cambodia's forests and help the communities that depend on them grow and flourish as well.



Philippines. Indigenous Pulangiyen Community

The indigenous Pulangiyen community in Bendum, Mindanao, practices agroforestry and assists in the natural regeneration of forests along the Pantadon Range. The youth in Bendum do their part by removing the grasses and protecting seedlings. They also managed by controlled disturbances to trigger germination of native species in regenerating areas.

With the support of Flights for Forests, the youth are able to hold on-site workshops to share their assisted natural regeneration practices with youth in other Pulangiyen villages along the Upper Pulangi Watershed. The youth are working with the tribal council to get better protection for the remaining forest.

Indonesia: to be identified

