



FMNR – experiences in East Africa; an opportunity for Timor Leste

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Pacific and Timor Leste

Introduction and Why East Africa..

- ▶ World Vision in East Africa
- ▶ 50% of WVs support globally goes into Africa, half of that to East Africa
- ▶ History of large scale and cyclical famine
- ▶ Long history of environmental destruction
- ▶ Began to learn that while drought cannot be controlled; its impact can be significantly changed.

FMNR: Seeing real and significant impact

- ▶ In East Africa, in Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and other countries we began to see:
 - Improved crop production
 - Soil protected from erosion
 - Increase of the water table level
 - Improved availability of other food and fruits, and firewood
 - Increased fodder for livestock and even the return of some wildlife
 - New income generating possibilities



High return on relatively low investment

Unlike many approaches to land and resource rehabilitation, or even development activities FMNR can spread rapidly because it is:

- ▶ There are no capital costs- requiring considerable up front investment.
- ▶ It impacts at a household and community level
- ▶ The visible and financial return is relatively short (compared to other land/ resource rehabilitation)
- ▶ It is low technology and therefor easy for neighbours to copy

WV making it a significant part of our strategy for all of East Africa

- ▶ WV wants to be part of not only eliminating famines in Africa, but in helping communities to make the most of their land and resources
- ▶ FMNR is one of the approaches that will contribute to that
- ▶ FMNR is not a 'fix all' or complete solution, but it is the most efficient and effective processes we have found for restoring the land to a place where it is part of the solution and not the problem.
- ▶ WV with partner agencies and Governments, is implementing, learning and growing our work in FMNR across East Africa- of the many need and option- we are working significantly with FMNR.

Governments moving to take the leadership

- ▶ In countries such as Ethiopia, the Government has seen the difference:
 - They are now massively scaling up the work that WV had lead, seeking to replicate it across the country.
 - They see it as one of the most efficient ways to bring opportunity back to the people of their country.
 - We are working with them to help shape policy that will both encourage and support FMNR, and will protect those environments that are restored.
 - We are working with government at both local and national level to support this.
 - To reach the scale needed it is critical for the Government to own and drive FMNR, and for partners to work together

Conclusions from East Africa experience

- ▶ FMNR will not resolve every challenge.....but does have significant positive impact on communities, in many more ways than its simplicity would suggest.
- ▶ From experience in East Africa, for a low level of investment, significant positive change can occur, making natural resources productive again.
- ▶ With the right leadership and support from local and National Government, and partners working together, FMNR can help deliver significant improvements for communities at a low level of cost
- ▶ Thank you!

