

# Farmer-Managed Natural Regeneration

World Vision

World Vision's sustainable agriculture system, Farmer-Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) is helping to make great gains in beating hunger for the rural poor through a simple, low-cost land regeneration system.



Before



After

In many parts of Africa, poverty, poor farming practices and fast-growing populations have turned once-productive farmlands and forests into virtual deserts where crops now fail three years in five.

FMNR is a low-cost land restoration technique used to combat poverty and hunger amongst poor subsistence farmers by increasing food and timber production and resilience to climate extremes.

In practice, FMNR involves the systematic regrowth and management of trees and shrubs from felled tree stumps, sprouting root systems or seeds. The regrown trees and shrubs – integrated into crops and grazing pastures – help restore soil structure and fertility, inhibit erosion and soil moisture evaporation, rehabilitate springs and the water table, and increase biodiversity. Some tree species also impart nutrients such as nitrogen into the soil.

Equally effective in restoring croplands, grazing lands and forests, FMNR is transforming landscapes and communities by providing more food, better nutrition and increased living standards for millions of people.

As a result, FMNR can double crop yields, provide building timber and firewood, fodder and shade for livestock, wild foods for nutrition and medication, and increased incomes and living standards for farming families and their communities.

Across the Sahel region of Africa, FMNR is diversifying diets through a greater range of crops and the collection of wild foods. Because of FMNR, Niger produces an extra 500,000 tonnes of grain annually, enough to feed 2.5 million people; and it has restored 6 million hectares of farmland. In northern Ghana, a burnt-out, barren landscape is now being recovered, with forest 1-3 metres tall in just two years – producing wood, livestock fodder and wild foods.

In Senegal, FMNR has transformed 50,000 hectares of farmland and doubled crop yields in just three years. In southern Ethiopia, a barren mountain has been reforested and the community is now reaping financial benefits through the sale of carbon credits.

With increased incomes, families become more resilient against drought and flood, are able to afford healthcare and send their children to school. In fact the whole community benefits economically.

As FMNR is community-led and requires the involvement of regulators and governments to ensure land and tree ownership, communities are building their networking and negotiation skills. As well, they are developing new business structures.

For more information on FMNR visit [fmnrhub.com.au](http://fmnrhub.com.au)