

## Climate Smart Agriculture Marayag Regenerative Agroforestry Demonstration Farm Davao Oriental Province, Philippines



## Farm Story - Past, Present and Future

Narra Oceania has taken on the rehabilitation and management of an Organic Cacao and Coconut Farm that had fallen into disrepair, in an Indigenous Peoples area of the Davao Oriental Province.

This project is a joint venture partnership between Filipino and New Zealand entities who share common desires to improve farming methods, add value to crops, and find new high-value markets for commodities produced within the Asia Pacific Region.

Narra's farming approach utilises Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA model) and Regenerative Agroforestry. Narra is now actively rehabilitating coconut and cacao cash crops, reviving on-farm primary processing, and developing innovative secondary processing, products and marketing.

Narra is giving farmers the skills and confidence to adopt added-value methods and become more climate resilient.

The Marayag demonstration farm is a 9ha block situated in a 51ha farm and plantation estate, consisting of a total of four farms. Quick facts about the farm estate:

- Lease area comprises of four farms in Marayag, Davao Oriental Province
- 51ha total
- 40,000 4–5-year-old cacao trees
- Cacao planted amongst mature coconut trees, other cash crops and fruit trees
- Land tenure is Davao Oriental Indigenous Peoples with 25-year tenure rights over land
- Topography ranges from flat to steep hilly

Premium organic cacao and coconut products were seen to have potential for good returns and provide added-value. The rehabilitation needs of the farms, crops, infrastructure and protection areas were then assessed and future value chains mapped out.

Partners of Narra have a wealth of experience from other cacao and coconut projects in both the Philippines and the wider Asia-Pacific Region.

Areas of expertise include:

Agricultural development, processing and marketing, strong belief in social enterprises, and sustainable improvements for both farmer incomes and environmental protection.

This wealth of knowledge has aided Narra in addressing the complete value chains from farm to consumer, using the Climate Smart Agriculture model.

	EXISTING	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
Farm output	2	20	30	60
Cacao price	120	125	140	150
Farm revenue	240 K	2.5 M	4.2 M	9.0 M
Certifications	None	None	Yes	Yes
Farmer income	P250	P350	P400	P450
Farmers supported	18	20	30	50
Farmers trained	0	50	100	200

## **CSA & Regenerative Agroforestry**

One of the reasons for the selection of the model farm and larger farm estates was the potential for environmental protection under the Climate Smart Agriculture approach (FAO).

- Protection and restoration of forest cover, water quality and biodiversity are integral to the model farm and the Narra CSA approach
- Baseline and measurements for change over time of forest health, biodiversity, water quality are recorded
- Restoration and the further planting of native shade trees is planned
- The measurement of carbon stocks is planned for 2022, with a potential for future carbon financing/ payments



Narra has secured buyers for all farm produce and has made arrangements for the production of premium food and natural food products. The draft Narra marketing plan has defined two high-value products to focus on:

- Coconut sugur and syrup
- Fermented cacao beans and premium cacao products

## Narra Climate Smart Farming - Future Focus Points

- Farmer Training
- Carbon Accounting, Payments & Finance
- Organic & Origin Certifications
- Product Development & Showcasing
- Payments & Finances Climate Mitigations & Forest Rehabilitation
  - Crop Improvement

Narra has already reached out to local organisations in Davao Oriental, including local farmer cooperatives and the Department of Agriculture. The farmer cooperative is already engaged in the World Bank funded initiative: The Philippine Rural Development Project.

The Marayag Demonstration Farm is intended to provide training and examples of improved farming and primary processing that will raise income certainty in the market.





Davao Oriental Plantation Estate, consists of four farms and one cacao processing facility



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