



Seeds for Change in Taiwan

Spring 2024

Objective

To provide students in a rural community in Gaoshu Township, Pingtung County, Taiwan, with hands-on opportunities to learn about sustainable agriculture and regenerative farming while actively participating in environmental restoration. This project, part of the **Seeds for Change** initiative, aims to empower students to take environmental action and contribute to a greener and more sustainable future.



Give Earth a Smile

Challenges & Opportunities	<i>Give Earth a Smile</i> recognizes that environmental education is most impactful when students are given opportunities to learn through direct experience and take meaningful action within their communities. Students in rural communities can benefit from greater exposure to sustainable agriculture, environmental restoration, and regenerative farming practices that help protect natural resources and create a more sustainable future. • Limited opportunities for students to engage directly with environmental restoration and sustainable agriculture. • A need to increase awareness of regenerative farming practices and their role in creating healthier ecosystems. • Opportunities for students to learn about environmental stewardship through hands-on experiences. • Rural communities can provide meaningful settings for students to connect with agriculture, nature, and environmental responsibility. • Hands-on environmental projects can help students understand how their actions can contribute to long-term ecological sustainability. • Students can become active participants in environmental restoration rather than simply learning about environmental challenges in a classroom. • Schools and local communities can work together to encourage environmental awareness and sustainable practices among younger generations.
Proposed Solution	To address these opportunities, <i>Give Earth a Smile</i> organized a hands-on environmental restoration project in partnership with local students at a rural farm in Gaoshu Township, Pingtung County, Taiwan. The project brought students together to participate directly in environmental restoration while learning about sustainable agriculture and regenerative farming practices. Our solution includes: • Organizing a hands-on environmental restoration project at a rural farm in Gaoshu Township, Pingtung County. • Bringing students together to participate directly in environmental restoration and agricultural activities. • Planting more than 80 banana trees alongside local students. • Teaching students about sustainable agriculture and regenerative farming practices. • Providing students with hands-on opportunities to understand the relationship between agriculture, environmental stewardship, and ecosystem health. • Encouraging students to take ownership of environmental action within their communities. • Creating opportunities for students to contribute directly to a greener and more sustainable future.
Project Benefits	Students participating in the project received the opportunity to learn about environmental stewardship through direct action and hands-on experience. By planting more than 80 banana trees alongside local students, the project connected environmental education with practical restoration work and demonstrated how communities can contribute to a healthier environment. The project also introduced students to sustainable agriculture and regenerative farming practices, helping them understand how farming can be approached in ways that support long-term environmental health. Through this experience, students were encouraged to recognize their ability to contribute to positive environmental change and become active participants in creating a greener future.



Project Overview

Give Earth a Smile aims at empowering young people to become active participants in environmental restoration and sustainability through hands-on environmental education and community-based action.

Format: A hands-on environmental restoration and regenerative agriculture education project at a rural farm in Gaoshu Township, Pingtung County, Taiwan. The project brought local students together to plant more than 80 banana trees while learning about sustainable agriculture, regenerative farming practices, and environmental stewardship.

Objective: To provide students with hands-on opportunities to learn about sustainable agriculture and regenerative farming while actively contributing to environmental restoration and developing a greater sense of responsibility toward the environment.

Target Groups and Schools

- **Primary Audience:** Local students participating in the environmental restoration and regenerative agriculture activities in Gaoshu Township, Pingtung County, Taiwan.
- **Secondary Audience:** The local farming and broader community, which can benefit from increased environmental awareness and student engagement in sustainable practices.
- **School Selection Criteria:**
 - Rural communities where students can directly engage with agriculture and environmental restoration.
 - Communities where hands-on environmental education can complement students' learning experiences.
 - Rural farms that provide opportunities for students to learn about sustainable and regenerative agricultural practices.
 - Communities where students can contribute directly to environmental restoration and sustainability efforts.
 - Projects that create meaningful connections between young people, local communities, agriculture, and environmental stewardship.



Overview of Implementation Phases

Phase 1: Planning and Coordination

Activities:

- Identify the rural farm and project location
- Coordinate with local students and community partners
- Determine environmental restoration activities
- Develop the planting plan and required materials
- Prepare educational content on sustainable agriculture and regenerative farming

Timeline / Duration:

Planning and coordination prior to project implementation

Responsibility:

- Give Earth a Smile
- Local Project Partners
- Community Coordinators

Phase 2: Preparation and Environmental Education

Activities:

- Prepare the farm and planting area
- Organize banana trees and necessary planting materials
- Prepare educational information on sustainable agriculture
- Introduce students to regenerative farming concepts
- Explain the importance of environmental restoration and responsible land management

Timeline / Duration:

Prior to and during project implementation

Responsibility:

- Give Earth a Smile
- Local Project Partners
- Community Coordinators
- Local Students

Phase 3: Hands-On Environmental Restoration

Activities:

- Bring students together at the rural farm
- Introduce students to hands-on environmental restoration
- Plant more than 80 banana trees alongside local students
- Encourage students to actively participate in the restoration process
- Connect hands-on planting activities with lessons about sustainable agriculture and regenerative farming

Timeline / Duration:

Project implementation period

Responsibility:

- Give Earth a Smile
- Local Students
- Local Project Partners
- Community Members

Phase 4: Continued Environmental Awareness and Action

Activities:

- Encourage students to apply their understanding of sustainability in their communities
- Reinforce lessons about sustainable agriculture and regenerative farming
- Encourage continued student engagement with environmental issues

Timeline / Duration:

Ongoing following project implementation

Responsibility:

- Students
- Local Community
- Give Earth a Smile
- Local Project Partners



Classroom Visit Activity Plan

Activity 1: Hands-On Environmental Restoration

- **Objective:** Provide students with direct opportunities to participate in environmental restoration and take meaningful action toward a greener future.
- **Description:** Give Earth a Smile organized a hands-on environmental restoration project at a rural farm in Gaoshu Township, Pingtung County, Taiwan. Local students participated directly in planting more than 80 banana trees, allowing them to contribute to the restoration of the farm while gaining practical environmental experience.
- **Outcome:** Students actively contribute to environmental restoration while developing a greater understanding of how individual and collective actions can support a healthier environment.

Activity 2: Sustainable Agriculture Education

- **Objective:** Introduce students to sustainable agriculture and help them understand the importance of environmentally responsible farming practices.
- **Description:** Students learned about sustainable agriculture and the relationship between farming practices and environmental health. The hands-on planting activity provided an opportunity to connect educational concepts with real-world agricultural practices.
- **Outcome:** Students develop a greater understanding of sustainable agriculture and the role it can play in supporting communities and protecting the environment.

Activity 3: Regenerative Farming Practices

- **Objective:** Teach students about regenerative farming and encourage greater awareness of practices that can support long-term environmental sustainability.
- **Description:** Students were introduced to regenerative farming practices and participated in a hands-on agricultural experience. By engaging directly with the land, students were able to connect environmental education with practical action and better understand the importance of caring for natural ecosystems.
- **Outcome:** Students gain knowledge of regenerative approaches to agriculture and recognize the importance of sustainable relationships between people, farming, and the environment.

Activity 4: Empowering Students Through Environmental Action

- **Objective:** Create opportunities for students to take ownership of environmental action and contribute to a greener future.
- **Description:** By bringing students together to participate in environmental restoration, the project encouraged them to move beyond learning about environmental challenges and become active contributors to solutions. Students worked alongside one another to plant more than 80 banana trees and directly contribute to the restoration of a rural farm.
- **Outcome:** Students are empowered to see themselves as environmental stewards and recognize that their actions can contribute to meaningful and lasting environmental change within their communities.