



an Unspoiled location

Conservation

Conservation, research and community development

Coral Regeneration (Scuba diving involved)

Throughout Indonesia, the coral reefs have been destroyed or severely damaged by bombing and cyanide poisoning, such as the famous reefs around the Gili Islands in Lombok.. This conservation activity gives you the opportunity to help regenerate the coral, as part of your holiday. With the good coral reefs at Heaven on the Planet, you can assist by purchasing a "coral table" and then scuba diving to fill your table with baby corals. These are transplanted to other reefs in Lombok about one year later. We have a coral and dive expert (Pak Boen of the NGO JARI) who would lead this beneficial adventure and train you in the delicate operation of coral seeding for the table. He is working with local villagers across Lombok on regeneration projects. This very worthwhile activity adds a new dimension to your Lombok holiday and would greatly help the local people. You may like to fill the coral table ... and then return 1-year later for the transplantation phase.

Replanting of high-quality hardwoods

Although the Land is still beautiful, much of the old timber in Lombok and Sumbawa has been cut. And many of the people in Lombok do not have the cash reserves to wait several years for trees to mature. This makes it difficult for re-growth to occur, except in large commercial plantations with wealthy owners. Your activity is aimed at poor villagers by providing jobs through re-planting and sustainable logging of high quality timber. You may potentially return your contribution, if you choose to invest rather than donate. Your assistance is used as follows:

- Poor farming land from the surrounding district is leased under a beneficial and binding arrangement with the owner
- The owner of the land is given the task of planting high quality timber (mahogany, jati etc.). The trees are purchased from your donation.
- The owner/farmer receives (1) an annual lease payment that is adequate to ensure that he maintains and prunes the trees, and (2) a 20% share in the profits from the sale of the trees (at 5, 10 and 15 years later)

Your donations can be just donations, or you may like to personally participate by helping to purchase, plant or maintain the trees. Some people would like to make large "investments". In this case, cash contributions are returned through a 50% share in profits from tree sales. Consequently, profits from the trees are either put into dividends for investors, or back to the district through educational donations or other community aid projects. The operation is run with open financial reporting and transparency.



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Drinking water

Coastal dwellers in Eastern Indonesia have the beautiful sea at their doorstep ... but they often lack good drinking water. The bottled water is expensive for them, while natural water from wells can be polluted or saline. At Heaven on the Planet, we have copied and tested a very simple desalination unit that provides poor villagers with enough water each day for drinking.

The system consists of a soil pit lined with plastic sheet. This is filled with salt water from the sea, and then fully sealed with a second clear plastic sheet over the top. Evaporating water in the "container" condenses on the top sheet, which is set up to allow the droplets of water to drip into a plastic freshwater bucket. After full evaporation, the top sheet is removed to expose the drinking water and a beneficial layer of salt that can be used in cooking or for sale. This simple system is easy for coastal villagers to establish and use.

You can be involved in several ways:

- learn how the system is built by training at Heaven on the Planet
- donate so that materials can be purchased and work with the team to distribute the systems throughout Lombok and Sumbawa to coastal villages

Research

We encourage visitors to use Heaven on the Planet as a base for scientific research having community benefit. We are particularly interested in:

- Coral reef fish species, their breeding and potential for sustainable sea farming
- Oceanography of Ekas Bay, in relation to surfing or sustainable aquaculture
- Shell fossils along the many cliffs around the property
- Socio-economic or development projects

Arrangements can be made with MSc or PhD students through their universities to provide guidance on key beneficial research for the region.



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