

Eat Wild and Get Nourished

Jombang, Yogyakarta, Pasuruan, IndonesiaSidoarjo, Indonesia
Hayu Patria



Year Founded:

2009

Organization type:

hybrid

Project Stage:

Growth

Website:

<http://www.mantasa.org>

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Project Summary

Elevator Pitch

Concise Summary: Help us pitch this solution! Provide an explanation within 3-4 short sentences.

The world is presently over-dependent on a few plant species. On the other hand, there are more than 7,000 plant species from the wild that could be eaten. This has led into malnutrition problem that people face around the world. Mantasa works with edible wild plants to fight malnutrition.

About Project

Problem: What problem is this project trying to address?

Malnutrition is a complex problem hence need to be tackled in a holistic way. Malnutrition from lacking of vitamins and minerals are still affecting the world today, including Indonesia, and it has long-ranging effects on health, learning ability and productivity. Indonesia still suffer from micronutrient deficiency and this actually can be tackled with an easy and cheap way, using local resources and traditional knowledge.

Solution: What is the proposed solution? Please be specific!

Edible wild plants, although sounds very specific, actually covered many issues. Each plant brings its own wisdom and function, yet little consideration have been put into these plants and consider them as useless. Edible wild plants are nutritious and easy to find everywhere and locally and culturally accepted. Eating edible wild plants also helps to conserve biodiversity and traditional knowledge of local people. We will collecting and documenting traditional knowledge related to edible wild plants processing as well as educate people to increase their appreciation on edible wild plants and then willing to use them back in their daily life.

Impact: How does it Work

Example: Walk us through a specific example(s) of how this solution makes a difference; include its primary activities.

A group of village mother in Galengdowo village has long believe that getting food from market or shop is the only way to get nutritious foods for their family. Although this village is surrounded with forest and mountain, the knowledge about utilizing plants for food is almost gone for many reasons, one of it is prestige. Collecting plants from the wild for food is considered as an activity for the poor. Another reason is they believe that industrial foods offered them so much nutrients they need thanks to media advertisement. Mantasa enter this village and present wild plant's nutrient facts and also encourage the women to experiment with edible wild plants to make them into attractive foods that the children like. And it was successful.

Impact: What is the impact of the work to date? Also describe the projected future impact for the coming years.

Impact to date: the sense of pride from local people about their local food, value added to edible wild plants from turning it into attractive food for everyone, media coverage also encourage local people to dig out more their local resources hence this has helped the biodiversity conservation and traditional knowledge are regained. Future impact (quantitative): 1,000 edible wild plants identified from around Indonesia complete with its information about how local people use it and its nutrition facts. 200 wild food garden are set up as an educational means, information center as well as seed garden. And 5,000 from around Indonesia will be sharing with each other about their wisdom and knowledge about edible wild plants around them. Future impact (quantitative): Increase awareness about the value of nature and traditional wisdom and also sense of pride of their food culture.

Sustainability

Financial Sustainability Plan: What is this solution's plan to ensure financial sustainability?

People participation is always the main thing we want to emphasize in our solution. We give support in the form of information, trainings and workshops. Of course we need another support to organize trainings and workshops and we got it from grants, but we also have a shop where we sell food products made of edible wild plants by village women and also some merchandise, and so far it's been 2 years since we received last grant and we still exist.

Marketplace: Who else is addressing the problem outlined here? How does the proposed project differ from these approaches?

Edible wild plants is not really an issue to look up to address malnutrition, but in the last 5 years some international movement talking about edible wild plants has grown and I've joined all the international meeting about this since I was a university student. What makes us different is because we make a holistic approach, laboratorium research to search for nutritional content, ethnobotany research to dig out traditional knowledge about plants and also education. We also do participatory research to empower people so they have power over their own knowledge and resources.

Team

Founding Story

In 2002 I was doing my research project for my thesis. I studied Food and Nutrition Technology and I wanted something different to research other than industrial foods. After reading so many journals I found an old book about plants in Indonesia wrote by a Dutch. In that book I was amazed by diversity of plants that local people's use to feed themselves. Each community in each island have their own way to process some plants into food. I decided to research about mangrove based on Papuan traditional knowledge processing mangrove seeds for their staple food. Although I got some rejection from my lecturer and bad mark for that research, my passion had grown to search more about other plants and dig out their potential to combat malnutrition.

About You

Organization:

Mantasa

About You

First Name

Hayu

Last Name

Patria

Twitter URL

http://www.twitter.com/mantasa_id

Facebook URL

<https://www.facebook.com/?q=#/pages/Mantasa/158379027560816>

About Your Organization

Organization Name

Mantasa

Organization Country

, Jl, Sidoarjo

Country where this project is creating social impact

, Jl, Jombang, Yogyakarta, Pasuruan

Has the organization received awards or honors? Please tell us about them

No, the organization hasn't received any awards so far, but in 2010 we got project fund from UNDP for a year term. And within the last 2 years the organization has grown so fast and our events always covered by national media, that somehow is also an honor for us. Our work also covered several times by national television and newspapers. And I was also Ashoka Youngchangemaker in 2005

Where do you ensure the availability of nutrients?

Healthy environments., Nutrient-rich farming, Full nourishment foods, Human wellness and vitality.

If you had greater capacity, which additional sectors would you like your solution to target - either through expansion, partnership, or thought exchange?

Healthy environments, Nutrient-rich farming, Full nourishment foods, Human wellness and vitality.

How specifically would this added capacity help you improve the quality, efficiency, or sustainability of your existing product or service?

Ecosystem will grow in its optimum condition only in healthy environment. Healthy environment will provide everything people's need, but only if people have a strong basis on keeping their environment healthy from sustainable use of environment. So these two are interlinked and interconnected.

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