



## **Micronesia Conservation Trust**

**APAFS** 

November 29, 2018

William Kostka, Executive Director www.ourmicronesia.org, deputy@ourmicronesia.org

## "Money Doesn't Grow on Trees"

- Yela Conservation Easement Endowment with landowners receiving approximately \$20,000/year in dividends. It's also become a eco-tourism site.
- The Awak/Pohnpei Eco plates farmers earning up to 25cents per betelnut palm that are being pressed to make plates, which are good for the environment
- Natural resources stewardship and conservation are an integral part of our sustainable development and are not isolated exercises or anti development activities.
- So yes, "money does grow on trees"
- And money growing on trees is quite a renewable resource.



Transforming our world: the 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development– Conservation work in Micronesia is intricately linked to at least 10 of the 17 Goals

**Goal 2** End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture – MCT and partners supported work around Micronesia for sustainable agroforestry and aquaculture, as well as other fisheries management work

**Goal 3** Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages – learning networks, education and outreach programs, internships, scholarships and support to women's and youth group activities – 8 graduate students receiving \$30/annum in scholarships

**Goal 6** Ensure availability and sustainable management of water

and sanitation for all – Dry-litter Piggery Projects and WFR

**Goal 7** Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all – Solar Mamas



**Goal 8** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all – NGO and CSO support that have employed so many Micronesians and Bill Raynor MC Scholarship Fund, MC endowments and sustainable financing including greenfees, payment for ecosystems services, revolving funds) – not only are we investing in our Emerging Markets but also

**Goal 11** Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable – LEAP program and Climate change adaptation tools and activities

**Goal 13** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts – taro pit restoration in the outer islands, support for typhoon recovery, water tanks on outer islands



**Goal 14** Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development – \$22Million Micronesia Challenge Endowment Fund a commitment by the FSM, RMI, ROP, Guam, and the CNMI to support protected areas networks and preserve the natural resources crucial to the survival of Pacific traditions, cultures, development, tourism and livelihoods,

**Goal 15** Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt – biodiversity loss – Establishment of the Yela Conservation Easement Endowment Fund which provides annual dividends to 10 families who own the area.

Goal 16 Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for

sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels – Support to civil society organizations, and our most vulnerable communities



Civil society organizations, like the private sector, are true contributors to our economies. In the FSM alone, MCT along with other civil society organizations bring in over \$2Million/year in technical and financial resources. This is equal to the amount we receive from the Environment Sector Grants under our Compact with the United States. We must be seen as true partners in this joint effort to meet our commitment of Transforming our world: the 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development.

## ADAPTING TO A CHANGING CLIMATE



## MCT: World Class and Deeply **Micronesian** KALAHNGAN **KINISOU CHAPUR** KOMMOL TATA KAMAGAR KULO MULALAP **MESULANG** SI YU'US MA'ASE OLOMWAAY THANK YOU VERY MUCH