



Kardashians v Mother Earth in the media

1 message

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Dear Friends,

In media headlines last year, climate change beat the Kardashians only once - on April 22nd, the **Earth Day**. While the attention of the influencers and the influenced has been fixed elsewhere, people in our projects, **with your help**, are focused on implementing green solutions to global warming, severe climate events and water scarcity, to protect their farms, coastal communities, and livelihoods. To celebrate this **Earth Month** with you, we are bringing you updates from some of these projects that are serving women and their families in India, Kenya and Taiwan.

Asia Initiatives progresses 14 of the 17 SDGs



The 8th UN Secretary General **Ban Ki-moon**, who is our patron, helped create the **UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, a roadmap to a better planet for all by 2030, adopted by all 191 UN Member States. **Prof. M.S. Swaminathan**, the world renowned scientist and humanist who inspired the founding of Asia Initiatives, had helped create the **UN Millennium**

Development Goals that preceded the SDGs until 2015. His advise at our founding was that all our projects should be Pro-environment, Pro-poor and Pro-women. We follow this advice with passion. As we contemplate the scale of the challenge and our humble work, we are reminded of Mother Theresa's words that "the ocean would be less without this drop".

SoCCs incentivizing biodiversity in Taiwan



Since the Asia Initiatives team visited Taiwan last October to help start a **SoCCs** program with **TARI** (Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute), much progress has been made. **SoCCratic dialogues** have been held with two Indigenous communities of rice farmers and pomelo growers in Hualien Province to finalize the SoCC Earning and Redeeming Menus. Farmers will earn SoCCs for documentation and preservation of various ethno-plants as also their own cultural traditions and language. People will redeem **SoCCs** for training in regenerative farming, linkages to supply chains, and agro-tourism.

70,000 trees to protect micro-climates and soil health



Asia Initiatives has planted over 70,000 trees in the past 5 years with the help of our local partners. The trees we planted with the FrauenPower, Friends of Doon Society, and the geotagged trees we planted last year with SankalpTaru Foundation, are all helping in flood prevention, improving bio-diversity, soil health and carbon sequestration.

Ponds and check-dams to recharge ground water, support water-smart agriculture, and fisheries



Asia Initiatives has helped create many shallow check-dams, and 14 rainwater harvesting ponds in dry areas of Maharashtra and Bundelkhand in India. Our partners Savera, Shramjivi Janata Sahayyak Mandal, and Parmarth are not only helping make communities water secure, but also enabling farmers get a second or even third crop, and fish to supplement local nutrition and incomes. Communities coming together for shared goals also builds **Social Capital**, an important goal in all our work.

System of Rice Intensification spreading through SoCCs Cascade of Up-skilling



550 women farmers, who learned the System of Rice Cultivation (SRI) with our partner Dilasa Janvikas Pratishtan in Maharashtra, are getting better yields, using less water and less labor, while reducing methane emissions, of which paddy fields are a significant emitter worldwide. They are also earning **SoCCs** for teaching this scientific method to another 1100 farmers, who will then teach others in our **Cascade of Up-skilling** program. This program has received prizes from MIT SOLVE, Caterpillar Foundation and others.

More about our work can be seen at our [Website](#) and our [YouTube Channel](#).

Thanking you for your ongoing support, and wishing you a **Happy Earth Month!**

Geeta and the Asia Initiatives Team

Click [HERE](#) to send 100% of your donation to our field sites



Asia Initiatives has special consultative status with the
Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC)
of the United Nations



Asia Initiatives has the Platinum Seal of transparency from Guidestar/Candid

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Asia Initiatives is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that promotes sustainable development for underserved communities, with a particular focus on women and their families.

You can contact us at info@AsialInitiatives.org

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