



newsletter

Island Kids
Philippines 

2025/3

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Dear Friends of Island Kids Philippines

We are looking back on eventful months. For the first time, the children and young people of the PIKIFI Children's Village experienced an unforgettable vacation at the Bata Alima Farm. Despite of the fact that the Community Center has not yet been built, they enjoyed their time in the new residential buildings and spent varied days in nature. The new IKP-Calendar for 2026 shows impressive pictures of how the children and young people experience their time in nature.

The development of the farm's infrastructure and operation is progressing rapidly. As planned, the construction of its own drinking water supply has started and is an important step for the quality of life on site.

In the area of digital education, we facilitate access to IT for disadvantaged young people thanks to donations of laptops and the co-operation with Labdoo. With overwhelming results: We are overjoyed and proud of our first psychology graduates, Rica Mae Quidlat-Jaudian and Rosalinda Ragmac-Lamantucan, who have finished their studies successfully!

The aim of a three-day anti-drug training course run by Streetlight was to develop practical action plans in order to protect young people from drug abuse and mental health problems – a project which requires cooperation.

With this in mind, we would also like to thank you for your interest and support for our diverse work at PIKIFI and Bata Alima.

■ First Summer Camp on the Farm

Although the new Community Center has not yet been built (a sponsor still has to be found), the 79 children and young people of the PIKIFI Children's Village were able to spend a three-day leisure time at the Bata Alima Farm at the beginning of June. They stayed in three new residential buildings (two of which are two-storied), either in the living room, the kitchen or on the terrace. The program was varied:

Day 1:

Establishing house rules and consequences
Scavenger hunt with quiz across the farm grounds with six stations (regenerative agriculture, protection of the ecosystem, shredding, fertilizer production, spring/water, trees species)



Each child was allowed to plant its own tree.

Day 2:

Workshops with traditional artists of the Talaandig tribe: carving bamboo flutes and making music, folk dancing, painting with earth colors, making traditional bracelets, singing Workshop with police officer and PIKIFI board member Rose Pulmones about "Children Have Rights" Movie night: Pocahontas.

Day 3:

Hiking to the waterfall and swimming, afterwards tidying up, packing and return to Cagayan de Oro.



Carving bamboo flutes.

Apart from this program, each child was allowed to plant its own tree, and volleyball and badminton were played. The children and young people cooked their meals in groups and did the washing up. The varied days in nature ended in a relaxing atmosphere around a campfire and were good for body and soul. We are already looking forward to longer leisure stays once the Community Center has been built!

Impressions of the Summer Camp: [Link to the movie](#)

■ Congratulations!

Rica Mae Quidlat-Jaudian and **Rosalinda Ragmac-Lamantucan** have successfully finished their studies in psychology at Mindanao State University in Marawi, Rosalinda graduating even with *summa cum laude*. They are the first psychology students from PIKIFI. We are incredibly proud of them both and are delighted about their success. It is the result of their commitment and hard work, but also of the support of their parents, their sponsors (and with them IKP/PIKIFI). We are grateful for the support over several years and are pleased about the result of your trust.



Rica Mae Quidlat-Jaudian (left)
Rosalinda Ragmac-Lamantucan (right)

■ Second-Hand Laptops for our School and Students

In the Philippines, too, a competent handling of computer programs is becoming increasingly important, and most projects at High Schools and Universities are done on PC/laptops. Owning their own laptop is an insurmountable financial obstacle for children from deprived areas, and can hinder them attending higher education institutions. Equally, it would exceed our financial capacity if we had to provide laptops for all our students. Therefore, we are exceptionally grateful for donations of refurbished second-hand laptops. IKP Switzerland was able to pack and ship several packages containing laptops.

New in this context is the cooperation with [Bern Cantonal Police](#) and [Labdoo](#), a non-profit aid project. Police Bern provides us with its completely wiped used laptops. Labdoo enables children and young people in

Switzerland and abroad access to IT and education with the help of IT donations from the private sector.



The donated laptops are refurbished and equipped with learning software before sent off to school projects.



■ Bata Alima

The farm is still in the process of developing its infrastructure and operation. Over the last months, the following work has been carried out:

- Exact land planning (location of infrastructure, animals, vegetable fields, trees) and creation of isolines for terracing
- Construction of a work and tool shed as well as a shed for the production of organic fertilizer and Effective Micro-organisms (organic pesticides)
- Henhouse for more than 30 chickens
- Installation of a 4kW/h solar system with eight solar panels, battery and inverter
- Planting of
 - 200 Arabica coffee trees
 - 200 Robusta coffee trees
 - 400 banana trees
 - 120 coconut palms
 - 120 grafted, 1.5 m high high-quality fruit and cocoa trees
 - First hardwoods for the creation of new forest for regeneration purposes

Engineering students from the Xavier University in Cagayan de Oro assisted us in the planning of our drinking water supply. Already a well chamber for collecting drinking water has been built.

During six weeks, five students from the University of Science and Technology of the Southern Philippines (USTP) have spent their first internship at the Bata-Alima Farm. The pilot project was so successful that the partnership will be continued on a long-term basis. The five students were given an insight into regenerative agriculture. They were a huge support for us during this very labor-intensive start-up phase. They

- learned the basics of regenerative agriculture
- created contour lines on the hillsides and planted mixed crops of durian, rambutan, cacao, guyabano, mangosteen, pomelo, lanzones, and coffee trees
- learned in a course how to make compost, biofertilizer, and indigenous and effective micro-organisms and immediately put their theoretical knowledge into practice
- learned how to prune and graft trees and about the sexual reproduction of banana seedlings



Bata Alima Team.

In July and early August, the Bata Alima team and USTP interns attended two workshops at the [Binahon Agro-forestry Farms](#) of Sir Henry Binahon. He is an icon in the still very small regenerative agriculture scene on Mindanao. He started building his farm in Lantapan 33 years ago. For the past five years, he has been creating his second “Food Forest”, as he calls it, in Malaybay. As a mentor to Bata-Alima, he is helping us with the planning as well as the construction of our farm. In Malaybay, we witnessed what can be achieved in the short period of five years: An impressive “Food Forest” has been created from fallow farmland, providing Henry and his family with food in abundance and generating income from cocoa and coffee, while at the same time restoring the natural ecosystem.

■ Anti-Drug Campaign

Drug abuse and mental health issues have a considerable impact on young people. A three-day anti-drug course in May (organized by Streetlight under President Esther Bühlmann) brought together people who dedicate themselves to the protection and empowerment of young people. The course showed possibilities to promote resilience and strengthen health awareness and community spirit:

- Developing coping strategies and resilience
- Information about health and self-care (mental health awareness and intervention)
- Engagement in the community and peer support

Interactive workshops, simulation exercises and joint planning meetings were offered. Each group then developed customized action plans in order to guarantee effective implementation and a long-term effect.

Source: Streetlight, Esther Bühlmann



■ IKP-Calendar 2026

In the new IKP-Calendar on the theme of "Nature", you will find very special photos taken by our young people themselves. These atmospheric pictures show scenes at the Bata Alima-Farm.

The calendar (A4, landscape format, spiral binding) costs CHF/EUR 20 plus postage.

You will find the corresponding flyer with an order form enclosed.

For orders to Germany please contact deutschland@islandkids.ch directly.

For further information please contact projekt@islandkids.ch at any time or call +41 (0)31 992 29 37

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