



## Direct benefits from trees on farm

Integrating trees, particularly fruit trees, on their farms is important for the Ikalahans to secure food and their livelihoods. Thoughtful integration of trees into their farming system can support agricultural production, delivering benefits at farm scale and wider in terms of food and ecosystem services. Among equally important direct benefits on farm, trees also help reduce soil and water movement, by increasing infiltration rate. It helps modify the farm's microclimate by reducing wind speed and increasing daytime temperatures.



- The Ikalahans believe that creating and maintaining a landscape rich in fruit and timber trees is vital for increasing farm income and ensuring food security, and addressing the challenges of climate change.
- Trees maximize the use of land for both economic and environmental purposes, particularly supporting the farm's agro-biodiversity.
- Trees on farm can turn unproductive land into a productive one. Thus, trees diversify farmers' income while consequently providing habitat and shelter for stocks and crops.
- Recently, ICRAF assisted the Ikalahans to increase their local adaptive capacity to climate change by planting native and yet valuable fruit tree species combined with other crops in their idle farms.