

MACAW LODGE NEWSLETTER

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VISITORS FROM FIJI

A few weeks ago, we had the pleasure of hosting the Fiji Delegation and representatives that are interested in learning from Costa Rica and its environmental approach. Thanks to FONAFIFO and MINAE, we could receive these visitors all the way from the archipelago in the South Pacific and talk about environmental issues. Fiji is also a tropical location that is composed of over 300 islands that today is facing deforestation, soil erosion and pollution. In the past 20 years, about 30% of the forests of Fiji have been lost to commercial interests. It was exciting to share with them about our agroforestry systems and show them how our model of reforestation was and continues to be successful throughout the years. It's amazing to be able to share with others such story and to inspire others around the planet.



GASTRONOMY STUDENTS

*Another eventful story we want to share with you is the visit of students of gastronomy from the International Polytechnic University in San José. With 30 years of experience in higher education focused on gastronomy, nutrition and food safety, students from this institution are well prepared to cook and serve all around the world. At Macaw, we provided them with the experience of learning about our agroforestry system and model. 25 students got the chance to observe and interact with our gardens and our cacao plantation. At Macaw the concept that we take ingredients fresh **from farm to table** is something we are very proud of. It was amazing to share this with the students and the 3 chefs that were guiding them in this learning experience. We had a delicious plantain ceviche with breadfruit chips, served with fresh yuplón juice, rice from our own Earth topped with local chives, stir fried freshly picked veggies and fish. For dessert, we served our famous pitanga ice cream.*





SECOND DELEGATION: KOREANS

What a wonderful month full of visitors from all over the world. The Korean delegation accompanied us the last week of July and they truly enjoyed our lodge and surroundings. Very observing and ready to learn from our space, model and history, we took them through the farm and offered them the Cacao Tour. The Ministry of Forestry looks at us as a case of success and points out how not only did we build a space and our agroforestry system, but also a community. They take inspiration from Macaw in many ways to bring back to their country and hopefully implement and change their own forest policies. We wish them the best and are happy and grateful to have hosted, motivated and exchanged ideas with you!

