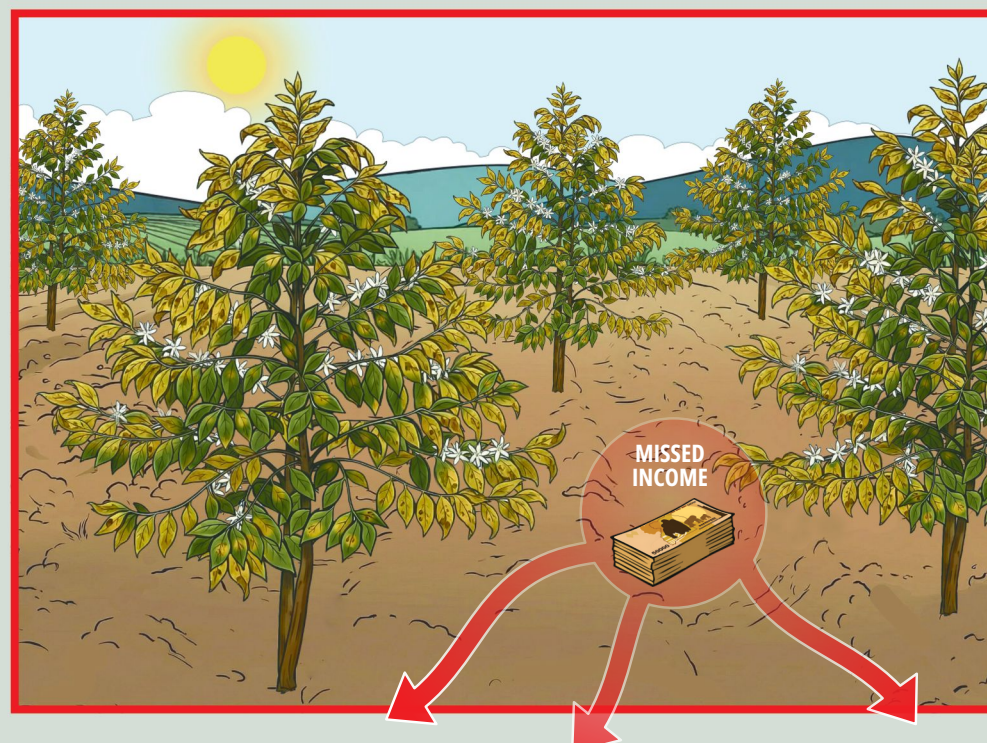
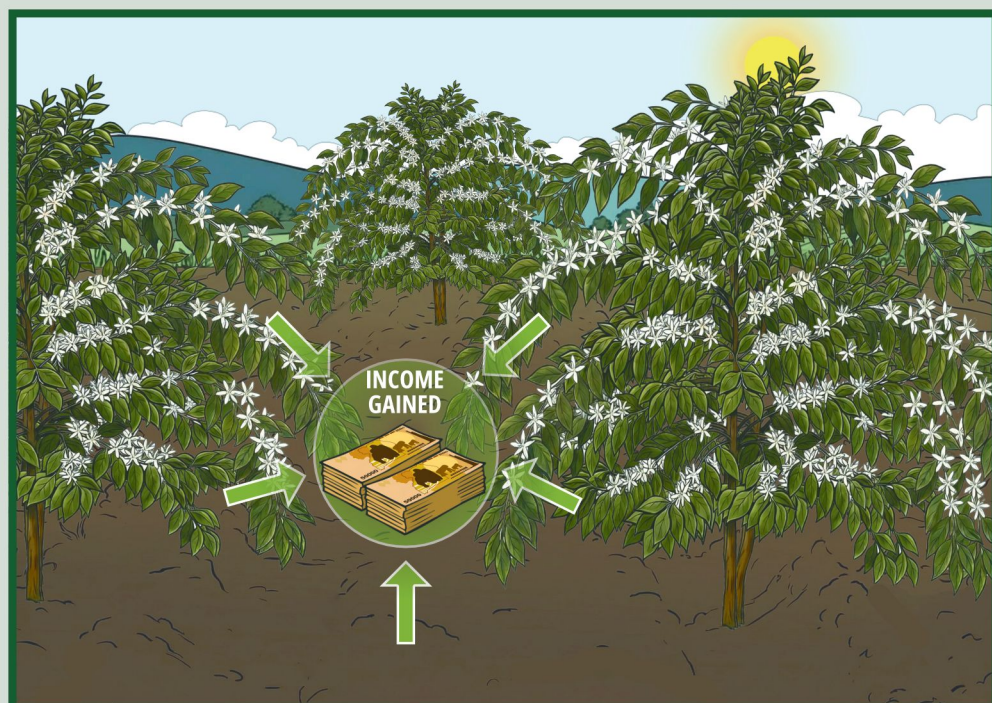




Feed Your Soil, So It Can Feed You



Feed your soils today and increase your income.



Facilitator Talking Points

*These should be printed on the back of the laminated poster or as a one-page handout for agents.
They guide a 5–10-minute discussion after showing the visuals.*

1. Open with reflection

- Ask: “What difference did you see between both farmers?”
- Probe: “Who do you think earned more? Why?”

2. Discuss the benefits

- Manure feeds the soil with nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium).
- It protects trees during droughts by holding moisture.
- It improves the coffee tree's capacity to fight disease.
- It reduces the cost of fertilisers.

3. Discuss the types of manure/fertiliser

Manure and fertiliser selection should be based on the soil's nutrient status, crop stage, and management practices to optimise soil fertility and coffee yield. And ask if they have any questions at this point.

- Organic: crop residues such as maize stalks, rich in nutrients like nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium.
- Farmyard: Decomposed animal manure from cattle, chickens, pigs, sheep, and rabbit manure, with varying nutrient contents, used to improve soil fertility, especially nitrogen content.
- Compost: Organic matter from decomposed plant and animal waste creates organic matter and supplies nutrients slowly. Making compost involves heap or pit composting methods.
- Commercial Organic Fertilisers: Ready-for-use fertilisers that provide macro and

micronutrients, such as organic compound fertilisers and specific products like seaweed-based fertilisers

- Inorganic options: Urea: Contains 46% nitrogen, used for rapid nitrogen supply; Super Phosphates (SSP, CSP, TSP): Source of phosphorus; compound Fertilisers (NPK) provide balanced nutrients.
- Other Straight Fertilisers: ammonium nitrate and ammonium sulphate, with specific nutrient content.

NB: Always check with the latest recommendations by MAAIF or NaCORI.

4. Demonstrate proper application

- Form a ring around the tree between 1 to 2 inches deep, about one foot from the stem.
- Mix manure lightly into the topsoil.
- Avoid touching the tree trunk to prevent collar rot or ants.

5. Link to the “missed income”

- Ask: “In this situation, what will the bad farmer lose?”
- What is each farmer going to do next?

Integration Tip: Use the poster together with the *Trenching and Mulching* posters to show how these three practices complement each other in protecting soil, boosting yield, and increasing income.

Close with motivation: “Feed your soil, and it will feed your future.”