Restoring the ecosystems of the Galapagos Islands

Why?

- More than 2000 endemic species call Galapagos their home.
- Protecting the biodiversity and ecological integrity of the Galapagos is important for:
  - Preserving the biodiversity and ecological integrity of the Galapagos
  - Endangered species conservation:
  - Ecosystem services

How?

- Native and endemic species must be protected from introduced herbivores, invasive species, and human disturbance.
- The Galapagos Verde 2050 (2013-2014) technical report details restoration approaches including:
  - Using Groasis Waterboxx® technologies to help plants survive in the arid environment of the Galapagos.
  - Growth in arid zones
  - Keystone species restoration

What?

- Plaza Sur Island—already more than halfway towards historic levels of Opuntia plants.
- In 2014 we began preventative measures to keep the tortoises from overgrazing the plants.
- Before After

Restoration efforts have been an outstanding success. For example:

- Before:
  - In 2012 we discovered only 8 remaining Opuntias
- After:
  - In 2019 we discovered 10654 Opuntias
  - An increase of 133.4% or 52.7

How?

- We reinforce the fences to ensure this never happens again.
- We use technologies such as the Groasis Waterboxx® to help plants get more water in the arid environment of the Galapagos.
- Learning is essential...