

### Family teams ASEM/2014/095

- Jessie Abuida Mitir has resigned from NARI and therefore our project – new staff member will be appointed ASAP with a focus on suitability for our Islands hub.
- Module 4 Communication and Decision making as a Family Team training for VCEs in Asaro/Daulo districts of Eastern Highlands and in Jiwaka sites completed. Special thanks to Gloria Nema (CARE), Elizabeth Owa (UniTech) and Anna Bryan (Baptist Union) who stepped into the group facilitation roles at short notice. Their contributions have really deepened the impact of our work with the VCEs.
- Professional development module for teachers (using agricultural messages in primary schools) piloted at Pacific Adventist University and an evaluation of the first cohort of teachers trained in 2015 looking at how they integrated ag messages in class conducted in ENB.
- Planning has begun for the 2017 Islands hub – looking forward to working with other TADEP projects.
- New article from the Maria Books – see attached.

### Canarium FST/2014/099

- The PNG Galip Project recently held a training day at NARI Kerevat targeting women whom are actively engaged in the selling of Galip nuts from the Kokopo, Rabaul, Kerevat and roadside markets. There were 25 participants on the day with many others expressing interest in attending, though could not afford to miss a day of sales from their markets. This is the first in a series of these style events planned in the area and over the next months should cover a broad range of smallholders and small scale entrepreneurs working within the Galip industry.
- The day consisted of four workshops with the group split in two so that they could rotate through each of the different sections:
  - Tour of the NARI Kerevat Galip processing facility
  - Packaging technology
  - Cracking technology, including the use of commercial and personal portable crackers
  - Food safety and hygiene practices when drying and storing food
- Participants were given an opportunity to express interest in further training specifically around solar drying with six providing contact details for future contact around this. It is expected that these participants will contribute to a two-day solar drying workshop to be delivered early 2017.
- Participants on the day also attended a capacity building workshop encouraging them to engage with new technologies and incorporate them into their small businesses. This took many of the concepts they had seen over the day including drying, packaging and labelling demonstrating how these could be utilised in their current market activities. This culminated in ideas of how they might begin to access broader markets and move towards SME type enterprises wholesaling to local distributors and better engaging with the growing tourist market in ENB



***Dalsie Hannet explaining the range of products that the factory sells into the local domestic market and providing ideas for women from the local markets to expand on their traditional sales at the PNG Galip Project Training Day.***



**Several women from the local markets attending the PNG Galip Project training day, who still use stones to crack their galip nuts for sales, using available cracking technologies for the first time at the PNG Galip Project Training Day.**



**Women trying food prepared in solar drier and watching demonstration of pan drying galip over a galip nut shell fire at the PNG Galip Project training day.**



**Participants involved in the capacity building workshop at the PNG Galip Project training day**

#### **Bougainville cocoa HORT/2014/094**

- Discussions continue between Australian and international chocolatiers and “Gold” award winners from our Bougainville Chocolate Festival. The aim is to facilitate small shipments of premium Bougainville beans to make and sell single origin chocolates in Australia.
- An induction training session was held in September for the Research and Training Hub coordinators, Elizabeth Pisiai (South), Normal Tola (Central) and Theodore Kisu (North), and Deputy Coordinator, Elmah Maxwell. Plans are now being developed to build and equip the Hubs.
- The Annual Project Meeting for HORT/2012/026, the cocoa project that led to the 2 TADEP cocoa projects, was held in Madang 19-23 September.

- David Guest, Merrilyn Walton, Kirsten Black, Grant Hill-Cawthorne, Jess Hall and Rose Daniel will travel to Buin on 24 October to begin the training for the CommCare Baseline surveys. Following the training, surveys will begin in the selected Village Assemblies in South Bougainville.
- Prof John Connell (Social Geography, Sydney) spent a few weeks in Siwai and Buin during August and September surveying changes in social structures there since the end of the Crisis. He will be preparing a full report.
- Our CommCare guru, Jess Hall, has been recruited to assist the MAD4TADEP SRA, but will continue to work with us for 40 days/year.
- Dr Josie Saul-Maora will work with us 25 days/year developing our links with women and youth in Bougainville. She will also work with our sister project, PNG Cocoa HORT/2014/096 and link to the Family Teams project ASEM/2014/095.
- Dr Matthew Laurence has started work with us (part-time), based in Sydney, to help manage the project. Matt works the rest of the week in the Plant Disease Diagnostic Unit at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney, has extensive skills in mycology and molecular biology and is keen to learn about cocoa.

### **PNG cocoa HORT/2014/096**

- In Madang, renovations continued on the house to be used as a dormitory/training centre at the Stewart Research Station, Murnas, and delivery was taken of the Project Toyota Landcruiser Troup carrier. The Madang provincial Coordinator, Aitul Weoh, made a district awareness visit with the Provincial DAL team to Saidor to link up with the Raicoast District Admin and DAL team.
- Phil undertook a four-day intensive training at LaTrobe University with Amber Gregory and Jess Hall from Agimact, in building survey forms with the CommCare App. The paper survey and block inspection forms developed by Trevor, Alfred and Phil, with advice from George Curry, were digitised. Amber, Jess and Phil have continued to improve the survey forms. Trevor and Alfred field tested them at CCI Tavilo with all CCI staff and John Konam, supported by Amber and Jack Etherington from the ACIAR support team, and Brett Hodges from the galip nut project. Trevor and Alfred have continued field testing and training of provincial project staff in Madang and East Sepik and provided feedback to Phil and Jess to improve the survey forms.
- Alfred and Trevor attended the ACIAR Cocoa Pod Borer Project Review Meeting in Madang from 20 to 22 Sept and presented an overview of the project activities.
- Peter Bapiwai arrived back in Tavilo from Karimui to start organising for the 18 released CCI clones and a few others as discussed to be put into quarantine for pest and disease screening in readiness to be transferred to Karimui for his studies of cocoa physiology.
- Alfred has reminded all provincial staff of the need to plan for sources of budded hybrid clone to supply to the Cocoa Model Farmer Trainers (CMFTs) for their budwood gardens.
- John Konam visited CCI Tavilo and UNRE from 9 to 13 September to discuss the Karimui cocoa development program and the workplan and budget. He also discussed with Peter Bapiwai, Eremas Tade and David Yinil the proposed comparative study of cocoa physiology at Karimui and Tavilo, including the quarantining of cocoa clones being introduced from Tavilo to Karimui. At UNRE he discussed the integration of goats into cocoa farming for 'zero-waste management'.
- Eric Gore, the Simbu Agricultural Advisor Crops, arranged for the Independence Day (16 Sept) celebrations at Kundiawa to have a special focus on the Karamui ACIAR Cocoa Project development. John Komba and John Thomas travelled from Karimui to Kundiawa for the show. The display emphasised to the Simbu Provincial Government authorities and Simbu people the importance of having the road into Karamui completed as soon as possible. The display featured cocoa seedlings, beans, pods, dry beans, and photographs and give updates of the latest developments in the project.
- In New Ireland, Kula Daslogo and his team, including Provincial DPI staff, have completed the baseline surveys in all of his twenty CMFT sites, and has purchased most of the tools and field equipment for his farmers. The first training session for CMFTs has been scheduled for the first week of October.

- In East Sepik Province, Jimmy Risimeri and Chris Toli took delivery of the project Toyota Landcruiser Troup carrier and have continued with awareness meetings in villages. Jimmy, Chris and Trevor Clarke visited Maguer Village on 20 Sept and talked to Paul Yeridu, the Ward Councillor and Linda Toboi, one of the people nominated as a CMFT, along with other farmers to assure them that their village will be one of the project sites. This is the village where George Curry's post-graduate student, Alois Ndrewou, is conducting his socio-economic research.
- Eremas Tade, Chris Fidelis and David Yinil from CCI visited the site at Wingei, Yangoru, where it is proposed that cocoa growing with Gliricidia be established on kunai grassland on the Sepik Plains. They have planned a large factorial field trial of leguminous cover crops, fertiliser and manure treatments to study likely soil fertility problems at the site.

### **Sweetpotato HORT/2014/097**

- Clean seed multiplication progressing, commercial planting commencing.
- Next visit to PNG planned, ANU team likely to travel in late Oct/early Nov. Unfortunately, Prof Mike Bourke is unable to travel after breaking his leg in an accident on his farm. Many agriculturalists in PNG will know Mike and I'm sure all will wish him a speedy recovery.
- Planning for Australian project component (engagement with Australian Sweetpotato Growers Association, links to virus monitoring activities in PNG), meeting held with Qld Dept Ag and Fisheries sweetpotato research team and ASPG representative. Meetings in Brisbane and Gatton held with USQ and CSU team to ensure alignment of Aust components of HORT/2014/083 'Developing improved crop protection options in support of intensification of sweetpotato production in Papua New Guinea' with this project.
- Project presentation and discussion held with Minister Richard Maru PNG Minister for Trade and Investment, Mr Joseph Klapat, PNG Ministry of Trade and Investment First Secretary and Mr John Andrias PNG Department of Trade, Commerce & Industry Secretary during delegation visit to Queensland.
- Useful ideas and concepts for incorporation in value chain research in PNG gained from UTas Australasian Agrifood Value Chain Research Group. The attached report has many useful ideas on supporting commercial agriculture developments in defined regional areas.