

## **Family teams ASEM/2014/095**

### **MAD4TADEP training**

- Katja Mikhailovich, Pauline Gwatorisa and Sanna Harri undertook a 3-day training in October and are now working on the base-line and end-line survey migration to this digital mode.

### **Upcoming field work**

- Katja Mikhailovich, Pauline Gwatorisa, Lalen Simeon and local casual research staff will be conducting the end-line study and evaluation in two of our Highland sites.
  - Goroka and Daulo districts (Eastern Highlands) 14 - 25 November. This will include the graduation of 34 village community educators (VCEs) and their 6 women leaders.
  - North and South Wahgi and Anglimp districts (Jiwaka) 21 November - 3 December. As there is still one brokered training to be conducted (Sustainable Livelihoods, Book and Record Keeping via the Integrated Agricultural Training Program), the graduation of the VCEs has been postponed until 2017.
- Barbara Pamphilon, Jo Caffery and Deborah Hill will be running a Masterclass for our leading VCEs from the Baiyer Valley (WH) and Kerevat area (ENB) at NARI on 14 - 16 November.
- Barbara Pamphilon will be working with two other TADEP projects to plan collaborative models to be used in 2017 and 2018 for the Islands Hub. This will include meetings with a range of stakeholders and possible partners.
  - PNG Cocoa HORT/2014/096: 21 - 22 November (Kavieng)
  - Bougainville Cocoa HORT/2014/094: 23 - 25 November (Buka)
- The graduation of the VCEs from Alona ward, Mul-Baiyer district of the Western Highlands will be conducted on 30 November – 42 women and 8 males will be presented with certificate.

### **Mid-Term Review**

- Our Mid –Term Review will be conducted at Mount Hagen on 28 - 29 November with RPM Dr Jayne Curnow and Miriam McCormack of ACIAR.

### **Communication and dissemination activities**

- We continue to build up our website <http://pngwomen.estem-uc.edu.au/> and the number of posts on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/pngwomenfarmers/](http://www.facebook.com/pngwomenfarmers/) are attracting interest from across PNG
- We have a new ACIAR monograph (attached) – Pamphilon B and Mikhailovich K 2016, *Building Gender Equity through a Family Teams Approach: A Program to Support the Economic Development of Women Smallholder Farmers and their Families in Papua New Guinea*, Monograph number 194, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, Canberra ACT  
<http://aciarc.gov.au/publication/mn194EndFragment>

## **Canarium FST/2014/099**

- Graham Ashford and Shauna Hack is visiting NARI from the 17 - 21 October and Shahla will be visiting from the 17 - 26 October.
- Brett and Emma are busy with canarium associated training days including:
  - Tinnagalip training day (capacity, marketing, food preservation) 27 October
  - Vunamarita training day (solar, food preservation, WYIA (cooking and sewing), oil making and crop rotation) 2 - 3 November
  - Young People work experience/training 7 - 17 November
- An updated version of the NARI Factory operating procedures has been produced by Kim Jones and the team. The factory is now in full swing with this season's supply of canarium nuts.
- The drying room is progressing rapidly with the fans, duct and bin installation well underway
- A mechanical cracker is in transit to Rabaul. The cracker has a capacity of about tonne/hr and will dramatically increase processing efficiencies once in place.

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

- The Sydney project team (David Guest, Merrilyn Walton, Kirsten Black, Grant Hill-Cawthorne, Jessica Hall and Matthew Laurence) joined the Bougainville team (Sam Rangai and John Konam) to

run a training course for interviewers and facilitators conducting the Baseline Survey in Southern Bougainville. Training runs from 24 October - 4 November. In the second week we will begin surveys in Village Assemblies around Buin.

- Jessica Hall, who started with us as our CommCare expert, has been recruited by AgImpact to help with survey development and training for MAD4TADEP. She will continue to help our project, and use her experience to foster the adoption of CommCare in the other TADEP projects.
- Grant Vinning and Andrew Sale will continue market training activities in Bougainville from 5 - 15 November. Grant continues to circulate informative and provocative newsletters discussing aspects of cocoa marketing.
- ACIAR has approved a small initiative to address logistic issues exporting small batches of beans to specialist buyers in Australia. The Bougainville Chocolate Festival generated demand for “Gold” beans, but highlighted that there is no practical and cost-effective way of shipping small quantities of beans. This activity focusses on market access for small batches of cocoa bean exports from Bougainville, and will be led by Grant Vinning and Andrew Sale. A number of other marketing initiatives are under development.
- CCI and UNRE will be in Bougainville in mid-November to continue the cocoa IPDM and livestock training.
- We thank Emily Flowers for her help and look forward to meeting the new ACIAR Country Manager.

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

- Jess Hall continued to assist with the improvement of the CommCare Survey App following feedback from field testing by Trevor Clarke and Alfred Nongkas in East Sepik and Madang. The plan is to complete the App by mid-October ready for its deployment in the field in East Sepik and Madang when Trevor and Alfred visit in late October.
- Construction of the solar driers at CCI Tavilo and Agmark Tokiala was completed during October and they are now ready for testing.

#### **New Ireland**

- 20 awareness meetings have been completed and 20 sites have been selected with 25 Cocoa Model Farmer Trainers recruited to each. A 3-day CCI/Provincial Govt DPI officers workshop was held to go through the baseline survey form and the survey of 500 farmers was conducted by two teams.

#### **Madang**

- The 4 first awareness meetings for Tamane, Mawan, Yar and Karkum villages, and 5 second awareness meetings for Mabonob, Rempi, Erima, Bunu and Mawan villages have been held. Five CMFTs and 24 disciple farmers for each were selected at Erima, Mabonob, Rempi, Bunu and Karkum villages and these sites are now ready for the baseline survey to be conducted using the CommCare App.
- Two cocoa nurseries (Tamane, Ono) were visited and maintained, one possible budwood garden site was visited (Baisarik), and budding nurseries were started at Mabonob and Erima.
- A preliminary training and testing of the CommCare App was conducted with DAL officers under the supervision of Trevor and Alfred, and six mobile phones were purchased and distributed ready for the survey. An assistant project coordinator is certainly required in Madang to assist Aitul; Josie Saul-Maora is designated to take up this position in January 2017 as well as consulting to the project on Women in Agriculture. Trevor visited Madang to work with Aitul from 23 to 30 October.

#### **Karimui**

- Seed has been distributed from the main demonstration plot for the first planting by farmers (over 500,000 seeds distributed in 7 wards), but this is now coming to a halt due to lack of seed from the latest productive pod flush in the plot.
- The establishment of a nursery at the first trial site is continuing. The best trees from the initial trial site have been identified and tagged ready for cloning and 7,000 seeds have been planted in poly bags in preparations for cloning of these selections by March 2017. A 6ha area has been planted with Gliricidia in preparation for clonal trials linked to Peter Bapiwai's work.

- The District Rural Development Office (Paul Kawagle) visited the site to familiarise himself with the work and an ACIAR project review meeting was held with John Komba, John Konam, Raphael Kee, Eric Gore, and Mathew Joshua in Kundiawa. The following constraints were discussed – motorbikes are needed as soon as possible for effective monitoring, baseline survey and coordination of farmers’ progress as farmers are widely scattered through the wards. Two motorbikes, 6 bicycles and 2 chainsaws are to be picked up from Farmset Goroka and flown in to Karimui. A power source has been provided by the Simbu Provincial Govt to help with reporting, computer operation, data entry etc. Preparations are under way for the CommCare survey of 140 farmers (20 x 7 wards).

#### **East Sepik**

- Awareness meetings have been conducted for 23 out of the 25 planned sites, and the selection of CMFTs and 25 associated farmers is being finalised for 20 of these sites.
- The site at Sabaru-Kausombi has a nursery, budwood garden, fermentary and training house in place. Accommodation for visiting Project Teams is being constructed.
- The Hawain site was visited to initiate construction of a solar drier and repairs to the dormitory/training centre, and funds have been deposited for the Hawain Training Centre Renovation. Good progress has been made on the Training Centre.
- Maguer village was visited to reassure them of their inclusion in the project. Budders have been organised to bud about 1,200 rootstocks for the 18 recommended CCI clones at the Yekimbole site.
- Training was undertaken on the CommCare App with the guidance of Trevor Clarke. Eight mobile phones have been purchased in readiness for the survey.
- Eremas Tade, David Yinil and Chris Fidelis visited to initiate Soil Nutrition Trials for cocoa cultivation on the Sepik plains kunai grasslands at the Miaboru site. General awareness among East Sepik cocoa farming communities is picking up as a result of the awareness meetings and one Radio Program on the Project activities.

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

- Soil management team (Gunnar Kirchhof, Ryo Fujinuma) will be in PNG from 7 - 24 November, establishing field trial sites and protocols at Aiyura, attending a conference at Goroka Uni, and undertaking laboratory observations for sample analysis
- Phil Brown will be in PNG 19 - 24 November, undertaking CommCare training in Lae with PNG team members in parallel to the NARI training program being conducted by AgImpact
- NARI staff have developed a research plan to enable new sweetpotato varieties to enter the clean seed system quickly. Variety preferences vary between regions so as the clean seed system expands from current sites it will be necessary to expand the range of varieties that can be rapidly supplied to growers at new locations.
- Genie II LAMP unit has been delivered to Aust team and work will commence this month testing/validating methodology for in-field virus screening.