



Transformative Agriculture and Enterprise Development Program

# TADEP+ Update

March + April 2020

## Key program activities

### Steering Committee meeting

TADEP+ Project Leaders and the TADEP+ team including the PNG Country Office met in Melbourne on Monday 17 February 2020 for the biannual Steering Committee meeting. The focus of the meeting was to plan the remainder of the program, including the showcase and other events, remaining program activities, communications, budgets and reporting. A summary of major discussion points and outcomes have been provided to key stakeholders since the meeting.

### Partners Meeting

At the Steering Committee meeting in mid-February, there was agreement to facilitate a focused Partners Meeting in lieu of our usual Annual Meeting. The Partners Meeting would bring together the key stakeholders and partner agencies that have contributed to the success of TADEP to capture the lessons learnt from the program and how best we can showcase it and the numerous contributors. The Partners Meeting was scheduled for mid-June but with COVID-19, the Steering Committee has agreed that we postpone and reassess once the State of Emergency status in PNG has been lifted.

### COVID-19 impacts

The Steering Committee convened a virtual meeting a fortnight ago to discuss the impacts of COVID-19 on the program and the component projects. A summary of the budgetary and timeframe impacts has been collated and shared with DFAT. The TADEP team will continue to work closely with the ACIAR PNG Country Office and ACIAR in Canberra to monitor the ongoing impacts. A brief update will be circulated early in each month.

If you're ever looking for previous copies of the TADEP+ Updates, they are all available to access on the TADEP website, grouped according to year: <https://tadep-png.com/communications/tadep-updates/>

## ACIAR Annual Review 2018-19

Each year ACIAR publishes an extensive Annual Report which details the progress and performance of the agency in the preceding financial year. A shorter snapshot, entitled the Annual Review, has also been produced which highlights key elements of the Annual Report and is circulated to a broader audience. The Annual Review features;

- Page 10: case study on the Bougainville Cocoa project, 'Cocoa - Bougainville's single malt'
- Page 18: a Regional Highlight on the Pacific
- Page 46: case study on the Galip Nut project, 'Consumers are nuts about galip'

**Click here** to view and download the Annual Review 2018-19.

## ACIAR Alumni Research Support Facility

In response to COVID-19, ACIAR are providing new funding to support research led by ACIAR Alumni across the Indo-Pacific. The Alumni Research Support Facility is a one-off activity that will provide up to AUD\$20,000 for small research activities that build resilience and respond to the emerging challenges that COVID-19 has placed on agricultural systems in our partner countries.

The funded projects will be led by ACIAR John Allwright Fellows, ACIAR University of the South Pacific Scholarship Program, Meryl Williams Fellowship and John Dillon Fellowship alumni, in the planning and execution of the research, with research that is aligned and supportive of their own institution's research strategies and ACIAR's country strategies.

Applications close on the 22 May. Please discuss with the relevant **Research Program Managers** if you intend to apply. More information and the online application form is available **here**.

## Meryl Williams Fellowship

Funded by the ACIAR, the prestigious Meryl Williams Fellowship provides an immersive leadership program, mentoring and professional development opportunities, designed to enhance leadership skills, opportunities and pathways for women in the agricultural research and development sector. The next round of applications closes on 31 July. Eligible candidates from Nepal are encouraged to apply. More information can be found **here**.

## Aus-PNG News Links

**The Lowy Institute** compiles and publishes the Aus-PNG News Links each weekday via email, summarising relevant online news articles of interest in the Australia-Papua New Guinea relationship. You can subscribe to the daily emails via **this link**.



## Bougainville Cocoa

Fieldwork has ceased due to the current COVID-19 global pandemic. Bougainville has been in a State of Emergency (SOE) and lockdown since 23 March with all flights being suspended within the country.

Data collection on remaining cocoa trees at Kubu continued in March/April for yield estimation for 24 months after rehabilitation and 6 month respectively. Data on ripe pods, mature pods and cherreles were collected

Assisted the Fine Cocoa and Chocolate Institute (FCCI) COVID-19 survey to look at impact on cocoa production and trade.

[Click here](#) for the full Bougainville Cocoa project update

## PNG Cocoa

10,000 copies of the 'Pacific Islands Cocoa Book' were received and distributed via the Agmark network. 2,000 books sent to Wewak and 480 books to Lae. Arrangements were made in East New Britain for distribution through schools and the Cocoa Board network.

A table summarising completion of (Cocoa Model Farmer Trainers) CMFT budwood gardens and nurseries in each Province was completed with input from Provincial Coordinators. A survey to assess CMFT activities has been designed as well as preparations for a paper on agricultural extension arising from the cocoa project.

A cocoa field day was hosted by local CMFTs in Umbukul on New Hanover with 50 male and 10 female farmers attending in addition to the CMFTs, Village Extension Workers, DPI and Cocoa Board.



[Click here](#) for the full PNG Cocoa project update

## Sweetpotato

NARI Research Scientist Wilfred Wau will initiate a survey to assess virus and associated vector prevalence, virus host plant and beneficial insect presence in each of the project clean seed production locations.

NARI Research Scientist Raywin Ovah will commence a detailed research activity in Port Moresby supermarkets and open markets to



data will inform commercial growers aiming to target higher value markets in PNG.

A successful community Organisational Strengthening workshop was held in Jiwaka (SWOFFA/JOFFC groups) in mid-March and a Nutrition/Food Processing training session was completed with one of the Asaro farmer communities in early March.

[Click here](#) for the full Sweetpotato project update

The Transformative Agriculture and Enterprise Development Program (TADEP) is a multidisciplinary research program that aims to improve the livelihoods of rural men and women in Papua New Guinea. The program initially had five component projects, of which two have concluded. The program now comprises of the following:

- **Bougainville Cocoa** - HORT/2014/094 Developing the Cocoa value chain in Bougainville
- **PNG Cocoa** - HORT/2014/096 Enterprise-driven transformation of family Cocoa production in East Sepik, Madang, New Ireland and Chimbu Provinces of Papua New Guinea
- **Sweetpotato** - HORT/2014/097 Supporting commercial Sweetpotato production and marketing in the Papua New Guinea highlands

TADEP is co-funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).



Australian Government  
Australian Centre for  
International Agricultural Research



Whilst two of the initial five TADEP projects have concluded, they have evolved into three new ACIAR projects and both have keenly agreed to continue to contribute to TADEP. The following updates demonstrate this continued collaboration across research disciplines, sharing useful and relevant insights.

## Family Farm Teams

The Family Farm Teams project's work in PNG is continuing with a project *Gender equitable agricultural extension through institutions and youth engagement in Papua New Guinea* led by Jo Caffery from the University of Canberra in partnership with the Pacific Adventist University. This project's aim is to adapt and apply the Family Farm Teams model for institutions (churches) and youth engagement in PNG.

A second project will begin in 2020 to further develop the Family







## Galip Nut

**Vale, Carson Waai**

With great sadness we inform you of the loss of one of our Galip team members, Carson Waai, who passed away suddenly a fortnight ago after a short illness.

[Click here](#) to read the tribute to the deeply valued Galip Nut team member (scroll to the bottom)

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**COVID-19**

- Fieldwork has ceased due to the current COVID-19 global pandemic. Bougainville has been in a State of Emergency (SOE) and lockdown since 23 March with all flights being suspended within the country. Members of our project team are currently stranded in Arawa and Port Moresby and unable to return to their homes. The project team is providing support.

**Upcoming or recent activities**

- Survey of fresh produce marketing in Port Moresby drawing lessons on how we can improve fresh fruit and vegetable marketing on Bougainville.
- Grant Vinning supported work on the Fine Cocoa and Chocolate Institute (FCCI) COVID-19 survey to look at impact on cocoa production and trade.
- Provided advice on an MDF proposal to support a large international cocoa buyer.
- Goats have been treated by UNRE team with medicine and appear to be recovering.
- Data collection on remaining cocoa trees at Kubu continued in March/April for yield estimation for 24 months after rehabilitation (90% canopy removal) and 6 month (50% canopy removal) respectively. Data on ripe pods, mature pods and cherreles were collected (see photo below).
- Trial demos on cocoa based farming system (strip cropping) with rice, taro, kongkong, kaukau (sweet potato) and various vegetables continued in Kubu as well as Konga Station.

**Figures 1a, b and c (below):** Data collection on rehabilitated clones:



Good production after 24 months



Pod samples of clones taken for determining potential yield (kg dry bean/Ha/year)



Pod sample weighing to collect data on yield components (mean pod weight, mean % wet bean content)

**Progress summary of relevant Collaborative Research Grant/s**

- Dr. Josephine Saul Maora and Robert Taula conducted Family Farm Team training in Bougainville from Monday 16 to Tuesday 24 March 2020. The two-day trainings were held at Tohatsie, Ben Matie and Kovanis villages. Unfortunately, the training scheduled for Manetai didn't eventuate because of the State of Emergency that was called and lockdown as a result of COVID-19.

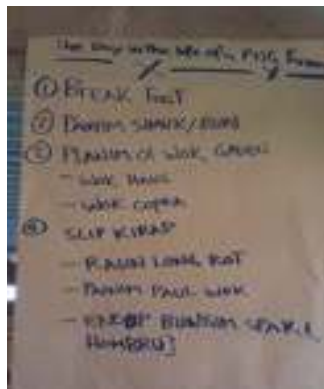
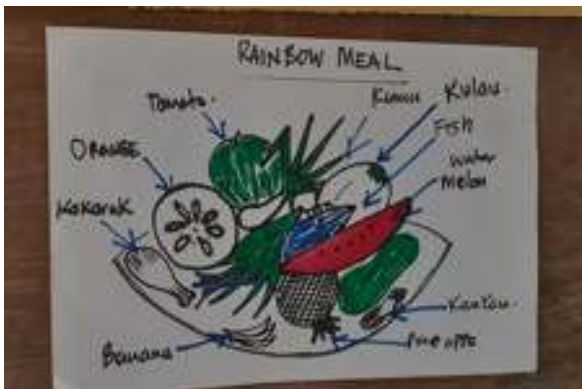
**Figure 2: Number of participants per village**

Village	Women	Men
Tohatsie	11	10
Benmate	9	15
Kovanis	26	15

- The training developed by Professor Barbara Pamphilon from the University of Canberra (ASEM/2010/052) covers the following modules:
  - Module 1: Working as a family farm team for family goals
  - Module 2: Planning your family farm as a family team
  - Module 3: Feeding your family farm team
  - Module 4: Communicating and decision-making as a family farm team
- The efforts of Josephine Saul Maora and Robert Taula in conducting these trainings are greatly appreciated especially during these uncertain times. A trip report has been received from Dr Josephine Saul Maora and Robert Taula.



**Figures 3 and 4 (above):** Communicating and decision-making as a family farm team in Tohatsie village.



**Figure 5 (above):** Feeding your family farm team

**Figures 6 and 7:** Working as a family farm team for family goals

## Research tools, articles, resources

- Merrilyn Walton is compiling a 'Bougainville Reader' to include reports and analyses:
  - Grant Vinning developed a series of papers examining the international trade of Papua New Guinea cocoa beans based on the import data from select countries.
  - Grant Vinning developed and distributed four Cocoa Market Newsletters.
  - The team submitted three research papers using data from the livelihoods survey have been submitted to journals and are currently under review. Another paper is currently being finalised.
  - Phil Simmons prepared a press release on locally made cocoa products, an economic evaluation analysis and a Development Pathways analysis.

## Lessons learnt

- Always prepare for the unexpected.
- Food and nutrition security should always be a priority at all times through back yard gardening or semi-commercial production.



### East New Britain Headquarters and General Activities

- The lockdown in late March and April because of COVID-19 prevented activities going ahead in Provinces, leading to postponement of the planned trip to the Highlands by Trevor Clarke and Peter Bapiwai. Funds were dispersed to the provinces to support on-going activities. A message was sent to coordinators about social distancing and handwashing as a precaution against spread of COVID-19.
- On 29 February to 1 March, Phil travelled from Goroka to Kokopo and met with Ted Sitapai, a leading agricultural consultant who has conducted reviews of agricultural extension in PNG.
- On 2 March, Trevor and Phil visited Tavilo Research Station for discussions with David Yinil on saving and expanding the Trinitario clone collection, and the University of Natural Resources and Environment (Suri Taisa, Prof Aisak Pue, Hosea Turbarat) for discussions about their contribution to the goat program; they have still not been able to supply goats for Cocoa Model Farmer Trainer (CMFT) David Waulis in New Ireland. Dr Peter Epaina attended the meeting at UNRE in his new position as a lecturer in agronomy and plant breeding and had enjoyed giving his first lecture the previous day. The new Vice-Chancellor, Dr Pongu Kichawen, was unable to attend the meeting because of an engagement in Port Moresby.
- Meetings were held in Kokopo with John Moxon, PPAP, Graham McNally, Agmark, and Simon Arnold, Cocoa Growers Association.
- Ten thousand copies of the 'Pacific Islands Cocoa Book' by Trevor were received on 11 March from the Koko Siga publishers in Fiji. With help through the Agmark network, distribution commenced with 2,000 books sent to Wewak and 480 books to Lae. Arrangements were made in East New Britain for distribution through schools and the Cocoa Board network with assistance from Sylvia in the Tavilo library.
- Concept papers on possible ACIAR Projects on Cocoa Quality and Processing, Expansion of the current ACIAR Cocoa Project to include four new provinces, and Highlands Cocoa Program were designed and sent to ACIAR Horticulture RPM, Irene Kernot.
- A table summarising completion of CMFT budwood gardens and nurseries in each Province was completed with input from Provincial Coordinators. A form to guide assessment of CMFT activities was designed with inputs from Dr George Curry and Dr Gina Koczberski. Phil, George and Gina had a Webex webinar meeting on 7 April to discuss assessment of CMFT activities and preparation of a paper on agricultural extension arising from the cocoa project.
- Training sessions for CMFTs on bookkeeping and small business management to be conducted by Kairak, UNRE, were organised for July 2020, depending on the COVID-19 lock down.

### Highlands

- On 28 February, John Konam and Phil met with George Curry and Ruben Sengere from the Coffee Research Institute in Goroka to discuss the final reviewing of the cocoa project and use of Solomons Solar Dryers for drying coffee.
- John and colleagues continued to develop a detailed proposal to expand work on cocoa development in Karimui, linked also to development of coffee, vanilla and vegetable farming in Chimbu Province.
- Phil met with Peter Bapiwai in Kokopo and had a long discussion about his work in introducing the latest recommended cocoa clones to his home area of Jimi Valley back in 2006 and the on-going work there strongly supported by the MP for Jimi, Mr Wake Goi.

### New Ireland

- On 4 March, Trevor and Phil travelled to Kavieng and had a meeting in the Cocoa Board office on 5 March with Nason Laki (Field Services) and John Joseph (REDS). It was realised that neither Field Services (responsible for inspection and registration of fermentaries and controlling cocoa marketing and exporting) nor Research Extension and Development Services (REDS) receives an operating budget from the Cocoa Board head office in Kokopo. Nason and John collaborate closely in their activities in liaising with the CMFTs plus the 110 Village Extension Workers in the New Ireland Provincial Government Cocoa Project. So far, 55 Village Extension Workers (VEWs) have received training from John. There are huge delays in getting SG2 hybrid seed from Tavilo (288,000 seed paid for a year ago are still outstanding), emphasising the urgent need to establish a hybrid seed garden in New Ireland.
- On 5 March, John, Nason, Trevor and Phil travelled for three hours by speed boat to Umbukul, on the north-western tip of New Hanover, to attend the Field Day there on 6 March organised by the CMFTs Gideon and Mina Kulepmu. The field day activities were assisted by CMFTs from other locations – Cathy Miroi from



Luapul, Lemaris from Panamecho, Joan Modi from Katedan and Raphael Kanamale from Langenia. DPI officers Bolomes Mazetmat, Barbara Makapa and Joy Walaun from Kavieng, and Nathaniel Takinai from New Hanover also assisted with the training and ran special evening work session for VEWs. Nason Laki advised the farmers on marketing of their dry beans, which is a major difficulty in the isolated islands. Anton Varvaliu and Urban Kabala from Cocoa Board in Tavilo presented evening sessions on cocoa management and processing of wet bean. Phil and Trevor presented an evening session summarising the work of the ACIAR project. Overall, it was a successful and enthusiastic meeting of many farmers (50 male, 10 female), CMFTs, VEWs and DPI and Cocoa Board officers. During the meetings tributes were paid to Kula Daslogo, who had drowned soon after departing from Umbukul on his tragic trip to Tingwon.



**Figure 8:** Demonstrating budding at field day, Umbukul



**Figure 9:** Leaving Umbukul Village, New Ireland

- The team travelled back to Kavieng on 7 March and drove to Bo Village near Namatanai on Sunday, visiting Cathy Miroi's recently completed solar dryer at Luapul on the way. The large group of CMFTs and DPI and Cocoa Board officers stayed with Alois and Jennifer Nason near the site of the Field Day held on Monday at Bo, led by CMFT Nick Misi. The Monday sessions, including some late-night sessions, were similar to those held at Umbukul. Several CMFTs from Namatanai District attended and helped with the training sessions, including Omalley from Sohun, Ignatius and Lydia Subul from Burau, Jeffry Kelly from Lemeris, Kalu Eliap from Karu, Joan Modi from Katedan, Robin Marti from Sena, Chris Tapit from Dampet, and George Tabakau from Marinzuan. Barbara Makapa held an evening meeting to encourage the work of VEWs. Jubilee from Panamecho attended and helped with the field day. Altogether it was another successful meeting of a wide group of farmers (80 men, 20 women, 20 children), CMFTs, VEWs and DPI and Cocoa Board officers. Many Cocoa Farmers Handbooks (Tok Pisin version) were distributed at both field days. On the trip back to Kavieng on Tuesday afternoon, Jeffry Kelly's budwood garden and nursery were visited.



**Figure 10:** Cathy Miroi's just completed solar dryer, Luapul Village, New Ireland



**Figure 11:** Field day at Bo Village, Namatanai District, New Ireland

- Roadblocks on the Boluminski Highway as part of the COVID-19 lock down have prevented further activity in New Ireland in late March and April, although John Joseph visited Laraibina and Luapul after getting permission to pass through.

### East Sepik

- Jonathan Poema, our CMFT at Paliama, rang Trevor to inform him that he had received PGK100,000 from the local Member of Parliament, Mr Kevin Isifu, to extend his work in the Paliama-Passam area as promised during the field day on 21 May 2019, attended by Irene Kernot. Jonathan is very active in extending the CMFT work to surrounding villages and will support the development of a cocoa project at Passam National High School adjacent to his village.

### Madang

- On 3-4 March, Bofeng Mebali and Tomoli Wowomi traveled by boat to Kumisanger Village on the Rai Coast to discuss with 20 farmers (6 women) preparations for a field day in May. Four cluster groups (Marakum, Lila, Bibi and Kuli) have been established out of the Kumisanger CMFT site and 90,000 rootstocks have been raised from five central nurseries. Over 9,000 budded and young clones have been raised and budding activity by farmers continues (20 plus farmers, 4 women) have been trained on budding skills. On 5 March, 220 budsticks were sourced from the budwood garden at Balama and taken to Kumisanger. On 3 March a meeting was held with Michael Kevei from the Sualu CMFT group. 11 cluster groups have been formed out of Sualu CMFT area with average of 30 member farmers. On 6 March, Ronny Sibert returned from Karkar Island where 12 farmers (4 women) are establishing a budwood garden at Mangar Village. On 9 March, 200 rootstocks were budded at Aihab Village (Amele area) using budwood from Tamane Village, during training of 15 farmers (2 women).
- On 11 March, an awareness meeting at Dalua Village in the Almami LLG of Bogia District (2 hour drive from Madang town) was organised by Mr Kevei and attended by 11 cluster farmer group leaders, representing over 300 farmers, project staff Aitul Weoh, Bofeng Mebali, Roni Sibert, Chris Anton and Steven Singa, and Cocoa Board officer Alex Williams. The farmer group leaders were informed that the ACIAR Project is a Training Project and so we are training farmers to use what they have in order to grow cocoa. We can train farmers on cost effective methods to produce clonal cocoa, manage plantings and produce quality cocoa beans for export. We are no longer encouraging the central nursery concept, which is costly, time consuming and requires intensive labour to establish and transport costs to move clones to the farmer's field for planting. A promise was made to conduct training in April that will cover above skills transfer to farmers and the setting up of budwood garden by groups in strategic locations for member's accessibility to clones.
- From 16 to 19 March, a four-day field training was conducted at Aihab Village (Amele area, Ward 15 of South Ambenob LLG of Madang District). Aihab is a farmer cluster group formed out of interests from cocoa project activities carried out at Tamane Village. This was one of the high cocoa producing areas during early 1980s when cocoa was first introduced. The father of the lead farmer, Babal Bibin, was a cocoa farmer who with others established many blocks of SG2 hybrids which are now senile and unproductive. With lack of cocoa knowledge, Babal has been struggling to maintain his cocoa blocks and generate income from them. Observing some of the cocoa management activities at Tamane Village has inspired him to form the cluster groups and invite the ACIAR Project team to run training so that the farmers in Aihab area will able to have cocoa skills and knowledge to revive cocoa production.
- Two days were spent on running Family Farm Team Development training by Mr Jacob Imaral and his wife, Christine, supported by project officers using two modules and following the example of the Family Farm Teams workshop at Alexishaven conducted by Dr Josie Saul and Robert Taula in 2019. A total of 152 people (23 women) attended the two-day session, 23 of them were females. Aitul Weoh, Bofeng Mebali, Tomoli Wowomi (DAL) and Alex William (Cocoa Board Field Services) assisted. The other two days were spent on cocoa field day activities including a visit to a CMFT site at Balama (Lesley Dadok) and also showcasing of pruning, budding and block rehabilitation by chupon budding Babal's cocoa block and nursery. The target participants for this training were the Bahilon group from Aihab village (50 farmers), Aihab group (36 farmers), Milhanag group (20 farmers), and Sein group (20 farmers). Another 20 interested farmers attended, and it was expected that 50 blocks would be rehabilitated after the training.
- The visit to Lesley's area included discussion at his fermentary/hot air drier and solar drier, intercropping of food crops with cocoa as temporary shading and during establishment of cocoa. Presentation on cocoa marketing by Tomoli Wowomi (DAL Officer) included discussion of Fair Trade cocoa exports and two Fair Trade farmers shared their experiences. Anton Higuai (CMFT Mabonob) discussed his experiences of good quality cocoa processing and the benefits to families. He also encouraged farmers to work hard themselves



and not to wait for outside assistance, which is often limited. He explained that this project is all about farmers helping themselves. Aitul Weoh presented a SWOT (Strength, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats) analysis, indicating farmers have to realise the resources they have, their weaknesses and other alternative means at their disposal for the development of family businesses. Bofeng Mebali presented his eight project pillars. Valuable comments were made by village elders including Ben Ulul and Babal Bubun. Omurup Kokurai, CMFT from Tamane Village, assisted with the training for the Bahilon Cocoa Development group.

- The main objectives of the training and field day were for the families to work together as a team in the cocoa blocks as a family business enterprise. The farmers were expected to acquire skills on budding both nursery rootstocks and budding for rehabilitation of trees in the field. Farmers also acquired knowledge of planting and management of the latest release CCI cocoa clones.
- On 21 March, the project team visited Daniel Sioba one of the original CMFTs set up at Erima Village to participate in the *haus krai* (funeral procession) for his wife who died while fishing at the mouth of the river near the village. On 23 March, all project field activities ceased because of a lockdown on travel due to concerns about the COVID-19 virus. A total of eight CMFT sites (Sualu, Bom, Balama, Balama, Rempi, Kumisanger, Aihab and Mangar) were visited during March. Inconsistent payment of salaries for Cocoa Board officers, lack of support for housing, lack of payment for casual staff, and the cost of fuel and vehicle maintenance have been hindering the project.



**Figure 12:** Budding demonstration in a mini field nursery in Madang Province

- The project team has developed contingency plans to allow work to progress during the COVID-19 pandemic, including preparation for research activities that will commence when travel within PNG is again possible.
- NARI Research Scientist Wilfred Wau will initiate a survey to assess virus and associated vector prevalence, virus host plant and beneficial insect presence in each of the project clean seed production locations. Diagnostic tools including the LAMP assays being developed in the project will be used in the survey.
- NARI Research Scientist Raywin Ovah will commence a detailed research activity in Port Moresby supermarkets and open markets to determine consumer purchasing behaviour and kaukau quality attributes desired by different segments of the consumer market. This data will inform commercial growers aiming to target higher value markets in PNG.



- The commercial insect-proof screenhouses managed by participating farmers have been replanted with clean vines supplied by NARI. While support visits to the farmers are currently not possible, training provided through the project has allowed the farmers to continue producing clean vines. Publicity from previously reported sales of vines has led to a lot of interest from potential buyers, but due to travel restrictions only local distribution is currently occurring.
- A successful community Organisational Strengthening workshop was held in Jiwaka (SWOFFA/JOFFC groups) in mid-March and a Nutrition/Food Processing training session was completed with one of the Asaro farmer communities in early March. Further community training is on hold, but the project team undertook some COVID-19 awareness training in markets prior to the first positive COVID-19 detection in PNG and before travel restrictions were imposed.
- Project team member Bennie Atigini recently graduated with a Diploma in Project Management from Divine Word University, an achievement that would not have been possible without the support on the project.

## Family Farm Teams

The Family Farm Teams project's work in PNG is continuing with a project *Gender equitable agricultural extension through institutions and youth engagement in Papua New Guinea* led by Jo Caffery from the University of Canberra in partnership with the Pacific Adventist University. This project's aim is to adapt and apply the Family Farm Teams model for institutions (churches) and youth engagement in PNG.

A second project will begin in 2020 to further develop the Family Farm Teams model in the Solomon Islands. This will be led by Deborah Hill also from the University of Canberra.

## Galip Nut



With great sadness we inform you of the loss of one of our Galip team members, Carson Waai, who passed away suddenly a fortnight ago after a short illness.

Carson started on Galip in 2015 and worked intimately in the development of the Galip Nut Co. that was established to demonstrate the commercial value of Galip in modern markets.

Carson made a massive contribution to the Galip Project during his time in the team. He helped develop the distribution and sales strategy in both East New Britain and Port Moresby with many buyers. Galip Nut Company customers highly regarded his calm to action manner and professionalism. He was always calm, extremely hardworking and dedicated in sometimes the most trying of times. He had this ability to quietly and without a lot of fuss overcome many the challenges that this journey in life threw at him.

Carson always spoke about the importance of helping Galip develop as a new cash crop (beyond being a subsistence crop) to help his community, his country and was driven with many new ideas about how this project could take Galip to the world and thereby change his life and the future of his young family.

For the project team he was a ray of light, a critical and highly trusted partner and a future leader to where the development of a Galip nut industry could be taken in the next few years of the project.

We are deeply grateful for his work, and his friendship and how much of himself that he gave to the galip team and the galip industry and we will all miss him very much.