



Green Story



Marcellino Tekege with his new pulper machine to peel this year's coffee crop



To him it is urgent and crucial to expand and take good care of his coffee plantations to meet the high cost of education now and in the future.

The coffee harvest season now usually coincides with the rainy season, making it difficult for him to go to his garden and harvest the coffee to its full potential. Marcellino's farm is across the creek and since there are no bridges connecting either side of the river, he cannot cross and has to wait until the river is not flooded to be able to go and harvest his coffee.

During the main harvest period last year he could only harvest 30 kg of coffee. In total, he only earned 10 million from coffee in 2020. "In 2018 I earned 70 million from selling coffee, but in 2019 and 2020 I could only get 10 million. Hopefully this year the weather is better than last year so I can harvest more beans than last year" he says.

Climate change has resulted in a shift in seasons and a longer rainy season which creates logistical difficulties for farmers in Modio, whose gardens are mostly located on difficult mountain slopes and for some necessitate crossing the river. Building resilience to climate change in such communities is now becoming an important issue that needs to be addressed with them as it has started to impact their lives.

Marcellino Tekege, A Story On Future Dreams & Climate Change

Marcellino Tekege, is a 27 year old coffee farmer who comes from Modio village, Central Mapia District, Dogiyai. He immediately started to prune his old coffee trees to enhance his trees productivity when GEG introduced it in 2018. As one of the most active young farmers in his village, GEG supported him with a new pulper this year.

For him personally, growing coffee is a serious business because he wants to provide a good future for his 3 year old son. Even though he was only educated until the second grade of junior high school, Marcellino understands the importance of investing in his child's education and future.

"I had a dream 3 days before my son was born that told me to name my son Eligius because he is going to be a doctor. My father also dreamt the same thing, he told me that my son will grow to be a young man with big dream so I need to be prepared and ready."



“The nutmeg sweets drying house in the Sekban village is a model and an asset for the community to improve the quality and hygiene of the nutmeg sweets products from this area”.

Improving the Quality of Fakfak Nutmeg Sweets by Using Solar Dryer Method

The Plantation Office of Fakfak Regency has been working together with the GEG program to assist the producers of nutmeg sweets in Sekban village, Pariwari sub-district by building seven solar dryers in the village. This village is a center for the production of nutmeg derivative products such as nutmeg sweets, jam and syrup.

The construction of this drying house replaces the old method commonly used by the community to dry nutmeg, which is by drying the nutmeg openly outside on both leaves and corrugated iron sheets without protection and is susceptible to contamination by dust, insects and even roaming poultry.

Solar drying technology using solar power ensures that the sun's heat is collected in the house so that the drying process can take place faster.

Nutmeg sweets dried in this way takes 1-2 days, which is much shorter than the traditional method which took up to 3-4 days. In addition, the use of a drying house also protects the nutmeg sweets from the rain.

Head of the Plantation Office of Fakfak Regency, Ir. Abdulrahim Fatamasya stated that “the nutmeg sweets drying house in the Sekban village is a model and an asset for the community to improve the quality and hygiene of the nutmeg sweets products from this area”.

Process efficiency and the improvement of product quality intend to increase consumer confidence in nutmeg sweets and other nutmeg derivative products from Fakfak district which of course are expected to increase the income of households in this area.



Optimising Papuan Youth Meaningful Engagement in the Commodity Value Chain in Papua Provinces

GEG is always looking for opportunities for youth in the different commodity value chains that the program supports. Below is a summary of the different opportunities that have been identified and followed up.

The first opportunity was to support the coffee café community to become a business incubator, and a source of information and training for other youths. Some of the coffee communities that have been involved in GEG activities and have received GEG support are the Coffee Numbay Community in Jayapura, the Manokwari Coffee Community and the Nabire Coffee Community more widely known as "Tukang Kopi Nabire".



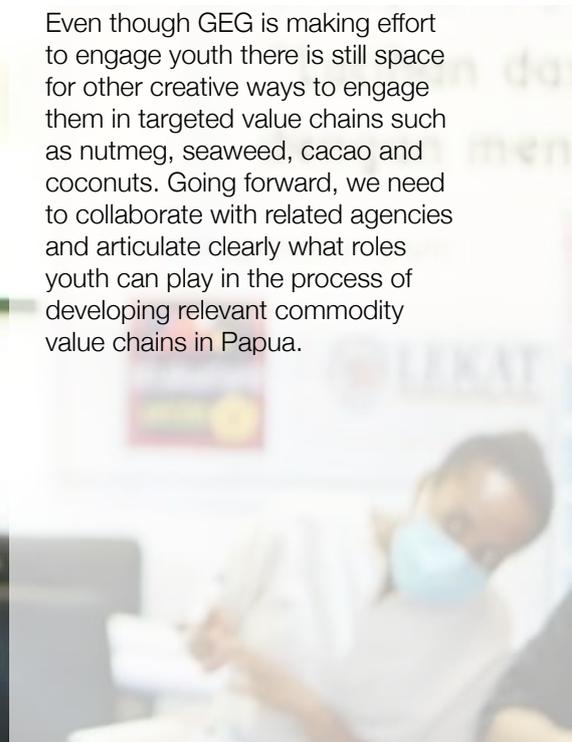
The role of the community in creating a coffee business climate, sharing information and skills as well as creating discussions about coffee cannot be underestimated. The Manokwari Coffee Community for example has played a very important role where they not only embraced the barista training alumni held by the GEG program in 2020 into their business and community activities but also carried out basic barista training for Papuan youth in Manokwari and Sorong as well as latte art competitions that drives the life of the coffee world in Manokwari.

Secondly GEG is providing training and business clinic services for new entrepreneurs via GARAP.

GEG trained and equipped Yan Pepuho, a GARAP staff member, to provide business clinic services for Papuan youths by helping them developing their Business Model Canvas and address issues related to their business.

In addition, GEG is collaborating with universities to prepare students to become new entrepreneurs and business mentors for other Papuan entrepreneurs. GEG's latest effort is to collaborate with Accounting Lab of Cenderawasih University to hold a training called SUPER-Student Preneurs to prepare 100 Papuan students to be new entrepreneurs and business mentors using the ILO GET (Gender Entrepreneurship Together) Ahead and Financial Education module.

Even though GEG is making effort to engage youth there is still space for other creative ways to engage them in targeted value chains such as nutmeg, seaweed, cacao and coconuts. Going forward, we need to collaborate with related agencies and articulate clearly what roles youth can play in the process of developing relevant commodity value chains in Papua.



Collaborating to produce Cacao seed-stock for the next thirty years

On April 6, 2021, the representatives of GEG program and local government planted the first trees of MCC-02 cocoa in Takwa Bangun village, Yapsi District. The Karya Tani Cocoa Group from Takwa Bangun has been working very hard to clear and prepare the land since September last year.

This plantation is using seven hectares of village treasury land owned by the Village-Owned Enterprise (BUMKAM) of which five hectares will be used as a seed source, one hectare for grafting material and the other hectare will be used for office buildings and roads.

There is considerable pressure on the existing plantation as a seed source for rehabilitation and expansion of cocoa plantations in Jayapura district. Unfortunately, due to this pressure farmers have started to excessively remove grafting material from their own cocoa trees which has stressed the trees and is affecting productivity. The new plantation aims to address this challenge and provide a source of seed and grafting materials.

In his remarks Mr. Karel Yarangga, Head of the Plantation Division of the Papua Province Agriculture and Food Service, stated that,

“it is our responsibility to rebuild what has been victorious in the past considering 40% of the total area of cocoa cultivation in Papua Province is in Jayapura Regency.”

He hoped that we can all together maintain and develop this new asset. This plantation will start to be productive in the second year and can provide the needed grafting materials and seeds for Jayapura district and Papua province for the next 30 years.





Green Economic Growth Programme for Papua Provinces

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