



Green Story



Yulianus Sem and the First Fruiting Clonal Cocoa Trees in Yakasip Village

Yulianus Sem is a passionate 65 year old man from Yakasip village, Namblong, Jayapura district. Since the Tabiab cocoa farmer group was established in 2019, he has been given the responsibility to lead the group which he has been doing with full commitment to this day.

Since 2019, the Tabiab farmer group has followed trainings in good agricultural practices, received thousands of clonal cocoa seedlings and assistance from the GEG team. However, receiving free cocoa seedlings does not automatically stimulate and move the community to replant their cocoa trees. Mama Margaretha Sanggraway shared that since her garden was attacked by pests, she had lost her enthusiasm and it was hard to start over again. She and others did not believe that new seedlings will make a difference.

Seeing this, Yulianus took the initiative to plant a lot of the cocoa seedlings that the group received in order to set an example for other community members. He believes that by seeing results will rebuild his community's enthusiasm for cultivating cocoa.

To date, Yulianus has planted 1574 cacao trees from a total of 6200 seedlings distributed by GEG to his village. Thanks to his positive vision, his cocoa garden has begun to flower and even 3 of his trees have started to bear fruits. His trees are the first fruiting cocoa trees in Yakasip village.

Yulianus's cocoa trees have become the source of motivation for other families in the village to replant cocoa. Mama Yuliana Sunday is one of them ; "Mr. Chairman's garden is on the side of the road and I always pass it every time I went to the garden; seeing his cocoa trees now bearing fruits is motivating me to plant and take care of mine too. " Yulianus' story emphasized the meaningful role of key people in the village in complementing GEG interventions by taking the first steps and consistently setting an example for other residents to move forward together.

This story is an important part of the big picture in encouraging farmers to rehabilitate their lands and crops in Papua. It is very common for farmers in Papua to have become traumatised by the experience of losing investment they have made in their lands to pests and diseases particularly with Cacao. Under these conditions and lack of access to field extension support from government or private sector, the importance of lead farmers in providing role models to others cannot be underestimated.



the necessary certification so that GEG can utilize their skills to assist communities in 14 different locations in Papua and West Papua Provinces.

Kurniawan Patma, one of the training participants and a member of staff for the Papua Institute for Capacity Building (LEKAT) and a lecturer in Accounting Department of Cenderawasih University, stated that the two weeks of training provided opportunities for participants to learn a lot from coaches who have a long track record.

Creating a New Cadre of Trainers for Household Financial Management for Papuans

The GEG Program conducted a Training of Trainers (ToT) for 17 facilitators on household financial management training for Papuan communities. This training was conducted from February 24 to March 13, 2021 in Jayapura.

The training focused on household financial management training based on the Gender Entrepreneurship Together (GET) Ahead & Financial Education (GAFE) module developed by the

International Labor Organization (ILO).

After this training, the 15 participants are required to get hands on experience by conducting household financial management training in several different community groups for evaluation purposes. This is the requirement to be certified trainers.

It is expected that these 15 participants will be able to obtain

According to Kurniawan, the trainers provided practical inputs to the participants based on their experience including important learning materials that are very applicable to micro, small and medium enterprises in Papua such as marketing, doing simple bookkeeping and how to properly manage household finances.

Going forward, aside from helping the GEG program, he plans to use the Cenderawasih University Accounting Lab as a business incubator for students; either to prepare the students to become trainers for micro, small and medium enterprises or to prepare students themselves to become young entrepreneurs.





New Home Industry Production Licence for the Seaweed Producer Group 'Aitumieri' in Maripi, Manokwari

The seaweed producer group 'Aitumieri' in Maripi, Manokwari was formed in 2020. It is designed as a hub for producer groups in Wondama Bay district. This group consists of 4 women who are expected to be a resource to provide information, training and other needed assistance for women groups in the villages.

Since receiving training from GEG in October 2020, the Aitumieri Group has been actively producing seaweed derivative products to be sold around their neighbourhood and has played a key role in introducing seaweed derivative products in the form of crackers,

sticks, sweets and seaweed biscuits to the people of Manokwari. To date, they have generated 10 million rupiah by selling seaweed products.

In order to further expand the market for seaweed derivative products, GEG supported them to obtain a new 'Home Industry Production License' (PIRT). This license is a permit granted by the Agency of Drug and Food Control to micro, small and medium enterprises to assure consumers on standards and product safety. This license also acts as an official permit for the production and distribution of the products in the community.

The group got their new PIRT on March 15, 2021. Currently, they have two different PIRTs, one for seaweed product and another one for banana chips. By holding these licences, this group will be able to access other market players such as Swiss-belhotel Manokwari which has started receiving and selling products from GEG supported partners since last year and Anggi Mart Manokwari who has been offering cooperation with Aitumieri group back in February 2021.

The Challenges of Creating Coffee Market in Nabire District, Papua

Nabire Regency is one of the main and closest markets for Modio coffee which comes from Modio and Putaapa villages in Central Mapia district, Dogiyai Regency. Unfortunately, even though Nabire is close to coffee-producing areas, drinking coffee is not something that is deeply rooted in people's daily lives. This is why Nabire Coffee Community sets the intention of creating a coffee culture in this city as their priority.

Abdul Chandra, the leader of Nabire coffee community, stated that generally customers in his cafe see coffee as bitter drink and tend to order coffee with milk instead of black coffee. He explains that he feels it's a responsibility to introduce Papuan coffee and its rich and amazing flavour profile to the people of Nabire. However, effort to do so currently face several major challenges.



The first challenge is the high price of Papuan coffee beans which makes it difficult for some business owners to make a full transition to use Papuan coffee. Currently, the price of roasted Modio coffee beans is around IDR 250,000-350,000/ kg in Nabire. Meanwhile, the price of packaged roasted coffee beans is around IDR 450,000-600,000 / kg.

Erick Parando, owner of the Nabire Rock n Roll Coffee Cafe, said that until now he still uses Toraja coffee as a mixture when he brews. If he only uses Papuan coffee beans his profit margin is small. This was supported by other café owners such as Aan from Sandiwara Kopi.

The second challenge is the weak understanding of the farmers regarding market conditions downstream. During the pandemic, downstream coffee sales decreased in volume and there was an

accumulation of coffee beans stock. Consequently Adi, the owner of Corner 27 Nabire, can only buy coffee from Andreas Tekege at a price of IDR. 100,000 / kg, down from the usual price of IDR. 120,000 /kg.

This required Andreas to buy coffee from farmers for under IDR. 100,000/ kg. Farmers are not yet in a position to understand price fluctuations and see the price of IDR 100,000 kg as fair given their labour costs and isolated locations.

In response to this market dynamic GEG Program has distributed two coffee sorting machines to local collectors in Modio to simplify the coffee sorting process that was previously done manually. This is done to streamline the sorting process to produce coffee with different levels of quality and prices. The focus this year will be to differentiate and offer these different grades of coffee beans and to ensure that price is linked to quality.

Currently, the farmers have agreed to sell their coffee at a price of IDR. 70,000/kg for medium quality coffee and 80,000/kg for premium quality coffee to the local collectors. Going forward, efforts to stimulate and grow the downstream coffee market will continue to be carried out by the Nabire coffee community. However, it is down to the effort to bridge information and good understanding between upstream and downstream that will ensure the growth and development of coffee culture in Nabire.



Collaboration Between GEG Program and Fisheries Department of Wondama Bay District



The seaweed cultivation program in Wondama Bay district could not have happened without the active role of the Wondama Bay Fisheries Department. Since the beginning of the GEG intervention in Wondama Bay in 2018, cooperation and assistance from the Fisheries Service has greatly helped our team and the communities. The concrete results of the collaboration between GEG and the Fisheries Department can be seen in the following strategies.

The first is the use of the strategic area development map of the Fisheries Department to determine new areas for seaweed cultivation. Several villages recommended by this agency include Menarbu, Kayop, Aisandami and Jop villages.

These villages receive assistance and investment from the Regency Fisheries Service in the form of training and cultivation support equipment which shows the government's commitment and expectations for the community.

The second is the identification of locations for building new warehouses to accommodate the seaweed harvest and facilitate seaweed logistics in the Wondama Bay area. The four points decided were on Nusrowi Island, Rumberpoon District, Yomber Village in Yoswar District, Aisandami Village in Teluk Duari District and Yop in Windesi District. The construction of new warehouses is being proposed to be supported by the Ministry of Villages.

Thirdly, creating a family-based seaweed development strategy and plan. Mr Dominggus Masyewi, Head of the Fisheries Department, stated that "the formation of small groups in the village is more directed towards family-based groups consisting of fathers, mothers and children because this group is more stable and does not easily sway like groups consisting of a mix of community members. I encourage this because there are many experiences where farmer groups in Papua generally break up easily due to internal conflicts that occur among their members."

This collaboration has concrete benefits that go beyond financial assistance and equipment and improve resource and time efficiency from sharing information and expertise around local conditions.



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