



EKONOMI HIJAU
GREEN ECONOMIC GROWTH PROGRAMME FOR PAPUA PROVINCES

Green Economic Growth Programme for Papua Provinces “Ekonomi Hijau” closing September 2021

After three years of successful implementation funded by the UK government, The Green Economic Growth Programme for Papua Provinces, locally known as GEG or Ekonomi Hijau will cease its program interventions by September 10th 2021. This decision was made by the British Embassy, Jakarta on 20th May 2021, based on a worldwide review of UK's development aid which became necessary due to the negative impacts of the pandemic on the British economy and resulting reductions in UKAID budgets.

Over the past 3 years, the GEG program has worked in close collaboration with Indonesian national and provincial authorities who have themselves committed co-funding, as have green and socially conscious investors from the private sector. The GEG program team based in Jayapura are now working to consolidate the gains made by the GEG beneficiaries over the coming 3 months of close down. To do this, the GEG program team are working closely with national and provincial counterparts in Papua and West Papua, and with our many beneficiaries. The British Embassy remains supportive of the GEG programme objectives and is in discussions with Ministry of Villages to mitigate the impact of the closure to the extent possible.

In summary, this has meant that the program's implementation period of five years has been shorter than initially planned. In three years, with the support of national and local government partners, the program has strengthened green commodity development of Coffee, Cacao, Coconut Products, Nutmeg Products, Sago Products and Seaweed. It has engaged producers and enabled Papuan entrepreneurs to emerge, learn and deliver services and products throughout the selected green value chains. GEG is proud of its contribution to the Papuan local economy, based on sustainable land use management and green business values. Many of the main actors in these value chains including the farmers, the entrepreneurs and the intermediate service providers (ISP) still need support to ensure long-term sustainability of the prior interventions and the program team will seek to identify relevant opportunities for this with other organisations, business partners and donors as far as possible in the coming months.

The GEG program team would like to thank the Ministry of Villages, Development of Disadvantaged Regions, and Transmigration and all local key government partners in Papua and West Papua, the Papuan farmers, entrepreneurs, businesses and organisations that have actively supported the implementation of the program since 2017. The program has reached over 47,000 local Papuans and smallholders and created a foundation and knowledge base to grow the green economy of the two Papua provinces further. Resources developed by the program will remain available and can be downloaded on the program website until March 2022.

www.ekonomihijaupapua.org

The final edition of this newsletter will be July 2021 and celebrate some of the beneficiaries and partners that the program has worked with that have been instrumental to bringing about change. In August we will also produce a GEG learning brief that will highlight some of our key lessons learned during the implementation of GEG and this will be distributed electronically and via WhatsApp to those of you who receive this newsletter.



Green Story



Wellem Menarbu: Generating Seaweed Propagules for Menarbu Village

Wellem Menarbu is a 56 year old seaweed farmer from Menarbu village, Roon District, Wondama Bay district, West Papua province. Since early this year he has been actively cultivating seaweed in his village. Seeing the successful seaweed harvest in Aisandami village, he decided to approach the company, UD Nadifah, to get additional propagules for his village.

Initially he received 24 kg of propagules from Aisandami which he managed to propagate to 120 kg within a month. He then got an additional 279 kg of propagules from UD Nadifah from which he has been able to harvest 1.3 tonnes in a month.

UD Nadifah bought the propagules he harvested for Rp. 700/kg so that he earned Rp. 1,000,000 for his hard work. Currently he is propagating that 1.3 tonnes to be distributed to other members of his village.

Even though he has been cultivating seaweed for 5 months it is primarily to produce propagules to meet the heavy demand from other community members. He has requested the government to support him in the next growing cycle so that he can meet that demand and then produce dry seaweed to sell himself.

"Our society is different from people that live outside Papua, they need to see evidence and feel the benefits of seaweed before they will believe and want to take part in it. That is why I want to be an example to get them interested and willing to be involved in cultivating seaweed,"

Wellem Menarbu
Seaweed Farmer Menarbu Village,
Wondama

Mr. Wellem's target is for each family group in his village to get a minimum of 500 kg of propagules each which then can be cultivated to 4 to 5 times the yield which is around to 2-2.5 tonnes of wet seaweed in a month. If properly dried, that wet seaweed can generate 750 kg of dried seaweed. With the price of seaweed of IDR.6000/kg, they can generate a minimum income of IDR. 4.500.000/ month. This is what Wellem is trying to achieve with a large number of propagules.

Currently, the Fisheries Department of Wondama Regency is approaching the government and seaweed farmers in Kaimana and Sorong Regencies to obtain additional seaweed propagules. This was done to respond to the wishes of farmers like Wellem who is full of motivation to improve the economy of his village through seaweed.



Karya Tani Farmer Cacao Collectors Group Received Information on Bank Loans from BRI

As part of the program's support for group businesses, the GEG program facilitated a visit from Bank BRI from Lereh branch to Takwa Bangun village in Jayapura to meet with Karya Tani farmer group. This is one of the farmers groups that GEG has supported to become Cacao collectors – buying and selling Cacao locally.

This visit was carried out after the bank received information from the GEG program regarding the cocoa trading business run by five of GEG's partner farmer groups in the villages of Takwa Bangun, Nawa

Mulya, Bring, Sarmai Bawah and Sebum. After the first visit to the Karya Tani farmer group in Takwa Bangun, BRI Bank will schedule another information sharing session on bank loans for the other four groups later this year.

The purpose of the visits is to provide information on the conditions for obtaining business loans for the Cacao collectors. This is crucial step to take in order to anticipate the high capital requirements needed by the collectors in 2022, after clonal cocoa trees start producing.

There is already a fairly high demand for fermented cocoa beans from companies outside Papua. One of the requests came from PT Agroforestry Indonesia who hope to get a minimum of 3 tonnes of fermented cocoa beans/month.

To meet this demand, the five groups will need additional total capital of at least Rp. 150,000,000 in 2022 so they can buy and sell the cacao that will be harvested from the clonal trees planted this year.





Model of VCO Production In Numfor

VCO producers in Numfor do not have a regular schedule to produce VCO. Throughout the year there are three main times when they produce VCO in large quantities, which is at the time they have to pay for their children's school fees. This usually falls on January, July, approaching Christmas every year. Generally, VCO is regarded as a high value product that can make quick cash only when needed.

Paula Mambobo, a VCO producer from Koryakam village, says that "with VCO we can easily get IDR. 5,000,000-6,000,000." The same statement was also said by Mama Lebrina Yeninar from Syoribo village who made IDR. 6,000,000 from selling VCO last December to pay for what she needed at Christmas.

Due to this irregular production pattern it is challenging to link these producers with the retail market who require high and consistent volumes of VCO. Currently the Numfor producers mostly sell to family networks and local public markets.

To ensure the further development of VCO business in this area, there

are several aspects that needs to be taken into account by VCO producers, businessmen and the local government.

Monitoring the product quality.

VCO has been produced regularly by 21 producer groups in Numfor Island. These 21 groups have received their product permits from November 2020. However, the product quality has not been consistent in several villages in Numfor and therefore need to be monitored regularly.

It is expected that the local government can keep monitoring these 21 groups, checking up the expiry date of their permits and releasing new permits for new producer groups on the island.

Ensuring the availability of the packaging. Because Numfor Island is isolated from the main land, they have limited access to good quality bottles for their VCO. To purchase bottles, they need to travel to Manokwari by plane or by ship. They need 30 minutes to get to Manokwari by plane or 6 hours by ship from Numfor. In May 2021 GEG program distributed 10,000

bottles to one of the businessmen in Numfor that is expected to continue the sale of these bottles to ease the access of VCO producers to the packaging they need.

Strengthening the groups of VCO producers. The producers have no access to retail market just yet but they have expressed interest in this. However, in order to achieve this the strengthening of VCO producer groups needs to be taken seriously to ensure that they can work together in fulfilling the demand of VCO products from the retail market.

Strengthening the financial management of the individuals producer and producer groups. Even though the Numfor producers do not produce VCO on a regular basis, the economic benefits to households are clear. It is expected that with good financial management, they can gradually plan their VCO production and set aside their money regularly for their household needs such as paying their children school fees and preparation approaching Christmas time.

Collaboration Between GEG Program and Jayapura City's Chamber of Commerce and Industry to Support Q'Tong Pu Kopi

The GEG Program works closely with the Jayapura City's Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Kadin) to support Q'Tong Pu Kopi. Q'Tong Pu Kopi is a street coffee initiative driven by pastor Naomi Selan. Since 2020, GEG has supported Q'Tong Pu Kopi through several ways.

The initial assistance provided by the program was in the form of barista training for 12 street youths, which was followed by the provision of 2 container boxes and 1 coffee cart along with coffee equipment that has been used by these young people to sell coffee. This June the GEG program continued its support by providing five new coffee carts for Q'Tong Pu Kopi.

The five new coffee carts provided are expected to further strengthen the Q'Tong pu Kopi business in 2021 and absorb more youths who live on the streets into this business in order to provide alternative jobs that can bring changes in their mindset, mentality and future.

Kadin as an institution that functions to drive the economic development in the city of Jayapura is committed to continuing to establish relationships and discussions with Q'Tong Pu Kopi and ensure that the city government is aware of the existence of this social enterprise.

Kadin recently facilitated a visit from Meki Nawipa, the Regent of Paniai to Q'Tong Pu Kopi. After visiting and seeing the assistance provided by the GEG program, he personally stated his commitment to support Q'Tong Pu Kopi with an additional 5 carts and coffee equipment worth IDR.100,000,000.

Going forward, Kadin will coordinate an event to launch the Q'Tong pu Kopi coffee carts. This activity will be conducted by involving the Jayapura City Government and is planned to be held on July 7, 2021. It is expected that the involvement of Kadin and the Jayapura City Government can provide Q'Tong Pu Kopi with consistent assistance.





Green Economic Growth Programme for Papua Provinces

Jalan Ruko Pasifik Permai Dok II No G5 Jayapura, Papua



ekonomihjaupapua



Ekonomi Hijau Papua



www.ekonomihjaupapua.org

