



# COFFEE INDUSTRY CORPORATION LTD

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## Coffee comp staged for the 4th year

**Also inside this issue:**

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- \* **Coffee leaf rust losing its resistance: WCR**

### MISSION STATEMENT

To increase financial returns, productivity, production and market access for female and male coffee farmers and others along the value chain, with motivated, competent and continuously learning actors.

We acknowledge the project management unit (PMU) of Coffee Industry Corporation's Productive Partnerships in Agriculture Project (CIC-PPAP) for financing the printing of this quarterly edition.

**COVER PHOTO:**

*Overseas and national cuppers tasting coffee samples at the national coffee competition in Port Moresby.*

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# Coffee comp runs for the 4th year

OBURA Wonenara Coffee Cooperative (Habina Resource Centre-PPAP) is the overall winner for the 2018 PNG Coffee Cupping Competition.

This was announced at the 2018 PNG coffee cupping competition closing ceremony on Friday September 14th, 2018 at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Port Moresby.

The ceremony was witnessed by government dignitaries, sponsors, farmers and industry stakeholders.

The weeklong coffee event commenced on September 10th and ended on Friday 14th September, 2018.

Coffee samples from 67 groups were assessed by five national judges and seven overseas Q-graders over a period of four days. The judges carefully examined the coffee samples, taking into account various aspects of taste and quality based on the Specialty Coffee Association of America (SCAE) cupping protocol to give a score out of 100 points.

For this year's top 10 awards, Habina Resource Centre-PPAP scored the highest with 85.45 points followed by Kamora of Obura Wonenara, EHP (85.41 points), Untoa Kosa of Obura Wonenara, EHP (85.32 points), Pandai of Enga (85.27 points), Tibunofi of Kainantu, EHP (85.23), Obura Wonenara Coffee Cooperative Society (Bara Buna Resource Centre-PPAP) with 85.16 points, Besser block holder of Obura Wonenara, EHP (85.01 points), Rikarika of Henganofi, EHP with 84.93, Roots # 1 (Monpi) of Okapa, EHP with 84.91, and Timil (Kosem PPAP Minz) of Jiwaka Province with 84.73 points.

Other 10 coffee groups who scored within the range of 84 and 83 points were also recognized in this year's awards. The three category awards were given as Golden Cup Award, Consistent Cup Award and Aroma Cup Award. Groups that scored within the 85 range received the Golden Cup Award, followed by groups within the 84 range given the Consistent Cup Award and Aroma Cup Award was awarded to groups that scored within the 83 range.

Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC) Chief Executive Officer Charles Dambui said Golden Cup Awardees will each receive K20,000, Consistent Cup Awardees will each receive K15, 000 and Aroma Cup Awardees will each receive K5,000 each, all tied to quality improvement projects.

Mr Dambui said under CIC's tree to cup policy, the coffee competition began in 2014. The objective was to create an avenue to lead farmers to the markets.



He added that the survival of the coffee industry depends on all stakeholders, and farmers must be our forefront, to ensure they get value for their efforts.

Department of Agriculture and Livestock Minister Benny Allan acknowledged the effort of all overseas judges who were at the closing ceremony. "Your participation in this competition is not only to find the best coffee grower in the country but promoting PNG coffee in terms of quality," he said.

He said one way to see our quality improving was through such avenues like this to connect farmers to buyers.

Mr Allan said that he wanted to see production increase in the years to come and one of the things he anticipates is to strengthen the current number of extension officers' ratio to farmers.

The CIC acknowledges the invaluable support of partners and sponsors towards hosting the 2018 coffee competition: GoPNG, Express Freight Management, Investment Promotion Authority, Bolaven Farms, GrainPro Philippines, Bendig Ecological Coffee Mills, Proceso Puro, Liberty Coffee PTE Ltd, New Guinea Highlands Coffee, PPAP-Coffee Component, and major sponsor Pacific Horticultural, Agricultural and Market Access Program.



**Golden Cup Awardees with Vice-Minister for Agriculture and Member for Goroka Henry Ame and Rigo MP, Lekwa Gure at the closing ceremony in Port Moresby.**



**a) Overseas cuppers Frederick Lullfitz of Seven Seeds, Melbourne and Krystal Yap of Hong Kong tasting coffee samples at the competition in Port Moresby b) Samuel Raffana of Bomai Coffee being interviewed by reporters.**

## Coffee App fast tracks cup results

NATIONAL and international coffee judges at the 2018 coffee cupping competition were able to use Cropster Cup application for the first time to speed up the cupping process.

Thanks to Pacific Horticultural and Market Access Program (PHAMA) for making this possible through their network.

The Cropster Cup is an online application which enables cuppers to input results as fast as possible. The application creates a free environment for a group of cuppers/ tasters to score coffee samples and tabulate results with ease. Cuppers are able to submit results to the Head Judge electronically and the system automatically calculates and summarizes results in real-time.

CIC Senior Quality Officer Rose Romalus said the application has taken this year's competition to another level by enabling each judge to submit on time points and the summarised results for each session available without any delay.

In previous competitions, an Excel sheet was used to enter data from cupping notes to scores and manually add scores which took up time. With this application, it has saved time and allowed cuppers to concentrate more on tasting different coffee samples than worrying to write on papers and manually adding scores.

CIC General Manager Steven Tumae thanked PHAMA for making this possible in the 2018 coffee competition. He said everything in today's modern world is going digital and for this application to be introduced at this event is a plus for the competition.



*National and overseas judges being assisted by overseas judge Terence Tay of Liberty Coffee-Singapore at the recently concluded coffee competition in Port Moresby.*





# Coffee Industry to adopt holistic CBB approach

By LEO WAFIWA

THE coffee berry borer (CBB) is here to stay and the challenge is how best we manage the pest and learn to live with it, says an international expert on the deadly pest.

Dr Juan F. Barrera (PhD) who was engaged to provide advice to Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC) and NAQIA (National Agriculture Quarantine Investigation Authority) on the pest says the management approach used must be holistic but with focus on smallholder growers.

“You cannot fight or manage CBB alone.”

“Resources must be spread out not only on CBB but other factors such as quality and production improvement to counteract CBB incidences.”

Dr Barrera was sharing his preliminary findings or observations on the pest with CIC management and staff including NAQIA on Monday 20 August, 2018 in Goroka.

The CBB expert is engaged on a 30-day consultancy service advising CIC/NAQIA on how best to control and manage CBB infestation in the affected areas.



*Dr Barrera second from left (front row) with CIC management and staff.*

of the CBB pest.

The chief executive officer of CIC Charles Dambui said some of the findings from Dr Barrera’s field assessment will guide CIC to re-strategise its approaches and appropriate resources to counteract spread of CBB in the long-run.

“To effectively minimize the incidence of pest infestation level, CIC must have an income revenue stream enough to fund CBB all year round.”

Mr Dambui was grateful of Dr Barrera’s findings and is looking forward to the final presentation that will include other contributing factors to coffee production in the affected areas.

He visited some infested gardens in Eastern Highlands and Jiwaka Provinces with the local CBB team headed by Dr Mark Kenny, general manager (research and extension). The CBB expert also had consultations with focus groups, coffee exporters and some farmers.

Dr Barrera also praised CIC/NAQIA efforts in restricting the pest to the affected areas.

“The infestation level at affected sites had dropped significantly and I encourage the CIC/NAQIA to implement control measures undertaken on the ground.”

Dr Barrera also suggested for adequate funding of coffee research facilities at Aiyura to conduct research on a collaborative approach with overseas experts on infestation level of CBB at different altitudes in the country.

Dr Barrera will do a final presentation on his findings before submitting a report with recommendations on the management strategies

# Coffee is Rapidly Losing Its Resistance to Rust, Says WCR Science Director

By NICK BROWN

THE coffee industry has traditionally and conveniently placed coffee varieties and cultivars into one of two simple categories when considering plants' natural resistance to leaf rust disease: 1) resistant, or 2) susceptible. The line between the two blurred in a publicly revelatory way when the Arabica variety lempira, which was widely planted throughout Honduras, was discovered last year to have lost its resistance to leaf rust.

Now comes an even more frightening revelation: The scientific director of the world's leading coffee research organization, World Coffee Research, says that rust resistance is expected to break down in "most" of the varieties previously considered rust-resistant in as soon as five to 10 years in "many countries."

WCR Scientific Director Christophe Montagnon delivered the prediction at this past week's 27th biennial conference of the Association for Science and Information on Coffee (ASIC), which took place in Portland, Oregon.

Coffee producers have been battling leaf rust throughout different parts of the globe for decades, yet it was a 2012 epidemic that spread throughout Latin America that spurred widespread action on the part of researchers and other actors throughout the sector. On the whole, farms affected by rust lost 50-80 percent of their production volumes, WCR estimates, creating stark economic conditions that in many cases has led to extreme poverty, farm abandonment, millions of job losses and human migration.

Coffee farmers who chose to reinvest in coffee replanted with the hopes that within three to five years, their new rust-resistant crops would be producing at previously recorded volumes or higher. As many of those farmers are now seeing returns on that replanting, it seems the forecast of rust-resistance was misguided.

According to WCR, the Timor Hybrid has provided the genetic base for plants promoted as rust-resistant for the past 30 years, yet the group now says the "scientific community" agrees that the Timor Hybrid's resistance is quickly breaking down through a process called "introgression." Said WCR, "[Montagnon] explained that the introgressed varieties known as Catimors and Sarchimors that resisted rust for 30 years are no longer resisting."

Within this conversation, WCR does have its own research agenda, primarily involving the nonprofit group's role in the development and field-testing of F1 hybrids. In testing and in the field thus far, F1s have been proven to demonstrate excellent quality and yields, while also promising increased rust-resistance and resilience to climate-related stress.

In addition to genetic and technological developments, the organization is urging producers to take a kind of holistic approach to plant health.

"A crucial part of rust-control strategies going forward, according to WCR and others in the scientific community, is the promotion of plant health in coffee production, which has been overlooked in the past," WCR said in the announcement, adding, "Factors contributing to plant health include good maintenance, soil conservation, adequate plant nutrition, and adequate shading. A recent study from WCR and CIRAD recently showed that good fertilization can be as effective as spraying fungicide in protecting a genetically susceptible coffee to rust. Furthermore, it is acknowledged that one of the main reasons for the 2012 rust crisis in Central America was farmers' reduced maintenance of their trees, itself due to low prices of coffee."

*The author is the editor of Daily Coffee News by Roast Magazine.*

*Source: Daily Coffee News*

<https://dailycoffeenews.com/2018/09/24/coffee-is-rapidly-losing-its-resistance-to-rust-says-wcr-science-director/>



**Coffee leaf rust swept over Latin America in 2012, and the economic reverberations continue to be felt today. Photo courtesy of World Coffee Research.**

# CIC to light up rural Omuru village, sub-station

By LEO WAFIWA

SOME 1,000 plus inhabitants of Omuru sub-station in the South Ambenob LLG of Madang District will soon receive electricity to their homes, thanks to Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC).

A 200KVA (kilo-volt-ampere) diesel generator which can generate 2000 kilo-volt electricity was installed early this year for this purpose under a major face-lift exercise to the Robusta coffee research station there.

Some connection and repair works were undertaken on the genset and power lines on Friday 27 and Saturday 28 July, 2018.

The Omuru community including mothers and children were delighted to see lights connected to some power poles came on in the evening on Friday when the generator was switched on.

Overseeing this small but significant operation was CIC Admin Manager Jackson Pepeto who chatted with some fathers and youths and reminded them to take ownership of the services for their benefit.

"This is an initiative of CIC. Please look after the facilities for your children to have extra quality time in the evening to study to do their homework under bright lights."

"This is for you. Look after it. You can also charge your mobile phones," said Mr Pepeto.

The genset was purchased from AGMARK Ltd Lae and installed in February 2018. It can supply continuous electrical power at variable loads. Also, there is no limitation on the annual hours of operation.

Omuru station is located about 25 kilometres from Madang town.

The chief executive officer of CIC Charles Dambui said CIC is introducing some major renovation or changes to Omuru sub-station that will also benefit the local communities.

The CEO said the repair and maintenance work under phase 1 include a facelift to three staff houses. The second phase involved the construction of a H65 or a high post four-bedroom house, an office and a storeroom.

He added that the installation of the genset to provide electricity to the station and also to the surrounding communities covering two square kilometres was the third phase.

"We are in discussion with Madang Provincial Government for a partnership arrangement to supply clean water to the communities," said Mr Dambui.

Community leaders Meh Baye and Steven Malmal were very grateful to CIC to recognise the communities at Omuru.

"We're are very happy for CIC to recognise us with this electricity service which we have not seen for many years", said the leaders in Tok Pisin.

The station was established by the colonial administration in the 1960s where several agricultural researches have been conducted at this facility.

It was transferred from the Cocoa Coconut Institute to the CIC following a National Government decision in 2014 for the coffee regulating agency to develop a research, development and resource centre that would boost the up-scaling of robusta coffee production in lowland areas.

Omuru as a research station mass propagate Robusta Omuru 1 that can produce high quality cherries to distribute to growers in the coastal region.

Meanwhile, the CIC has appointed a local man who works as Omuru Station Research Supervisor to take charge of the research station facilities.

"A local will understand better the culture and values of the people and can deal effectively with any rising or pressing issues on hand for smooth operation and running of the research station," said Mr Pepeto.

Formalization of his appointment will take place soon.

# Factory to unlock Sepik coffee potential

By LEO WAFIWA

THE key to unlocking the potential of any crop is the availability of reliable road and market access.

This is the rationale to relocate the coffee factory from Wewak to Maprik in East Sepik.

According to Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC), the current annual return or income from coffee in Sepik Central alone is estimated at half a million kina. The factory together with rehabilitation of existing gardens will significantly improve these figures.

The main beneficiaries will be the rural growers of Maprik, Dreikir, Nuku, Yangoru, Angoram and Wosera-Gawi. They will have the opportunity to take part in integrated farming with cocoa, vanilla and other agriculture activities to avoid dependence on a single cash crop.

A ground breaking ceremony took place at the factory site located at Banialla, Ami Junction, in the Abiges-Mamblep LLG, Maprik District on Thursday June 28.

Officiating at the ceremony was East Sepik Provincial Administrator Dr Clement Malau, General Manager (Industry Operations) of CIC Steven Tumae and PPAP Manager Potaisa Hombunaka.

The occasion was witnessed by Deputy Governor and Provincial Minister for Agriculture Ian Samuel, CEO of Maprik DDA Joshua Himina, Industry Coordinating Committee of PPAP Chairman Ian Mopafi and members of committee representing Department of Agriculture and Livestock (DAL) offices in 10 provinces. Also present were representatives from the national DAL, University of Goroka and civil societies.

Other dignitaries include Professor Misty Baloiloi, Dr Keith Galgal, Dr Bill Bakau, CIC general manager (Research and Growers Division) Dr Mark Kenny and East Sepik PNG Smallholder Coffee Growers Association representative Thomas Aineru.

"It is no use telling growers to rehabilitate their gardens when there is no market avenue for them to sell. This is why the lead partner was advised to relocate his factory from Wewak to Maprik to serve the bulk of growers in the hinterlands of East Sepik," Hombunaka said in an earlier launching at Warangom Village.

Currently growers pay a high transport cost of K25 to K30 per bag to take their coffee to Wewak.

What happens is the Chairpersons of cooperatives notify CIC Maprik office when they have sufficient parchment bags. CIC helps to transport their coffees to a marketing agent in Wewak, Sepik Coffee Ltd. The firm helps farmers to market green bean coffee at K5.30 per kg.

Sepik Coffee arranges processing of parchment to green bean with Pacific Agro Ltd, the only processing mill in Wewak. Sepik Coffee Ltd then transports the bags to Kundu Coffee Ltd in Lae to export.

The three players along the value chain collect their fees and the balance is held by CIC to notify respective cooperative chairpersons to organise deposits into growers' bank accounts.

These are some contributing factors to the decline of coffee in East Sepik. Hence, a factory in Maprik was an initiative of Anton Areka of agribusiness firm Weni and Mandol Investment Ltd, a lead partner of CIC's Productive Partnerships in Agriculture Project (PPAP).

The lead partner is rehabilitating existing coffee gardens with 839 growers in Sepik Central covering 419 square kilometres.

The dry processing mill will service all growers inclusive of those under the partnership in four districts namely Maprik, Yangoru-Saussia, Wosera-Gawi and Ambunti-Drekikir. Growers from Nuku and Lumi Districts of West Sepik will also benefit from this facility which will come with a storage shed.

"All materials have been welded and ready for erecting once the project site is formulated," said Herman Sahake, project coordinator for Weni and Mandol Ltd.

Earlier officials gathered at Warangom Village for the launching of 15,000-plus Omuru 1 hybrid Robusta coffee cut-



tings and distribution of 120 hand pulpers. The coffee cuttings include those from a second nursery set up at Baiyanga Village by Wandau Coffee Cooperative growers.

The cuttings are from Omuru 1 hybrid with superior characteristics of yield and coffee quality.

The deputy governor in his speech at Warangom, praised the PPAP partnership modality and said the revival of coffee would contribute to the provincial plan to transform East Sepik in terms of internal revenue generation and economic growth.

“We’re looking at transforming East Sepik to become self-reliant through internal financing (and) this is a good initiative.”

Coffee and all other agriculture initiatives will take place on land and this is where the provincial government is mobilising land, Provincial Administrator Dr Malau says.

“Land mobilisation and agriculture are the focus of this provincial government and administration and this is the reason for the formulation of the provincial plan in Maprik this week.

“We’re happy that it happened at this time for us to witness and support such an initiative which is in line with our provincial plan to take the province forward.”

The coffee rehabilitation effort covers 38 cooperatives or grower groups.

The chairman of PPAP Industry Coordination Committee Ian Mopafi emphasised the governance and accountability practices employed by the project. He therefore urged the lead partner to follow due process in the use of funds intended to service the little people in rural areas.

According to data provided by Weni and Mandol with the help of CIC Maprik office, growers in Sepik Central have participated in 28 sales between 2006 and 2017.

In the 11-year period they produced 15,600 green bean bags. These bags brought in K4.8 million in foreign exchange. Net income to growers alone was K3.1m. The balance of K1.7m was paid to marketing, processing and export firms.

The annual return or income for coffee for Sepik Central alone is estimated at half a million kina. It is anticipated that relocation of the factory and rehabilitation of coffee gardens will improve coffee income considerably.

The PPAP manager therefore called on the provincial administration plus the four DDAs including Nuku (West Sepik) to invest some agriculture development funds with Weni and Mandol towards construction of the factory and setting up of more hybrid Robusta coffee nurseries and providing equipment such coffee pulpers and tools.



*(L-R) PPAP manager Potaisa Hombunaka, CIC general manager Steven Tuma, Deputy Governor Ian Samuel, lead partner Anton Areka of Weni & Mandol Investment Ltd and Provincial Administrator Dr Clement Malau officiating at the ground breaking ceremony at the site of the coffee factory at Banialla, Ami Junction in Maprik on Thursday 28 June, 2018.*

## Coffee group recognised for efforts

FOUNDER of Ginipa Coffee Sallyn Lumotopa has been awarded the best social impact category among 12 participating countries that went head to head for the APEC BEST award in September 2018.

Mrs Lumotopa is amongst seven category winners from 12 participating countries from which the overall APEC BEST award was given to South Korea.

She was recognised for her intuitive coffee business which encompasses livelihood of all coffee farming families in Lower Unggai Bena in Goroka.

The award is a first for PNG under the APEC- Women and the Economy Forum organised event and an emotional Mrs Lumotopa said: "It's PNG's win. In whatever field you are in, whether it's tailoring, artifacts, cocoa this win is ours."

Mrs Lumotopa comes from a long line of coffee families and lives in a community in Unggai Bena whose livelihood depends on coffee. She is also the chairwomen of the Lower Unggai Community Development Foundation. What is unique about her coffee business is the heart and passion driven to reach out to marginalised coffee families in the area. To her, family is the key value in business.

"Family is the key. You won't go wrong when you work as a husband and wife together," she said.

Her journey started when she found out from her members that to sustain coffee production, which is a seasonal crop, empowering members on gender was important.

The idea which soon attracted donors and investors thrives through financial training on family business management and gender equity trainings.



*Sallyn Lumotopa with Minister for APEC, Justin Tkatchenko, showing off her products during the APEC visit to Goroka earlier this year.*

of Shimpyo & Neukkimpyo Co. Ltd, a consulting company that focuses on the effort of women employment after marriage and pregnancy pause.

"It's about how they can work together as a team, delegate responsibility to build a family wealth at the same realising the importance of the relationship they have with each other."

Today, Mrs Lumotopa's coffee is sourced from 22 farmer groups made up of 1768 trained financial members targeting 826 households.

"We are achieving results and we progressing things in a positive way," she said.

Ginipa is a tough soil that traditionally tests the strength of a woman and is attributed to pure Arabica Coffee, produced by trained farmers with family values. PNG entered four entrepreneurs while 12 are representatives from China, Taipei, Russia, Indonesia, South Korea, Japan, Chile and Philippines.

The winner of the overall 2018 APEC BEST award, Miran Kim is the founder

Source: Post Courier, September 7, 2018

## Okapa roads are priority: Maru

MEMBER for Okapa Saki Soloma asked the Minister for National Planning what is being done to ensure high grade coffee being produced in his district gets to the world markets.

Referring in particular to the road access into and out of Okapa, Mr Soloma said that road conditions were such that it was becoming less likely that his people would be able to bring quality coffee to Goroka for processing and export.

Mr Soloma said that coffee from his electorate was recognised by the Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC) as a contributor to premium grade coffee and that for this reason among others, road access should be fixed post haste.

In responding to the Okapa MP's inquiry, the Minister for National Planning and Monitoring Richard Maru said that he was aware of the bad road access conditions for Okapa and that he has already received a report from his department on the interlinking roads therein.

"I have spoken to the coffee authority to ascertain which roads in the Highlands are the top 10 roads for coffee delivery and found that two roads into Okapa are vital roads," he said.

"CIC has confirmed that both roads are key coffee produce roads of this top 10 and we will look at how we can fund that next year onwards.

"Certainly Okapa is one of our most important districts in terms of coffee production in the country and we will give it prominence and priority once funds for these roads are prepared."

The minister said while these roads are vital to the country's economic growth through local production strengthening, these developments would be tackled after the APEC as is the direction of government.

*Source: Post Courier, September 7, 2018*

## First green bean standards training for industry

THE Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC) has recently conducted its first Green Bean Coffee Standard Stakeholder Participatory workshop in Lae which attracted many industry participants like exporters and processors.

The workshop was held at the Lae International Hotel on July 30 to August 2, 2018.

Senior Quality Control Officer for CIC Rose Romalus facilitated the meeting attended by 26 coffee experts in Morobe Province. They represented mainly exporters, processors and organized groups involve in third party exports.

Ms Romalus said purpose of the workshop was to get industry stakeholders and standard users understand and appreciate the changes in the revised green bean standard. Gaps were also identified for further specific trainings.

The revised grading system was prepared in 2015 in response to a need to standardize and upgrade the quality of coffee for export.

Other areas covered in the four-day training were cherry and parchment standards, quality control processes, and regulatory and policy guidelines.

Practical sessions were also conducted on coffee defect analysis and cupping.

An interesting area on documentations and Customs ASYCUDA computerised management systems were presented by Marie Kiliawi CIC's Senior Export Officer. The customs system covers foreign trade procedures including handling of manifests and customs declarations, accounting procedures, transit and suspense procedures.

The exporters and freight forwarders were given the opportunity in this session to discuss delay issues and challenges that the ASYCUDA World has brought about.

The Industry Regulation Compliance Manager Sam Menanga also presented the new revised regulatory policy guidelines and covered areas on cherry and parchment coffee standards.

The presentation on the revised green bean standard allowed participants to ask questions and ensured that they understood the new grades and their specifications. The changes on bag markings and additional use of single jute bags as well as special packing for specialty micro-lots were also discussed. **Continue on page 12**



The Importance of meeting International Coffee Organization (ICO) quality requirements in terms of allowable defects in shipments was presented as well. The CIC export office reports to ICO for PNG as a coffee producer.

Many participants expressed satisfaction saying the revised standard is much easier to understand. Those who represented grower cooperatives wanted to see organized cooperative groups, mill supervisors and exporters to meet in one workshop.

They said this will ensure the same information is shared by everyone along the supply chain thus each one plays his or her part to produce and deliver quality products to the mills and to the exporters.

The facilitators recommended that future cupping training is conducted with organized groups for farmers to appreciate the quality of their coffee at farm level.

Also, similar future training should include two employees per mill say a supervisor and leading hand for good preparation of coffee at the mill according to standards for exporters.

The chief executive officer of CIC Charles Dambui explained the revised green bean standard safeguards the PNG coffee industry by setting parameters for control on quality of green coffee exported out of the country.

"It outlines all aspects or specifications of trade grades, coffee preparation; packing for export, labelling, sampling, olfactory and visual examination and determination of defects, sensory and size analysis for stakeholders (exporters) to comply with."

Mr Dambui added that the standards removes the many criteria for grading coffee which discriminates some 80 percent of between 3 million and 4 million smallholder growers who produces some of the best coffee as blocks and plantations yet graded at low Y grade.

The grading system was proposed by CIC and prepared by Biological Standards Committee of NISIT following an extensive consultation in 2015 by CIC as the regulation agency with industry stakeholders both in the country and overseas.

The CEO said CIC will continue to run similar workshops in other major coffee growing provinces.

Mr Dambui also acknowledged CIC's coffee component of Productive Partnerships in Agriculture Project (CIC-PPAP) to fund the workshop and similar trainings that will follow.

The CIC-PPAP is an industry rehabilitation project. It is a PNG Government (Department of Agriculture and Livestock) initiative supported by World Bank and IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development) through loan financing. It is implemented by CIC through a project management unit known as PPAP-Coffee Component.

## Consultation begins for new coffee plan

THE Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC) has started a consultation process for a new Industry Strategic Plan for the next 10 years.

The first visioning workshop was held at the Steak House in Goroka on August 2-3, 2018 for this purpose.

Chief Executive Officer Charles Dambui said the industry regulating agency is employing a consultative process to ensure the final documentation is representative of all parties including growers the main stakeholders in the value chain.

“We want to be realistic in our planning to focus on what we as an industry regulating agency can implement to take the industry forward in the next decade.”

“There are many issues impacting on the industry like deteriorating road and market access infrastructures which require a partnership approach among commodity boards and sector organizations.”

“CIC acknowledges the changing farming practices in our integrated approaches where today’s coffee farmers are also fresh produce and livestock farmers.”

“We therefore anticipate this plan to become holistic in its approach where all stakeholders and sector organizations including DAL and other National Departments can partner in this strategic plan as a way forward for the industry,” said Mr Dambui.

Coordinating this process is CIC’s socio economist Dr Reuben Sengere who was impressed with the first turnout by industry stakeholders and senior managers of CIC.

“This is the first workshop to establish the vision, mission and core values of the new 2019-2028 Coffee Industry Strategic Plan.”

“Other stakeholder consultations will be held in Mt Hagen, Lae and Port Moresby.”

“Thereafter, an institutional Gap Analysis Workshop will be conducted,” said Dr Sengere.

General Manager Industry Operations Steven Tumae opened the first session with an overview of the coffee industry which includes coffee production and export figures for the last 10 years.

Interestingly export figures for certified coffee has improved to close to 6,000 tonnes in 2017 representing 8 per cent of total exports of around 50,000 tonnes or 800,000 bags. The foreign exchange earnings from these exports to specialty markets was just over K40 million for the year.

“The indication here is more farmers are tapping into this market to fetch a little higher than the conventional market prices,” said Mr Tumae.

Project manager of CIC’s Productive Partnerships in Agriculture Project Potaisa Hombunaka in his brief presentation called for a practical and simple plan with focus on smallholder farmers.

“The growers’ number one interest is how much extra income they will get from their coffee. Farmers interest must be practically addressed for them to be motivated to produce more quality coffee hence export thus bringing on shore more Forex,” he said.



**Stakeholders from various levels of the industry who participated at the first consultation meeting in Goroka.**

The first two-day session attracted some notables in the industry like CIC chairman Patrick Komba, former DAL secretaries Mathew Kanua and Anton Benjamin, Chairman of PPAP's Industry Coordinating Committee Ian Mopafi, Jerry Kapka of Kongo Coffee, John Yogiyo of Bauka Coffee and Nichol Colbran of Colbran Coffeelands.

The strategic plan will be put together by Dr Eric Omuru a socio economist who has almost 20 years experiences in the agriculture sector. He has assisted the Cocoa Board and currently assisting the KIK or Kokonas Industri Koporesen developing their strategic plan for their respective industries.

## Hope returns for farmers in Tapini

By CORA MOABI

OUR day starts off with freshly boiled water and burnt taro over open fire.

We hear nearby laughter and chattering among villages as they prepare to welcome their leaders from Port Moresby to their village.

We are in Tapini, an old government station in Goilala District of inland Central Province.

The little station is nestled in a valley of evergreen vegetation with beautiful morning mists curtaining the rugged mountains.

Government officers from Port Moresby, Goroka and nearby areas had travelled in a day earlier in preparation for a significant occasion.

It is Monday July 30th, 2018 as we wait with anticipated villagers for the chartered flight to arrive in Tapini with government leaders.

Everyone near and far had gathered to witness the opening of the Goilala District Office Complex, presentation of K1 million to Tapini Sacred Heart Secondary School and the signing of the Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC) Memorandum of Agreement (MoA).

Present at the occasion were Prime Minister Peter O'Neill, Education Minister Nick Kuman, Provincial Affairs Minister Kevin Isifu, Housing Minister John Kaupa, Goilala MP, Central Governor Robert Agarobe, Member for Kairuku-Hiri Peter Isoaimo and Minister assisting the Prime Minister on Bougainville Affairs and Sports William Samb.

Accompanying the government leaders was a team led by CIC Chief Executive Officer Charles Dambui to officially sign a coffee MoA with the district.

Goilala MP William Samb spoke of how government services were neglected in the district and how he plans on alleviating some of these shortfalls by addressing key policy drivers.

Mr Samb said since taking office in 2015, the Goilala District Development Authority has prioritized its key policy drivers and they were: infrastructure and economic initiatives which included embarking on farming.

"Under the economic sector, we are embarking on Irish potato, bulb onion and coffee projects upon advice from Fresh Produce Development Agency and CIC."

He said they wanted to educate farmers on cash flow management and farming techniques, improve logistics and introduce freight subsidy programs.

"We want to mobilize people to address issues on a community level and not individual needs."

He said the signing today confirms that partnership. "Under infrastructure, without proper managed transport system, we cannot address other government priorities."

Coffee has grown wild in the district due to logistical challenges and loss of interest by farmers. "We want to invest in rehabilitation and extension of this key cash crop," said Samb.

Likewise in the infrastructure sector, we are rolling out ongoing communication initiatives, road projects and housing from the capital investment program through the Department of National Planning & Monitoring.

CIC Chief Executive Officer Charles Dambui said the partnership will pave the way for coffee work to commence as soon as possible in the district. "Remote areas such as Tapini can be assured to benefit through CIC's freight subsidy scheme and other extension packages under the new agreement.



“This partnership will focus on sustaining maximum production potential via the application of current agronomy practices by way of training, application of technical innovations and processing and market access for farmers in the area.”

The MoA was signed in the presence of government dignitaries, Goilala Chiefs and the people in Tapini Station on Monday 30th July, 2018.

Mr Samb announced that he plans to see that infrastructure projects and economic activities are well supported to better assist people in the district.

“For coffee, we have taken this approach with CIC to rehabilitate and extend coffee work in the district.”

Coffee farmer Gabriel Teomai from Jania village in the Tapini LLG, expressed concerns on transporting coffee to the markets in Port Moresby. “It is very challenging because a simple farmer like me has to pay K50 per bag to be transported to Port Moresby. On top of that, I have to pay K100 to get on the PMV.

“We cannot afford the costs. It is too much for us. We are happy that today CIC signed this agreement and we can get more guidance on how to continue with coffee production and going to the markets to get good prices for our hard work in the village.”

DAL-Goilala based extension officer, Michael Ravai, said he faced overwhelming challenges working in the district. “I am constantly challenged by farmers whenever I go to do extension work, they ask me to write to the leaders to fix the roads and look for markets for their produce.”

He said there has not been any support to date and hopes that after the partnership with CIC, farmers will begin to see some improvement and boost to their struggles.

Goilala District used to be the top coffee producer in the Southern Region up until the decline of government services in the area in recent years. It has three LLGs; Tapini, which is accessible by both air and land transport and Guari and Woitape only accessible by air.

At one time the district was producing up to 900 tons of parchment coffee annually but decline in government services and the remoteness of the area was not favorable to the interest of coffee farmers.

Mr Samb is adamant that by investing and developing the renewable sector it would give the country’s economy a boost in the local level governments, districts, provinces and the nation as whole.



**Left: Goilala-based DAL officer Michael Ravai pointing to abandoned coffee trees in the area and Right: CEO Charles Dambui (centre) having a chat with farmers in Tapini.**

# Lack of role models in public service, says coffee manager

By LEO WAFIWA

THE lack of professional attitude at work place, particularly in some public institutions, will not develop young graduates with upright attitude to become leaders of tomorrow, says a coffee manager.

"It is a very sad story. The standards applied in these organizations is disgraceful."

"We don't have good role models in public institutions for young people to look up to in terms of attitude."

"How are we going to build this country if we don't have good role models?" ask Potaisa Hombunaka, manager of Coffee Industry Corporation's Productive Partnerships in Agriculture Project (CIC-PPAP).

Mr Hombunaka was sharing his observation on the lack of professionalism by some senior officers in the public sector during a farewell luncheon for 15 final year business and agriculture students from University of Goroka (UOG) held at the Steak House in Goroka on Wednesday 22 August, 2018.

The students including three females had an exciting six week industrial attachment at the CIC headquarters in Goroka and the export office in Lae.

The CIC administration manager Jackson Pepeto thanked the students for choosing CIC for their industrial attachment.

He also said CIC took part in a career expo at the Lae-based University of Technology with plans to recruit aspiring young graduates as the future of the coffee industry.

UOG's Lecturer and Students' Industrial Coordinator Reilly Teteh expressed his gratitude to CIC for taking in a high number of students.

"I had 69 Diploma and 36 first Degree students lined up for industrial attachment and coffee industry [CIC] came to the rescue."

Mr Teteh also urged the students to grow with the right attitude and responsibility to protect this country by engaging in right practices.

Nickson Pep Goimba, 24, a Bachelor of Business Accounting candidate attached with the CIC-PPAP component said he learned so many things outside of classroom.

"I have been learning theories for the last four years and the training was a real experience."

Mr Goimba wants to become an accountant for a successful organization.

The chief executive officer of CIC Charles Dambui said the coffee industry will continue to train students from UOG and other learning institutions in the country to prepare them for tomorrow.

The chief executive officer Charles Dambui said CIC has been involved with UOG and UNITECH for number of years in their industrial training programs.

"Going forward we would like to see more students take on practical exercise like in the field of agronomy, crop management and husbandry, marketing, soil nutrients and climate change," he said.



*Left: CIC Human Resources & Administration Manager Jackson Pepeto and Human Resources Officer Leks Paul (far right) with UOG students at the CIC headquarters.*