



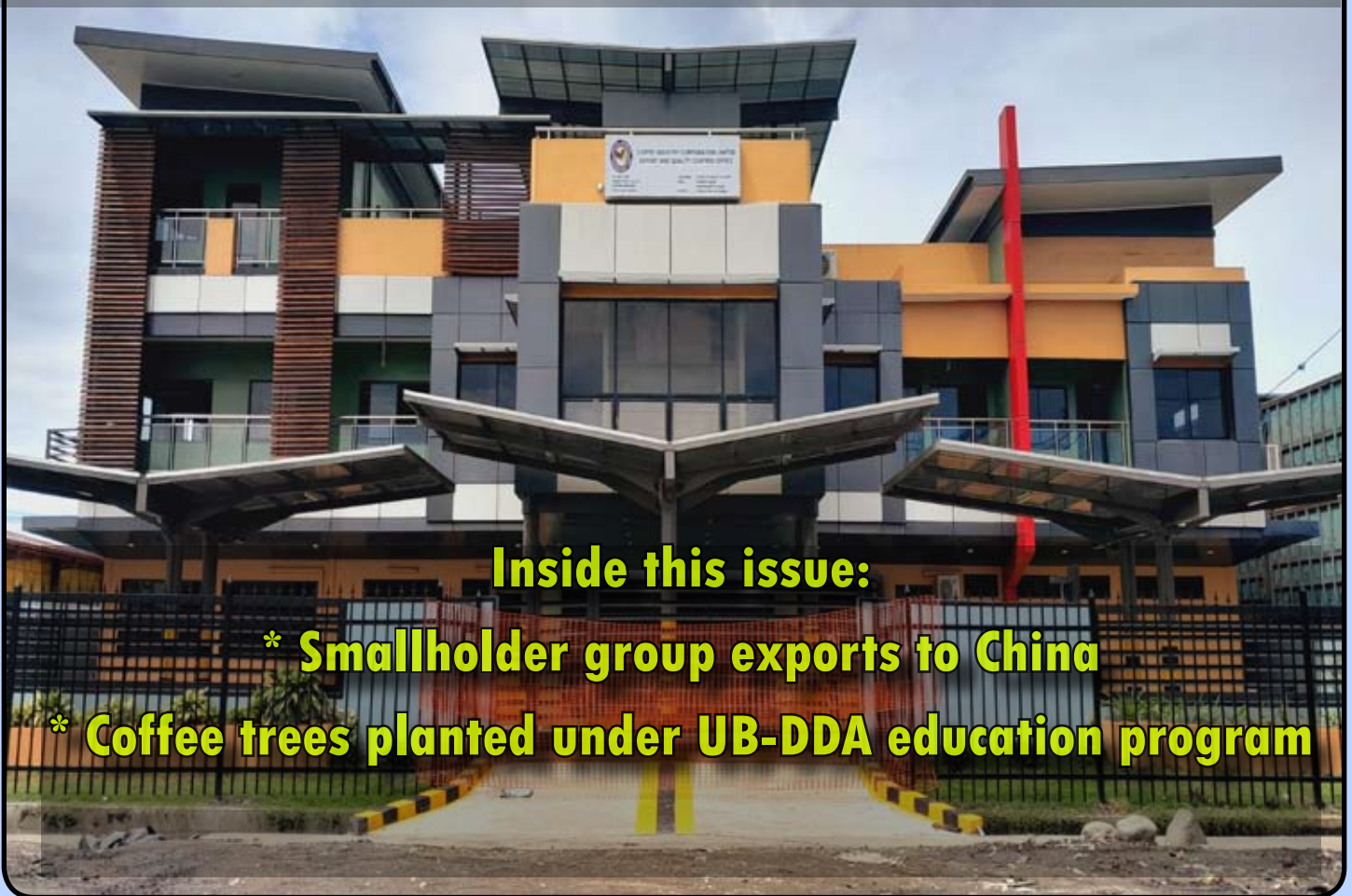
COFFEE INDUSTRY CORPORATION LTD

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Lae Export Office set for opening



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*** Smallholder group exports to China**

*** Coffee trees planted under UB-DDA education program**

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide enabling regulatory environment and facilitate the industry's development through research, extension, information sharing and market development services to bring better financial returns to the coffee value chain actors.

COVER PHOTO:

The newly built Lae Coffee Export Office Complex in Lae, Morobe Province.

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Lae Exports Office set for opening in August

The new coffee exports office complex in Lae, Morobe Province is nearing its final stages of preparations before it can be officially opened and commissioned in August this year.

This was announced by Chief Operations Officer Steven Tumae, during a recent committee meeting for the Lae Exports Office opening.

Mr. Tumae said a technical team from CIC has met with the contractor and project architect towards the end of 2023 to update CICL on the progress of construction and also to visit the construction site to see how the actual work was progressing.

He said major works on the building have been completed and they were only waiting for the contractor to liaise with PNG Power Ltd on the power connection to the building plus few other jobs such as glazing and finishing touches to the fencing, footpath and carpark area, which has been completed in the last six months.

Mr. Tumae added that the office plays a very important role in ensuring quality coffee is graded and certified before being exported out of the country. He said the new building once completed would effectively and efficiently facilitate coffee exports, documentation, quality control and compliance work.

“The new export office is a three-storey building which will have the coffee laboratory, export office, quality control and compliance office, conference and meeting facility, library, and other office spaces for our partners. Although a lot of issues have been slowing down work, we anticipate commissioning the new coffee export building by August 1st, 2024.”

Haom Builders Managing Director Herman Anep provided assurance that all outstanding issues and outstanding tasks will be fast tracked and managed before the deadline given by CICL.

Haom Builders was awarded the contract in 2020 by the National Government at the cost of K10.6 million to construct the new Coffee Exports Office.

Photos of the Lae Exports Office in the initial construction stage.



Protocol for China-Phytosanitary requirements for export of unroasted coffee beans from PNG

The signing of the Protocol on export of coffee to China during the visit of the Foreign Affairs Minister for China, Wang Yi, is a momentous occasion for the coffee industry and agriculture sector as it opens up market access to the Chinese market.

It marks a historic moment in the relationship between Papua New Guinea and the People's Republic of China, to sign the phytosanitary protocols to open the Chinese market to our unroasted coffee beans. This milestone reflects not only the fruit of years of negotiation and trying to get understanding of two separate systems.

It is important as coffee has been traded mostly to western societies and Asia being the shipment port but now, coffee brings bright future of trade and economic partnership between our two nations.

PNG produces less than 1 million green bean bags, but our coffee reaches over 34 countries worldwide, a global acknowledgment of our coffee's distinctiveness. Our presence in such a wide array of markets is indicative of the unique position PNG coffee holds in the hearts and cups of coffee enthusiasts globally. As we embark on this new journey with China, it is imperative to reflect on the essence of this partnership.

My Ministry will work to enhance the entire coffee value chain, from farm to cup, by investing in infrastructure, technology, and capacity-building initiatives that improve productivity, quality, and market access for coffee farmers.

Over the past three years, from 2021 to 2023, Papua New Guinea has witnessed a dynamic evolution in its coffee export sector, particularly in exporting to China. Our journey started modestly, but with concerted efforts and an unwavering commitment to quality, we have seen our exports grow both in volume and value. In total, we have exported over 50,651 bags (3,039 tonnes) of coffee to China, amounting to a cumulative value of K42, 104,493.

This achievement is a testament to the hard work of our local farmers and exporters, where 58% out of the 32 registered exporters, have ventured into the Chinese market, diversifying, and expanding their horizons.

In 2023, there has been unprecedented surge in

exports reaching 35,020 bags (2,101 tonnes), valued at K27, 440,378. This remarkable growth is indicative of the growing appetite for PNG coffee in China, a sign that our coffee, known for its unique taste and high quality, is becoming a preferred choice among Chinese consumers.

This increase not only mirrors the changing consumer preferences in China but also represents the fruit of our labour in enhancing the trade relationships between our countries.

The dynamics of our exporters, including both emerging players and established ones, show a competitive yet evolving market landscape, where coffee is exported into China based on consumer preference and through different countries.

This success has been driven by our relentless focus on diversification and quality, ensuring that every bag of coffee sent from PNG meets the high expectations of our Chinese partners and consumers.

Looking forward, the potential for growth in this partnership is vast. With the signing of these phytosanitary protocols, we are setting the groundwork for an even more prosperous collaboration. It will allow us to maintain the quality that our Chinese consumers have come to expect, build sustainable trade relations, and further diversify our market presence.

The signing opens up market for our products but it is a challenge to our coffee industry to produce more as direct exports will obviously mean more direct sourcing of PNG Coffee. Further, we can expand our roast and ground coffee trade with the direct flights between PNG and China that is expected to be three flights weekly. We need to put more roast beans and ground coffee on these flights to China apart from the unroasted or green bean exports on ships.

Our coffee production is struggling to go over the million green bean bags, despite coffee now grown in 19 of the 22 provinces, creation of specialised agencies such as NAQIA, NARI and Coffee Research Institute and decentralisation of extension and training services.

Research and Innovation is necessary to drive growth and competitiveness in the coffee sector. We will support research and development initiatives, foster entrepreneurship, and harness digital technologies to

unlock new opportunities and address emerging challenges in the industry such as pests and diseases and new markets.

We will seriously support manufacturing of roast, ground and powder coffee but we need to introduce Liberica variety into the lowlands and also engage in massive Robusta development. Research will look at increasing yields, cutting down costs of production and manufacturing that we must sell at competitive prices both in PNG and overseas.

I also wish to invite the Chinese importers and processors to our PNG Coffee Fair and also investors to venture into commercial or plantation coffee farming. It is my Ministry plans to embark on massive Robusta cultivation in the coastal provinces and more opportunities to engage with our run down plantations that can be work on collaborative partnership.

Apart from coffee, it is the intention of the government to open up trading directly with China in terms of our rubber, coconut and copra, tea and oil palm. Encouraging competition can also impact on the prices and also push demand and need for quality outputs.

Finally, all these will not be possible with the farmers and growers working on the coffee to increase production and productivity and delivering on our unique taste and preferences. Opportunities open up but we need to get on the ground.

We will continue to expand market opportunities for Papua New Guinea coffee on the global stage, leveraging our unique flavour profiles, cultural heritage, and commitment to quality to capture the attention of discerning consumers worldwide.

We can do much by increasing production and selling of different varieties and specialties.

My appeal to all Coffee Industry Corporation Board and staff and Agriculture Officers throughout PNG is to get moving on the ground to motivate, encourage and point our producers to getting our hands dirty and this will create employment and income earning opportunities and in moving our industry forward as well as our economy.

We must produce more coffee and process at affordable costs for our own consumption and to sell to the world that unique PNG brand.

This agreement not only paves the way for increased coffee exports but also symbolize the broader cooperation and friendship between Papua New Guinea and the People's Republic of China.

Hon. William Bando, CPA, LM, MP
Minister for Coffee



Coffee Minister William Bando and China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi sign documents on coffee agreement during the Minister's official visit to PNG.

Smallholder group exports to China

Coffee farmers under the Huwa Coffee Farmers' Cooperative Society (HCFCS) of Mt Michael LLG of Lufa District in Eastern Highlands Province have made their first exports of four containers to China late last year and this year. The coffee was exported as Huwa Coffee.

Group Secretary Beni Rame said that these export has brought in K800, 000 in export revenue into the country and for the group, this is another milestone achievement operating as a cooperative group.

The proceeds from the export was distributed to the farmers on Friday, April 12th, 2024 in Lufa District Headquarters.

CIC-PPAP Program Manager Potaisa Hombunaka was pleased to hear this news and congratulated the group for their hard work and commitment, which was demonstrated through this recent sales.

"This is a culmination of what was started off as a "group market" in 2020," Hombunaka said.

He said in 2020, the group generated K230, 000 in group sales, in 2021 they made KK644, 000 and now what has transpired in 2024 is a big achievement for the group. He said the first and second sales were done locally and this is the third sales done as exports through CIC's Kofi Management Services Ltd.

"I am very pleased and encouraged to see how they have progressed since 2020 as a small cooperative group. They have listened to all advice given to them and utilised well all resources provided to them under the project. Their leaders are to be congratulated for a job well done."

The cooperative society was formed in December 2018 and formally registered on September 10th 2019. The membership in 2020 was 582 but to date it has increased to 700 members who are from the three Lufa LLGs namely Mt. Michael, Unavi and Yagaria. The group is one of CIC-PACD Lead Partners.

CIC-PACD is a GoPNG agriculture development project mainly for coffee and cocoa with loan funding from the World Bank. Other value chains as spice and small livestock is also funded by the project.



Huwa Coffee Farmers' Cooperative Society (HCFCS) Executives making cash payments to its hard working coffee farmers at Lufa Station in Eastern Highlands Province.

Officer renews Q-grader licence

For many, understanding a good cup of coffee is that it just tastes good to the mouth when you drink it. However, for a trained person who tastes the overall attributes of a good quality coffee, it is a skill that one has to master to pass arduous and stringent exams in order to qualify as a Q-Arabica Grader.

Q grader is a term associated with specialty coffee industry. They objectively examine coffees and score them based on their many attributes and overall quality. It is the only certification in the industry that is based on quality. The system quantifies taste attributes in a coffee cup such as acidity, body, flavour, aftertaste, uniformity, balance, sweetness etc.

The Coffee Industry Corporation's PNG Agriculture Commercialization Diversification (CIC-PACD) project has sent its Quality Control Officer, Enos Dum to Sydney, Australia recently to undergo various exams to meet the requirements of the Coffee Quality Institute (CQI) in order to pass and renew his Q-Grader license.

CIC-PACD Project Manager Potaisa Hombunaka said under CIC's mandate to continue to maintain quality control systems to the highest standards, it has come on board to sponsor Enos Dum with K26,000 to undergo the one week training in Sydney, Australia. Hombunaka said Q-Graders are professional cuppers who are highly trained whereby they have undertaken tests/exams offered under the CQI's Q Grader education program. The course is tough and stringent to test the participant's ability to skilfully pass all the exams. He said only two out of the 16 participants passed and were certified as Q Graders whilst the rest will reseat again next time.

"We are grateful that Enos has done extremely well as a young Papua New Guinean among 16 other participants from six other countries to successfully pass all the theory and practical exams to enable him to qualify as a recognised Q-Grader from this prestigious institute," Hombunaka said.

CIC-PACD will be sending another officer by end of this year and two more next year. Enos Dum acknowledged the support of PACD through CIC to be able to undertake the exams in Australia to attain his Q-Grader certificate and above all to be able to assess quality coffee with recognition from the CQI.

CQI has extended Dum's certificate to operate as an internationally recognised Q-Arabica Grader for the next 36 months from March 16th, 2024 to March 16th, 2027.

"This achievement is for CIC and PNG as a coffee producing country. It puts PNG on the global list of countries with highly skilled professional cuppers," Dum said.

CIC Chief Operations Officer Steven Tumae said the training is the only internationally recognised certificate system for Arabica cuppers for specialty coffee by the CQI in the United States. Tumae acknowledged the timely support by PACD and congratulated Dum for this achievement.



CIC Quality Officer and Q-grader, Enos Dum receiving his certificate from PACD Project Manager and Chief Operations Officer Steven Tumae.

More coffee trees planted under MP's programme

Unggai-Bena MP Kinoka Hotune has announced that recipients under the Unggai-Bena Tertiary Education Tuition Fee Assistance (UBTETFA) program have planted 613, 163 coffee trees across Unggai-Bena District during the rollout of the program, which commenced in December 2023.

The local MP was pleased to reveal that this program has been able to create a win-win situation for all.

He said the Unggai Bena District Development Authority (UBDDA) in turn supported 1, 036 Unggai Bena students across 52 higher education institutions across the country and overseas.

The local MP said the school fee subsidy program is tied in with Coffee Planting. "We are paying school fees on the condition that each student plants a maximum of 500 coffee trees at a rate of K5 per coffee tree planted towards their school fees. Between December 2023 and March 2024, students planted a total of 613, 163 coffee trees."

"We have been telling our people back home to plant more coffee trees but they have not been listening. Parents would do anything for their children. So, this strategy is really doing wonders. We are paying school fees for their kids, any parent would do anything for their children, so they are going out of their way to plant coffee because of the love they have for their children."

Mr. Hotune said that by using minimum rates per tree, this initiative will increase coffee production with 7, 664 exportable green bean bags (459.9 tonnes).

"Our target is a minimum of 500, 000 trees through this program every year until 2027. If I return after 2027, this program will continue for the next 5 years. In the next 3 years following this initiative, we can expect to produce 23, 000 GB bags. With targets set out under the MTDP 4 of 3 million bags, Unggai Bena's contribution would be 23, 000 bags increase from this one strategy," he said.



Unggai-Bena MP, Hon. Kinoka Hotune



Tertiary students of Unggai-Bena district planting new coffee trees to receive assistance from the local MP.

He highlighted that the coffee and school fee subsidy program cost K5 million. K4.1m was paid to school fees, whilst K900, 000 for nursery materials under the district's partnership with the Coffee Industry Corporation Ltd (CICL).

CICL Chief Executive Officer Charles Dambui commended this initiative and said the Unggai-Bena MP is taking an incredible approach and doing something good for the future generations and the coffee industry as a whole. "I highly commend you and your team for this great effort in contributing towards increasing coffee production."

Meanwhile, the UBTETFA program is calling on students to contact their respective student leaders and institutions bursary for listing and respective payments.

Aust & NZ govt acknowledged for support



PNG Women In Coffee representatives, CIC officers and Chief Operations Officer Steven Tumae and Coffee IWG Chairman Ian Mopafi at the PHAMA Plus 'Harvesting Success' Program Showcase in Port Moresby.

A nine-year partnership between the Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC) and the Pacific Horticultural Agriculture and Market Access Plus Program (PHAMA Plus) has been commended for its efforts in shifting and aiding the focus of the coffee sector to market access, particularly specialty markets.

During PHAMA Plus PNG Program Showcase on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, the program highlighted many of its successes with the different sub sectors in the agriculture sector, which included coconut, cocoa, and coffee over the 9-year partnership.

The event was held at Apec Haus in Port Moresby and witnessed by development partners, commodity boards, government representatives and beneficiaries of the program.

CIC Chief Operations Officer Steven Tumae acknowledged the support of the Australian and New Zealand governments through PHAMA Plus who have been instrumental in facilitating many of the good work in the coffee sector.

He said PHAMA established its working relationship in PNG's coffee space in November 2015, fostering and promoting partnership in the coffee industry to contribute towards increasing PNG's global competitiveness and open new markets for high value trade.

"CIC's working relationship between PHAMA/ PHAMPLUS begun in Nov 2015. It filled a gap across the agriculture space for the need to strategically address issues for Market Access and Trade Facilitation."

Tumae said back in 2014 in Port Moresby there were only two good cafes; Duffy's and Figaro. After 10 years, there are over 30 outlets serving good espresso based coffee in cafes, restaurants, hotels, grocery shops and service stations.

As a result of strategic policy changes such as the PNG Green Bean Standards 2019, there has been an increase in exports of good quality coffee. CIC would like to acknowledge the support of PPAP in this aspect as well.

PHAMA/PHAMPLUS built on that by implementing interventions that would benefit both public and private coffee stakeholders.

These interventions were captured throughout the five different phases of the program. Some highlights of this intervention include:

- Regulatory Policy changes influenced by Industry Coffee Working Group
- Improved working relations between trade facilitation Government agencies of Customs, NAQIA, National Trade Office and NISIT and
- Communication and Marketing Plan that guides CIC and stakeholders to position PNG's coffee presence in a competitive international market.

The Coffee Industry Corporation would like to sincerely thank and acknowledge the support of the Australian and New Zealand Governments to the PNG Coffee Industry through this partnership which has come to the end of the project's lifeline.

PHAMA Plus presents coffee processing items to CIC

The Pacific Horticulture and Agriculture Market Access (PHAMA) Plus program in partnership with the Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC) has delivered a number of training packages for the coffee industry since 2018.

Following a coffee cherry processing workshop held in 2023, PHAMA Plus presented 10 coffee equipment and three cherry processing manuals (Honey, Washed and Natural) to CIC and few industry participants on Friday, April 26th, 2024 at the CIC headquarters in Goroka.

The items presented included moisture meters, Brix meters, thermometers, and water activity meter to aid accurate readings during the processes of cherry processing.



PHAMA Plus Program National Facilitator Ms Tamar Amean (left) presenting coffee processing equipment and manuals to CIC Chief Operations Officer Steven Tumae (right) on Friday, April 26th in Goroka as CIC Program Managers look on.

The event was attended by the CIC Chief Operations Officer Steven Tumae, Program Managers, training facilitator Mark Munnul, PHAMA Plus National Facilitator Ms Tamar Amean, industry participants and staff.

Mr Tumae acknowledged the support and partnership with then PHAMA Program since 2015. He said in 2015, an Industry Working Group was established under this partnership, which has seen many important decisions put into action plans and implemented for the industry.

Tumae said some of the highlights under this partnership included a Market Study for the Coffee Industry, hosting of the coffee symposium, Barista training, Roasting Training, Q-Grader Training, and Coffee Cherry Processing Training among other support to industry meetings, conferences and expos.

“We are grateful for the support of the then PHAMA program and now PHAMA Plus. Although the program is coming to an end, the support through various training and workshops is valuable and will contribute to enhancing coffee processing methods following respective market demands.”

Kosem Coffee Ktd General Manager and coffee processing trainer, Mark Munnul in thanking CIC and PHAMA Plus program encouraged the participants to

work with few committed groups and introduce the simplest methods of coffee cherry processing before going to the new methods.

Munnul said the coffee specialty market is there and the opportunities are endless. He said it was easy to make a good first impression and it is easy to lose these type of markets if consistency in quality and supply is not maintained overtime.

He said treating coffee as a business was still a big challenge for the industry as a whole. “With this training, start with the simplest method in processing then if you get 3 or 5 groups to do it right with volume to sell then you can go to the next processes.”

Munnul said participants were taken through hands-on training on new coffee cherry processing methods for Washed Honey and Natural coffee during the training last year.

Onamuga farmers show interest in coffee farming

Coffee farmers in Ikikio village of Kamano 2 in Kainantu District of Eastern Highlands Province have come forward to show their eagerness to learn new ideas and receive advice from the government body responsible for coffee by inviting the Coffee Industry Corporation's PNG Agriculture Commercialization Diversification (CIC-PACD) project to their village.

The CIC-PACD team led by Project Manager Potaisa Hombunaka visited Ikikio village situated in the rugged mountains of the Kamano area on Thursday April 11th, 2024.

The newly established group of mostly coffee farmers came together to form the group with an understanding that they would seek assistance from outside to help them with their farming techniques and activities to boost income earned from their hard work.

Onamuga Cooperative Society Ltd Chairman Skai Antikate acknowledged the commitment of the team to go into their humble community although it was a long and rough ride into the village.

"I would like to acknowledge you all for making time and coming to our village to give us advice that would help us with what we are currently doing in terms of coffee farming and other advice to strengthen the group going forward."

Skai said that they had been producing 200-300 coffee parchment bags and bring to either Goroka or Lufa to sell but have not seen the difference they would want to see from these sales.

He said the purpose of them starting the group and formally registering it is that they want to work with organisations such as CIC-PACD and other development partners that would guide them to bring the group to a stage that will bring positive change back to their community.

CIC-PACD Productive Partnership Coordinator Alphy Semy encouraged the group and commended them for taking the first step in registering the group. He told them that change will not happen overnight but with strong and determined leaders of the group working together with the members, they would achieve good things for the community as a whole.

"No one will change your community but you yourselves can make that happen if you work together and listen to your leaders."

Project Manager Potaisa Hombunaka, humbled by the welcome reception told the Ikikio coffee farmers that he was only a kago boy (servant) for coffee farmers. He said that is why when he received an invitation from the group some time back, he locked that as an important event on his calendar to make sure he visited the community.

"You all are our paymasters and pay mistresses. I am at your service so when you make a call for me to come and visit I have to be punctual and come visit you."

Hombunaka spoke well of the group for coming together and told them it was the right step to receive assistance in the near future as operating as individuals will be difficult to ask for help but as a group, it would take them to greater heights. He also encouraged the group to start working together and start processing parchment coffee into green bean and go into group marketing commencing next year onwards.

CIC-PACD is a GoPNG agriculture development project mainly for coffee and cocoa with loan funding from the World Bank. Other value chains such as spice and small livestock are also funded by the project.



CIC-PACD Project Manager Potaisa Hombunaka, speaking to coffee farmers in Ikikio village in Kainantu District during a short visit there.

Wia Trade launches projects

Wia Trade Enterprises Ltd in Lae, Morobe Province launched a number of its projects on Thursday, May 16, 2024 in the presence of Coffee Industry Corporation (CIC), government dignitaries, development partners and coffee farmers.

These included its coffee roastery factory, Erap Coffee brand, contract signing of Component 3.2 Matching Grant by CIC-PACD and ground breaking for coffee downstream processing.

CIC-PACD Project Manager Potaisa Hombunaka congratulated Wia Trade for reaching another milestone in coffee business. He said under Matching Grant (Component 3.2), the project will be funding K360, 000 to support Wia Trade.

“Under PACD Matching Grant component, we would like to upscale and help commercialise partner projects, to move them from primary to secondary stage in the value chain.”

Owner and Managing Director of Wia Trade Dr. Joel Waramboi thanked CIC and PACD for the support over the years and for this timely support.



Ground breaking ceremony of the new Wia Trade Enterprises Ltd downstream processing plant at Nadzab in Lae, Morobe Province.



Wia Trade's Flagship brand, Erap Coffee on display during the launching of a number of projects at Nadzab on Thursday, May 16th, 2024.

Dr Waramboi and his wife Julie started their business in 2006. In 2014, they started going into coffee, which they bought from Erap, Watut and Buang farmers and sold to factories in Lae. “When I was still working with NARI. It was our side hustle. Following year we went to PPAP. Now the rest is history we have been in coffee business for the last 8 years.”

Waramboi said from 2016-2019, they rolled out 3 years of the PPAP project in Erap, Nawaeb District of Morobe.

Under PPAP's support, Wia Trade build their Green Bean factory. “PPAP helped us with K300, 000 and the company contributed balance of K850, 000 investment.” They started operating in April 2020 and July 2020 was their first export to Melbourne Australia. “The mill has been running for 4 years and we are processing and exporting coffee.”

Since 2020 to December 2023, the company has exported 53 containers to the international markets.

CIC Chief Executive Officer Charles Dambui commended Wia Trade for their hard work and commitment as they look towards establishing the first ever downstream processing plant for coffee. “We are now announcing today that we will sign the agreement and support with K2m for Wia Trade to start the necessary arrangements for downstream processing.”

CIC-PACD presents vehicle to DAL Highlands

The Coffee Industry Corporation's PNG Agriculture Commercialization Diversification (CIC-PACD) project is giving its full support to its implementing partners to ensure projects are implemented within the short time frame given.

The National DAL Highlands Regional Office in Goroka is one of those that has received much needed logistical support on Monday, April 15th, 2024 by PACD with the presentation of one of its existing fleet of Toyota ten-seater vehicles.

CIC-PACD Project Manager Potaisa Hombunaka presented the keys of the vehicle in front of staff and cadets to the Highlands Regional DAL Director John Jave at their regional office.

Mr. Jave acknowledged the support provided by PACD and said they were very happy with the support of the vehicle and also the recruitment of three agriculture cadets who have already joined their team.

"With the verification visits and with the engagement of the three cadets under the Highlands regionals project, I am grateful for CIC-PACD for assisting DAL in the Highlands region by supporting us to ensure we successfully implement this project," Jave said.

Project Manager Potaisa Hombunaka announced that the project has allocated K5m for DAL Highlands region to implement the project and service and commercialize and bring small and livestock farmers from where they are as informal businesses to operate as formal businesses.

"We are looking at 20 partnerships on average funded with K250, 000 each to service our spice, honey and small livestock farmers. The project will serve farmers in Morobe, Eastern Highlands, Simbu, Jiwaka and Western Highlands."

He said the Highlands Regional Office has been incapacitated in terms of support to implement its projects.

"If we are operating in makeshift environment to produce spices, honey, village chickens, piggery, ducks, goats and all these, when we leave we have to see the before and after changes. We must leave permanent infrastructures that is commercially viable for them to progress in that space to grow that industry."

Hombunaka reminded the DAL team that there is a deadline for the project (December 31st, 2025) and

funding must be well utilized, implemented and end on time. "We all must be up to speed with our attendance and work productivity for the successful roll-out of this project."

CIC-PACD Productive Partnership Coordinator Alphy Semy said although the Spice inclusive of Honey and



CIC-PACD Project Manager Potaisa Hombunaka (right) handing the keys of the Toyota ten-seater to NDAL Regional Director John Jave at the DAL office in Goroka on Monday, April 15, 2024.

Small Livestock Component was delayed for almost an year, it is now progressing with the verification visits pending, then they will proceed to the business plan and to contracts and the actual implementation to follow suit.

Apart from vehicle and driver support, the project also rehabilitated the office under PPAP and now will also install desktops on work stations with a virtual conferencing equipment at their meeting room. Hombunaka also called on DAL to provide a new ten seater for the Regional Office as the old one is waiting for an accident to happen.

CIC-PACD is a GoPNG agriculture development project mainly for coffee and cocoa with loan funding from the World Bank. Other value chains such as spice inclusive of honey and small livestock are also funded by the project.

Goroka hosts CPA Conference 2024

More than a hundred registered practicing accountants throughout the country have attended a 2 day Certified Practising Accountants (CPA) conference last week in Goroka.

The conference was held on Thursday 20th June to Friday, 21st June, 2024 at the Bird of Paradise Hotel.

With the theme 'Navigating Pathways to Economic Empowerment', guest speakers included some of the prominent experts in the agriculture, education, governance and business sectors who spoke on various topics relating to the theme.

Coffee Minister Hon. William Bando was present at the event to officially open the conference on Thursday, June 20th, 2024.

Minister Bando said CPA PNG has been at the forefront of navigating pathways to economic empowerment, training and developing skilled accountants who are pivotal in nation-building.

Mr. Bando highlighted that in 2019, CPA PNG achieved a significant milestone by attaining membership in the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), placing PNG accountants on par with their counterparts from America, England and Australia. "This achievement underscores CPA PNG's leadership in creating pathways for economic advancement," he said.

"As your Coffee Minister, I recognize the timely relevance of this theme to economic empowerment through coffee development. Coffee not only holds a cherished place as a beloved beverage and major cash crop, but also serves as a catalyst for economic growth, social equity and sustainable livelihoods in our communities."

Mr. Bando said that the Marape/Rosso Government envisions positioning the coffee sector as a K30 billion economy by 2023, as outlined in Vision 2025, Medium Term Development Plan IV, and the National Agricultural Sectoral Plan 2023- 2033. To achieve this ambitious goal, an investment of K500m over the same period is essential to ramp up annual coffee exports to 3 million bags.

CIC Financial Controller Nicholas Wakan who is the CPA PNG Goroka Branch President, gave a warm welcome address to all guest speakers and participants, stating that the Goroka conference was a first of its kind to be held in the Highlands since its establishment. "The 2024 conference is a platform for all of us to come together

to share our researches, and learn from each other's experiences. By working together, we can make a meaningful impact in our communities and contribute to the betterment of our society," he said.

CPA PNG was established in 1974 as an Association. In 1996 it was established by an Act of Parliament as a mandatory membership organization for all ac-

countancy professionals in Papua New Guinea (PNG)— Certified Practising Accountants and Certified Accounting Technicians. At the time it was called the Institute of Public Accountants. The name was changed to Certified Practising Accountants PNG in 2003.

The Accountants Act of 1996 provides CPAPNG with the mandate to review and communicate information on technical developments in the accountancy profession to members; set accounting and auditing standards to be applied in PNG; advise the Accountants Registration Board on any matters referred to it; determine initial and continuing professional development requirements, including setting requirements for admission into the institute; research topics affecting the accountancy profession; set ethical requirements; establish an investigation and disciplinary system for its members and, where appropriate, ask the Accountants Statutory Committee to inquire into allegations of improper conduct by a member; establish and administer, or participate in the establishment and administration of, any organization, whether incorporated or not, whose principal objectives relate to the advancement of the accountancy profession; and promote the interests of the accountancy profession in PNG.

The following business houses and organizations are acknowledged for their support in sponsoring this conference; Bank of South Pacific, Coffee Industry Corporation Ltd, Theodist Ltd, MVIL, Kongo Coffee Ltd, PNG Ports Corporation, Government Printing House, NAS-FUND and BSP Life PNG Ltd.



Coffee Minister Hon. William Bando

CPA Conference Highlights



L: Some of the participants at the 2024 CPA-PNG Conference in Goroka. **R:** Participants take time out for coffee break at the CIC information booth at the Bird of Paradise Hotel last month. Pictured are CIC staff serving coffee and having a chat with the conference participants.

Cadets recruited under CIC-PACD project

Three young female graduates from the University of Technology have joined the Department of Agriculture & Livestock Project Coordination Unit (DAL PCU) under PNG Agriculture Commercialization Diversification (PACD) project as cadet agriculture officers. They are attached with DAL's Highlands Regional Office at Goroka.

The cadets are Josemy Konoly, Jemima Wase and Gloria Hombunaka who have all undertaken Bachelor of Science in Agriculture at the University of Technology and graduated in 2021 and 2020 respectively. The cadets will be working under experienced DAL Regional Officers in spice, honey bee & small livestock to implement PACD's project component of spice & small livestock.

CIC-PACD Project Manager Mr. Hombunaka said during their induction that it was important to transfer relevant agriculture and extension knowledge from long time and experienced officers to young people as such so the industry knowledge and skills are reserved.

Mr. Hombunaka informed the new cadets to have the right attitudes as coming to work early and clocking of on or after time and maintain professionalism at all times. He mentioned that sadly we do not have many good role models particularly in the public service. "Do not follow the negative attitudes but always do the right thing. This is your golden opportunity as many of your colleagues are still looking for employment after obtaining their degrees. You make yourself relevant or irrelevant during this cadetship program."

National DAL Highlands Regional Director John Jave acknowledged the support of DAL PCU in recruiting new graduates into the system who will now learn and also contribute in the implementation of various agriculture projects they will be engaged in under DAL. Hopefully after the cadetship ends in 2025, DAL would be able absorb them as succession plan for the retiring officers.



Newly recruited cadet agriculture officers under the CIC-PACD project. From left: Josemy Konoly, Jemima Wase and Gloria Hombunaka at the CIC headquarters in Goroka.

"On behalf of DAL Highland's Regional Office, I would like to thank the DAL PCU for taking the lead in engaging in the manpower development in the agriculture sector. We need good young people to come in with good GPAs. A lot of people talk about agriculture but I for one say making the agriculture work on the field needs a person with good understanding of science. It is the right direction and I thank PACD for taking the lead," Jave said.

Mr. Hombunaka also mentioned that CIC-PACD will support the DAL Highlands Regional Office with a vehicle and driver to implement the spice & small livestock component of the PACD project in Eastern Highlands, Simbu, Jiwaka and Western Highlands Provinces.

LO BILONG SERI KOPI



PRESIM STRONG MAU SERI
LONG TUPELA PINGA.
SERI I MAU GUT,
BIN BAI KAM AUT ISI TRU.



~~OL DISPELA KAIN SERI
INO MAU GUT,
NOKEN PIKIM O SALIM.~~



~~OL DISPELA KAIN SERI
I BAGARAP,
NOKEN SALIM.~~

TAMBU - Long Salim Grin na Sting Seri Kopi



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TAMBU LONG MASINIM O SALIM

- Ol seri i grin o ino mau
- Ol seri i mau igo bilak o sting
- Ol seri igat ston na pipia wantaim
- Moa long tripela grin seri istap insait long wan handret mau seri