ACIAR HORT/2014/094 End-of-Project Review, 5th -9th September 2022

Project field site visits - brief background information

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| **Date** | **Time** | **Site** | **Background** |
| 5th Sept | 4:00 pm | Kubu | DPI-BACRA Lab/Mini-chocolate lab The concept of establishing a cocoa bean quality testing and chocolate flavor tasting was initiated in 2018 by the ACIAR HORT/2014/094 project. DPI supported by allocating a room. Equipment/Instrument was procured through the project and project staff trained on cocoa assessment and chocolate making. Considerable progress has been made with 2 mini labs (Buka and Toniva), and DPI BACRA now have brand new chocolate /cocoa quality lab established with support from DFAT. |
| 7th Sept | 8:00 am | Malasang | VEWs Martin Masein and Celestine Tommy Martin is a VEW, community leader and aspiring politician and similarly with wife Celestine is a Woman leader. They have their highs and lows as leaders but after going through the Family Farm Teams training they manage to pull together their families, relatives and training to implement practically the concepts learnt with backyard gardens, poultry, cocoa & coconut, MSME etc.. |
|  | 9:30 am | Sorom Primary School  | Of the selected school to pilot Cocoa curriculum. (May stop along the Road side if timing is alright)??? |
|  | 10:00 am | Bonea | VEW Venessa Sini A woman VEW who has established a Bud wood garden, IPDM demo Cocoa block, few Goats and some MSME-activities in her village. Boneo is an old, run down cocoa coconut plantation and settlers are clearing and replanting with cocoa and food crops. Venessa provides planting materials with advice to her farmers. |
|  | 12:00 pm | Wakunai | VEW Aissac Kopana Established a Bud wood garden, IPDM demo plot, Cocoa dryer etc.. As a VEW he leads his farmers to make improvement both in income through cocoa productivity and good health/nutrition. He is now venturing into other MSME activities  |
|  | 2:00 pm | Manetai  | VEW George Tonai George is perhaps the most impressive and progressive VEW is Central. His village built an excellent Resource Centre, he works hard and leads and extend his farmer base well beyond expectations. He was one of the VEWs who travelled to Indonesia and Singapore trip at the beginning of the Project. His community a part of the CRG –Vegetable and Nutrition sub-project. The community have expanded their activities by receiving Bougainville partnership Grants utilizing the resource centre established under HORT 2014/094 ACIAR Project. |
| 8 Sep | 10:00 am | Koro Village | VEW Amsi and Grace Menako Husband and Wife who work together and train their farmers in IPDM of cocoa, pruning and CPB control. From earn good income from cocoa and other activities they build good houses and are venturing into other MSMEs. Best extension impact story in the Community for the project in South Bougainville. |
|  | 12:00 pm  | Konga DPI station(Lunch) | Konga DPI Station is used a Southern Regional Hub along with Buin DPI station. Goats were first introduced here for breeding and multiplication there but have encountered disease problems. A good set up with paddock and Goat house, Vegetable nurseries. Potential to develop further into a fully functional farming diversification research hub if DPI commits more resources and full time officer and labour. |
|  | 2:00 pm  | Buin | VEW Peter Kinana and Wife Cecilia Best VEW in South Bougainville or the whole Project. Well-functioning Resource Centre that attracts visits from farmers involved with NGOs and Faith-based organizations. Cecilia was one of the three women whose story was captured for a TADEP project stories for women (‘’Successful women farmers’’)  |
|  | 4:00 pm | Buin DPI station | Another South region Research Hub-with Officers houses , Cocoa bud wood garden, Cocoa collection, and other facilities. |