



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Project Highlights

**Emergency support to
preventing the spread and
mitigating the impacts of
COVID-19 along the
agricultural value chain
and building resilience in
food security, nutrition
and livelihoods**

**PROJECT CODE**

OSRO/PNG/100/JPN

**RESOURCE PARTNER**

Japan

CONTRIBUTION

USD 1 818 181

**IMPLEMENTATION**

01/04/2021–31/12/2022

**TARGET AREAS**

Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Central, East New Britain, Eastern Highlands, Hela, Madang, Milne Bay, Morobe, Simbu, Southern Highlands and Western provinces

**BENEFICIARIES**

114 933 households

**KEY PARTNERS**

Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries

Objective

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, mitigate negative impacts of the pandemic on the agricultural value chain and improve food security and nutrition among targeted communities.

Activities implemented

- Distributed 100 000 personal protective equipment kits, which each included a face mask, pair of latex gloves and hand sanitizer.
- Installed eight new handwash facilities at cocoa buying points and 61 automatic hand sanitizer dispensers at government offices, ports, airports and markets along with messaging on COVID-19.
- Raised awareness on COVID-19 risks, preventive measures and health and safety protocols through 11 billboards in East New Britain, Eastern Highlands, Southern Highlands and Hela provinces and by integrating messaging into all 39 project trainings, directly reaching 2 106 people.
- Distributed 2 tonnes of rice seedlings in Southern Highlands and Western provinces and two rice mills to benefit four farming cooperatives in Southern Highlands province to support rice processing.
- Founded a food crop germplasm multiplication site in East New Britain province and distributed a variety of seedlings, tubers and cuttings to support and diversify the production of 22 farming cooperatives, as well as set up 16 satellite nurseries and equipped the greenhouses with tools and vegetable and legume seedlings.
- Established two rice seed multiplication sites spanning 100 ha in Milne Bay province to benefit four farming cooperatives.
- Built three cocoa nurseries and distributed timber, shade netting and basic irrigation systems in Eastern Highland and Simbu provinces.
- Set up nine cocoa nurseries and distributed 15 000 cocoa buds and tools to support the nine farming cooperatives in Madang province.
- Formed two community seed banks and distributed 2 tonnes of diverse food crop seeds and 7 028 sweet potato vines and cassava stems as foundation planting materials.



- Set up six seed bank multiplication sites in Simbu province as hubs for multiplying and storing a diverse range of seeds.
- Provided 46 500 freshwater fingerlings and 2 tonnes of fish stock feed in Milne Bay, Simbu and Southern Highlands provinces.
- Constructed four fish production ponds and refurbished four existing fishponds in Milne Bay province.
- Delivered 15 beehive boxes to farming cooperatives in Simbu province to promote beekeeping as an income-generating activity.
- Established a nursery with 1 000 tall coconut varieties and a 1-ha demonstration plot to support integrated farming systems with cocoa and rice.
- Provided financial literacy training in all four districts of East New Britain province.
- Promoted raised bed farming, providing 315 households with construction materials and vegetable seedlings.

Results

- Contributed to controlling the spread of COVID-19 and mitigating related impacts along the agricultural value chain.
- Increased capacity for local food production through the establishment of multiplication sites and distribution of pathogen-tested, early maturing seeds and commercial planting materials.
- Promoted nutrition-sensitive agriculture and contributed to improving food security through support to smallholder farmers.
- Supported the preservation of genetic diversity and ensured access to quality seeds for local smallholder farmers by establishing seed banks.
- Capacitated farmers with the necessary skills and knowledge to enhance their agricultural productivity and sustainable farming practices.
- Enhanced the production, processing and marketing of cash crops to increase income generation among smallholder farmers.
- Enabled smallholder farmers to diversify their livelihoods and agricultural production through the adoption of apiculture.
- Empowered smallholder farmers engaged in apiculture activities to make informed financial decisions, navigate challenges, seize opportunities and effectively manage their resources for long-term success.

Contact

FAO Representation in Papua New Guinea
 FAO-PG@fao.org | @FAOinPNG
 Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

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Office of Emergencies and Resilience
 OER-Director@fao.org
 fao.org/emergencies | @FAOemergencies
 Rome, Italy

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