

Stories from the Field



## Paula Manbobo : Leaving a passionate footprint for Virgin Coconut Oil (VCO) producers in Numfor

During a recent visit to Numfor with Rikolto the GEG team learned the sad news that an active partner Paula Manbobo passed away at the end of 2021. Paula had been very active as part of GEG program implementation in Koryakam village, Numfor.

Paula was a passionate, hardworking woman from Koryakam village, Poiru Sub- District. In 2021 she excitedly shared with GEG team members that her VCO business had really helped her to pay for her children school fees, especially after her husband left her.

She enthusiastically produced VCO and sold her products to Manokwari but she was also very committed to sharing her knowledge with other women in the surrounding villages. One of those women was Mrs Lebrina Yeninar from Syoribo village. Paula taught her the technique of producing VCO to the point that she now is producing and selling independently too. Paula also reached out to Mrs Lenny Wambrauw from Inaibo village to invite her to participate in various

VCO activities in Koryakam and until now she is now selling VCO in front of her house.

Lebrina and Yeninar are just two examples of how Paula actively shared her knowledge of VCO production and created benefits for others not just herself building the case for VCO entrepreneurs in Numfor.

## Preparation for Pre-Certification of Nutmeg Commodity Organic in Fakfak Regency, West Papua Province



An organic certification process would raise the profile of nutmeg from Fakfak internationally. This combined with improved quality could create added value for Fakfak nutmeg farmers and entrepreneurs. Organic certification is an important element of the green business case for nutmeg in Fakfak.

Organic certificates are very important to provide quality assurance for foreign buyers, especially Europe's largest buyers,

certifying that Fakfak nutmeg is completely organic without any chemical contamination from both the plantation gardens or post-harvest handling.

To get there, the GEG program together with STC from July to September have conducted an assessment for organic certification for Fakfak nutmeg gardens in Kramomongga Village, Mamur Village and Wargep Village in Kramomongga sub district.

This activity involved plantation inspections and data collection that included farmer identification, examination of potential chemical contamination intentional or unintentional in farmers' gardens. It also gathered SOPs, mapping, data on plantation ownership and management. There was also formal and informal socialization on the certification process and the documents required for organic inspection by international certification bodies.

## The Support of Seaweed Seedlings from the Fisheries Service of West Papua Province for Wondama Bay

Good news came from Wondama Bay Regency this month. After waiting for a long time, the seaweed farmers in Yomber village finally received 2.5 tons of weather resistant seedlings that they had been waiting for.

The seedlings are a brown seaweed called *Eucheuma Spinosum*. These seedlings were purchased from the seaweed farmer group in Serui at a price of Rp. 5000/kg. *Spinosum* has been proven to be resistant to weather changes as seen in Yustus Ayamseba's seaweed garden in Mena village, Roon sub district

It is expected that these seedlings will be used to produce further quantities of seedlings for wider distribution especially for other villages in Teluk Wondama Regency whose water conditions present a higher risk in terms of weather and salinity levels.



## Upcoming Event GEG Learning and Sustainability Forum – Business Matching November 2022

As the GEG program heads into his final two months of implementation the remaining GEG team members are preparing to co-host an interactive learning event with Kemendes in Bali from 8th-10th November. The program seeks to share key lessons from program implementation and invite district officials from Papua and West Papua to meet various private sector players and experts operating within different commodity value chains.

The program has invited partners of Lingkar Temu Kabupaten Lestari (LTKL) to share their experience on preparing district invest proposals and there will be opportunities for sharing ideas on products and value chains directly between district officials and relevant businesses from the different commodity value chains. The next and last monthly newsletter of GEG will share some of the results and ideas from this event.



## Green Economic Growth Programme for Papua Provinces

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