



## Happy New Year from Ekonomi Hijau

This newsletter marks the start of a new year and a new phase of GEG (Ekonomi Hijau). A new partnership between the UK FCDO, USAID and the Ministry of Villages has been agreed to continue the Green Economic Growth (GEG) Programme in Papua and West Papua, until September 2022. This exciting news enables GEG to secure and scale up its successful green commodity pilots, create jobs, support livelihoods and avoid deforestation - under a common vision of prosperity and low-carbon development for Papuan provinces.

In this phase of the program the GEG team would like to consolidate and share our lessons as widely as possible. Please support us by sharing this newsletter to your colleagues who are interested in supporting a green and sustainable economy in Papua and ask them to subscribe by clicking subscribe or on the QR code at the end of this newsletter. We will also be regularly updating our website and Instagram feed.

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## Introducing Our New Team Leader and His Deputy

Simon Field and Yakob Panus Jingga have joined the GEG team as team leader and deputy respectively since the start of the new year.



Simon has over 35 years of experience in managing complex international development programmes, throughout the Asia Pacific region. He has spent a significant amount of this time managing projects in Indonesia, from Aceh to Papua, in a number of contexts and sectors. Simon has developed successful agribusiness in Indonesia, from Gayo coffee in the Aceh highlands, virgin coconut oil on the island of Simeulue and vanilla in eastern Indonesia.



Yb. Panus Jingga was born in Wurineri-Wamena District, Papua. Previously he was the Head of the Control Agency for Tolikara Regency Development Planning Agency (Kepala Badan Pengendalian BAPPEDA Tolikara Regency) and Assistant to the Special Staff of the President of the Republic of Indonesia. He now joins the GEG team as Deputy Team Leader and along with Simon will be seeking to meet most of the GEG stakeholders in the next month.





## Steering Committee

The MoV (Kementerian Desa, PDT dan Transmigrasi) led the 6th Annual Steering Committee meeting in Jakarta on January 25, 2022. In attendance were MoV Department heads, representatives from GEG/LTSI (Green Economy Programme for Papua/Papua Barat – Land Timber System Intl.), USAID (U.S.

Agency for International Development), LCDG (Low Carbon Development Group, formerly UKCCU or UK Climate Change Unit), the SEKDAs for Papua and Papua Barat and other related agencies. The MoV acknowledged the support from USAID and the

GEG programme's impacts to date and indicated that the focus of the programme should now be towards sustainability. This was agreed upon by all parties and will be developed alongside support from TEKAD (Transformasi Ekonomi Kampung Terpadu).

## Rabobank to Papua Barat

On January 30th, Retno Dwi Jayanti of Rabobank, alongside the MoV, UK-LCDG and USAID representatives, arrived in Fakfak with intent to explore supporting scaling up and sustainability around GEG's nutmeg intervention.

Rabobank is a Dutch multinational banking and financial services company headquartered in Utrecht, Netherlands. The trip will extend into February as Rabobank will explore a similar supporting model with Eiber Suth Chocolate Cooperative in

Ransiki, Manokwari Selatan (Papua Barat) and seaweed development in Wondama, Papua Barat.





## GEG Fakfak Nutmeg Export Initiative

In January 2022, the GEG Project supported the first export of the unique Papuan variety of nutmeg (*Myristica argentea*) from its primary production area of Fak Fak Kabupaten for over 35 years. GEG identified and facilitated a collaborative initiative involving two large Dutch spice companies (Verstegen BV and Nedspice BV), an Indonesian spice exporter (True Spice Indonesia), and a local collector and trader based in Fak Fak, UD. Sofia. Contracts were created by Nedspice's large international spice grinding facility in Vietnam in November 2021 for the delivery of two trial containers of shelled nutmeg and mace matching the strict European Union specifications for two major phytosanitary contaminants, aflatoxin and ochratoxin.

If this pilot trading initiative is deemed successful by the buyers, it can lead to further annual purchases of 100-200 metric tons high quality Papua nutmeg and mace in the coming years. The estimated value based on current market prices thereof would be

between IDR 13.2-26.4 billion (US\$ 930,000- 1,860,000).

Over the last three decades, the inability to achieve these high-quality standards has led to a sharp decline in the reputation and demand for Papuan nutmeg in its historical market in the Netherlands. This also led to a significant shift to the domestic and Chinese markets with substantially lower prices compared to the dominant Banda nutmeg variety from Maluku and Sulawesi. To address this situation, GEG deployed a leading Indonesian nutmeg expert, Dr. Mustafiril, to assist the local cooperating trader, collectors, and farmers in upgrading the post-harvest purchasing and processing practices. GEG has been involved by

- supporting the design and construction of drying facilities that can reduce moisture rapidly, prevent mold and other contaminants, and eliminate the use of firewood-based smoke drying.

- direct purchasing of maturely harvested nutmeg and mace at significantly higher prices from local collectors and farmers,
- continuous monitoring of moisture content, aflatoxin and mold incidence, and
- timely and efficient packaging, storage, and shipping.

To safeguard the supply chain, the product is sent from Fak Fak to True Spice Indonesia in Surabaya to provide quality testing and assurances prior to onward shipping to Nedspice in Vietnam.

This pilot initiative has attracted the interest of potential international and Indonesian funders, including Rabobank Foundation and the West Papuan government. From 30-31 January 2022, a series of virtual and actual meetings were held in Fak Fak regarding this initiative, involving various key local and external stakeholders, including the head of Dinas Perkebunan Fak Fak, the West Papuan government, Kemendes (Ministry of Villages), Rabobank Foundation, GEG, LCDG (UK), USAID, and local farmers, community enterprises (Bumkam), and UD. Sofia.



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## Green Economic Growth Programme for Papua Provinces

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