ACIAR Workshop Report

A three days workshop was conducted in Lae included the Partners meeting with Assoc. Prof. Barbara Ozarska, where unfortunately PNGFA was unable to attend.

Second day brought us the main event which was the Landowner Groups and CPU Workshop to which there were over 30 participants including 3 Wood Processing Company Owners and reps operating in Morobe Province and more than 5 landowner and small sawmillers with their reps and also a rep from The National.

Third day program was to visit wood processing companies in Lae; the companies visited were Mountain Harvest, Yara Timbers, Hamea Enterprises Ltd., Lae Builders & Contractors, Philco Furniture and Nuigini Tropical Woods. These companies were very participatory in assisting with providing information for the survey questionnaires for technology gaps and small sawmills.

The following Mr. Jeremiah and Mr. Asok accompanied Prof Barbara Ozarska to meet with Dr. Turia and Mr. A. Jenkihau to discuss pressing matters discussed during the partners meeting and also visited other Wood Processing Companies in Port Moresby.

The team will continue the visit to PNGFP in Bulolo and other timber companies in Madang.

A group photo of the team that visited Wood processing companies in Lae. At Nuigini Tropical Woods timber yard, front center is the owner - Mr. Jack Ambang

Mr. Ambang briefing the team of his business
Two field trips were undertaken to primarily procure wood samples for research and promotional purposes;

The first was at Dabua plantation, Markham for pelita wood samples and the other at Markham Bridge, Yalu for the Taun wood samples. Wau Beech wood samples were procured at the Lae Botanical Gardens

Dabua Plantation:
The Dabua field-trip was undertaken in December 2015 and we spent 1 week for the felling of 5 trees, milling, sample preparation and labelling.

Although there were landowner issues, we were able to complete the job satisfactorily.

Officers involved were; Mathias Niau—Team Leader, Kila Lancelot—R/O, Markson Naki—T/A

K13,800.00.
This trip required 11 days due to weather and mechanical problems. Officers were not camped on-site

It should be noted that both species were from 18 year old FRI research plantations.

Markham Bridge Plantation:
The Markham Bridge exercise was carried out in February 2016 to procure wood sample of Taun.

Officers involved were; Frank Asok—Team Leader, Mathias Niau—PL—FPP, Kila Lancelot—R/O, Markson Naki—TA, Steven Komut—Instructor TFTC, Brian Samba—TA, NFM

Almost 2.000m3 of wood samples were produced at a cost of

Five Wau Beech trees were felled and milled in the gardens, then removed to TFTC for further processing. Approximately 0.7m3 of sawn timber was produced

Kila Lancelot
Research Officer—PNG FRI

Ripping Pelita slabs on Lucas Sawmill

Wau Beech in Lae Botanical Gardens
Preparing logs for milling by chainsaw
Milling logs using Lucas Mill
Labelled and stacked rough sawn Wau Beech timber ready for drying

TFTC:
The new TA was water logged due to wet season, therefore logging was deferred until the area is dry enough for machines to enter. Further more this forest area is considered Primary Forest thus common species here will not be considered for research trials. However, lesser-known species found in this forest will be procured for research purposes.

The Oomsis forest however is a secondary forest, thus Kwila, PNG Rosewood and other common species will be harvested for research and promotional purposes. Other LKS will also be considered for research.

It was suggested that TFTC submit a budget to Barbara if she can secure extra funding from ACIAR. The funding is for the log payments, harvesting, transportation and milling of timber species for research.

Unitech Forestry Dept.
Forestry dept. has selected Gastonia as their species to research on. The species is not harvested as yet.

Trema orientalis is reserved for Steven Komut for his postgraduate studies.
Peer Review Committee Meeting - PNG Wood Database

Two database review meetings were held; one at FRI which was attended by FRI staff, TFTC and Momoa Area Office reps., and the other at Forestry Dept. Unitech, which was attended by some some Forestry Lecturers and other lecturers/staff from other departments especially Mechanical and Civil Engineering Departments

After the presentation of the database, discussions and recommendations were invited from the audience to improve and make it user-friendly for everyone. Comments were made on the structure, contents and the accessibility of the database. All comments and recommendations were recorded.

From the FRI database review meeting, a Peer Review Committee made up of senior FRI officers was formed to look at all the recommendations that were recorded. The committee is made up of:

- Benjamin Vali (Chairman)
- Nalish Sam (NFM)
- Robert Kipranis (Biology)

The PRC will also present the database to other stakeholders which will include Govt depts and Statutory institutions, architectural and engineering companies and the timber companies.

These presentations will continue in the second half of this year (2016)

Background on Central Processing Unit (CPU)

The idea of the CPU was an initiative of the PNGFA which is in line with the Strategy to encourage downstream processing. The aim of the establishment of the CPU is to ensure that PNG and small saw millers and landowners are able to sell their sawn timber which can be further processed. The PNGFA has already under taken a scoping study and identified a site in Lae where it wants to set up the CPU. The PNGFA is seeking this ACIAR Project assistance to identify the best structure and operational procedures of the CPU (e.g. what products could be manufactured at the CPU.

The CPU as an initiative of PNGFA was to be led by Dr. Turia as mentioned in the proposal but was later formally (letter of handover given) handed over to Timber & Forestry College to run this activity as it has the facilities and the technical experiences.

TFTC and Unitech Forestry Department have been doing activities to establishing the CPU. A survey was conducted to all possible small saw mill owners and landowners to select participants for the CPU. Invitation letters were sent from PNGFA and given out. There were also committee meetings held on the agreement of the models to be used, the management and the research component (data collection), a seminar done on the proposed concepts or models and a workshop held where all inviting participants were asked to be part of in which included the viewing of the draft MOU for CPU.

The CPU is a new concept and with every step forward there are new issues arising even the "legality of the CPU is questionable".
CPU Seminar Report

The CPU Seminar was held at the Unitech Forestry Dept. seminar which is held every Wednesday evening. This presentation was done by Mr. Haron Jeremiah on the concepts on CPU models. The purpose of the presentation was to get feedback from project members, academics and the general public on the proposed CPU models for refinement and further work on the models.

The presentation highlighted the major challenges faced by small to medium wood processing industries in the country, the focus on the current CPU on how to improve the identified operational and technology gaps, on the criteria of designing the proposed models, the general concept of CPU and the proposed models. This also included the assessment & research Perimeters, the challenges expected to be encountered during the trials and the expected outcome of these trials.

There were four(4) models presented from the general concept. The models were:

- Model 1 - Existing Model (CPU - TA)
- Model 2 - Resource Owners - CPU - Buyers
- Model 3 - CPU TA Joint Venture
- Model 4 - Partial Value Adding Outside CPU

After this Seminar a proposal was made for a CPU Action Committee which will be lead by TFTC and support from other partner institutions (FRI and Unitech Forestry Dept.) to discuss and finalize on the Models that will be used.

The team agreed to have the first meeting on the 1 week later. Mr Haron Jeremiah has submitted report and presentation to Prof B Ozarska.
Profiles of Project Partner Institutions

The Australian Center for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)
ACIAR funds research project that are developed with in a framework reflecting the priorities of Australia’s aid program and national research strengths, together with the agricultural research and development. It operates on five (5) functions which relates to the ACIAR Act No. 9 of 1982, “An Act encouraging research for the purpose of identifying or finding solutions to agricultural problems of developing countries”.

The University Of Melbourne (UOM)
Australian public research university which was established in 1853, is Australia’s 2nd oldest and the oldest in Victoria. The university compromises of 11 separate academic units and is associated with numerous institutions and research centers and also various residential colleges that have become affiliated with the University. Motto: “May I grow in esteem of future generation”

Papua New Guinea Forest Authority (PNGFA)
Established in 1993 under the 1991 Forestry Act with a mission to “Promote the management and wise utilization of the forest resources of Papua New Guinea as a renewable asset for the well-being of the present and future generation” and an objective in “working towards achieving sustainable forest management in PNG”. It has six (6) core objectives and ten (10) core functions which are executed through its 3 key arms; National Forest Board, Provincial Forest Management Committee and The Nation Forest Services (NFS)

Papua New Guinea Forest Research Institute (PNG FRI)
Established in 1989 with a vision as a “Leading center for forestry research in the Pacific Region” and a mission in “Providing scientific basis for the management of Papua New Guinea’s forest resources through research”. It conducts research in four (4) major areas; Natural Forest Management, Forest Biology, Planted Forest and Forest Products.

Department of Forestry - PNG University of Technology
The only institution in the South Pacific region that offers training in tropical forestry at a Professional level with integrated Degree and Diploma curricula offered at UNITECH and Bulolo Campuses respectively. With a mission in “Recognizing the capacity of forests to generate large number of jobs for a given level of investment, the department was established to produce professionals, both men and women with technical production skills and expertise needed to manage PNG forest resources sustainability

Timber & Forestry Training College (TFTC)
Established as a bilateral aid project between the Papua New Guinea and New Zealand Government and started formal training in 1978, it is an affiliated training division of the PNG University of Technology. It is the only institution in PNG that conducts vocational training for the timber industry. It has qualified trades & Professional persons in the fields of saw milling, small sawmills, log harvesting, chain saw operation, saw doctoring, wood machining & technology and furniture production, operating on three (3) objectives focusing on providing effective capacity training for the timber industry.

The Papua New Guinea Forest Industries Association (Inc.) - PNGFIA
An incorporated association of companies involved in all levels of operation in the timber industry in Papua New Guinea. It has seven (7) objectives all promoting and supporting the best interest of the Association’s Members.
Activity Leaders - Objective 1

Activity 1.1 - Extending the current database and creating database for lesser known species form secondary forest and plantation forests.

Activity Leader: Mr. Benjamin Vali, PNG Forest Research Institute, Forest Products Program

Activity 1.2 - Testing of basic physical and mechanical Properties of target species.

Activity Leader: Mr. Mathias Niangu, PNG Forest Research Institute, Forest Products

Activity 1.3 - Development Of Kiln Drying Schedules and PNG appropriate technologies for the timbers.

Activity Leader: Mr. Benjamin Vali, PNG Forest Research Institute, Forest Products Program

Activity 1.4 - Assessment of preservative treatment characteristics of timbers.

Activity Leader: Mr. Benson Gusamo, Lecturer, Bulolo University College

Activity 1.5 - Testing gluing characteristics of the timbers for various wood product applications.

Activity Leader: Mr. Lus Pora, Timber & Forestry Training College, Furniture Manufacturing Section

Activity 1.6 - Assessment of other processing characteristics

Activity Leader: Mr. Ravu Iru, Timber & Forestry Training College, Wood Machining Section

Activity 1.7 - Recommendations on best applications/types of products for the selected species based on their properties and processing characteristics.

Activity Leader: Mr. Benjamin Vali, PNG Forest Research Institute, Forest Products Program
Project Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop by Joanne Roberts (Facilitator) 6th February 2015

An Impact Pathway Analysis is a conceptual framework that articulates the rationale behind a project – what are understood to be the cause-and-effect relationships between inputs, activities, outputs, intermediate outcomes and longer term outcomes. Ideally, it is built as a participation activity at early stages of project design and becomes a base for the development of the M&E plan. Represented as a diagram, an impact pathway analysis shows a series of expected essential consequences (indicators of success), not just a sequence of events and can be described as a form of design clarification.

Impact Pathway Analysis provides a ‘theory of change’ that can be tested and also helps to determine when and what to evaluate so that evaluation resources are used effectively and efficiently. It is important to acknowledge in developing an Impact Pathway Analysis that the ‘Enhancing Value Added Wood Processing in PNG’ project is essentially a research for development (R4D) project that is expected to achieve a set of research objectives, contribute to the achievement of a range of intermediate outcomes and be plausibly associated with achievement of some specific longer term outcomes.

What is an Impact Pathway?
- A thinking tool
- Describes how outcomes are expected to be achieved
- Helps you tell a story about the program
- Helps you structure a report on the outcomes
- NOT ROCKET SCIENCE

DISCLAIMER

ACIAR Project FST/2012/092 newsletter is a collaborative publication between PNG Forest Authority and ACIAR. Other collaborating institutions are UNITECH Forestry Dept., TFC, PNG FRI, PNGFIA and University Of Melbourne. Any views expressed are views of the Newsletter Committee including Research Officers from representing collaborating institutions. Any newspaper or journal interested in articles published here should contact the Country Project Coordinator or Director Forest Policy and Planning for fair and accurate reporting to avoid misinterpretation.

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