

## Final Component Report

Component/ Expected Project Result:	Suitable target smallholder communities in PNG, SI and Vu identified, needs-assessed, and participating in the research and development process
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### 1. Achievement of the output and milestones in the component including what was not achieved and why?

O	Milestones	Expected Date of Achievement	Actual Date of Achievement
<b>A1</b>	<b>Information gathering exercises to identify suitable target community groups in areas of PNG, SI and Vu at risk from drought, excess rainfall or sea water inundation</b>		
M1	Suitable target community groups identified based on desktop review and appraisal visits	Q3 2011	Q4 2011

- Output and milestone achieved.
- A total of 11 target communities in PNG (5), SI (3) and VU (3) at risk from drought, excess rainfall or sea water inundation were identified
- In PNG GIS was used to identify risk areas based on PNGRIS and MASP database – In Vanuatu, sites were selected initially based on field observations of potential risks associated with climate change. Ground truthing and surveys followed to confirm on-ground situations
- Target sites were determined based on risk and access

O	Milestones	Expected Date of Achievement	Actual Date of Achievement
<b>A2</b>	<b>Baseline surveys in target communities to collect primary information on food security etc. and farmer participatory workshop to assess needs of target communities agree potential solution options &amp; help identify pilot sites</b>		
M1	Survey instruments and methodology developed	Q4 2011	Q3 2011
M2	Surveys conducted in three countries	Q4 2011	Q4 2011
M3	Data analysed for all countries	Q1 2012	Q1 2012
M4	priority interventions within project framework determined for each of the pilot sites in PNG, SI, Vu	Q3 2012	Q3 2012

- Outputs and milestones achieved.
- Baseline surveys were conducted in Year 1. The purpose was to establish constraints and opportunities in relation to food crop and livestock production, socio-economic setting, awareness on climate change
- The method used included:
  - Household survey and focus group discussions were conducted in target sites using structured and semi-structured questionnaires respectively.
  - Both research instruments were developed and pre-tested prior to administration.

- Teams composed for the data collection exercise, comprised of NARI staff and partner organizations
  - Enumerators and Team Leaders then underwent Baseline survey training
  - Data collection commenced at end April-end May 2011 for PNG,
  - Data collection for Solomon Island and Vanuatu commenced in early and mid Nov 2011, respectively.
  - Data collection was completed for all sites at end 2011
  - Data analysis commenced in Year 2 – 2012 and was completed in 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter
  - Data was analyzed using SPSS
- Community Reporting Back workshops
    - The Purpose was to inform communities on constraints and opportunities and discuss options to address them.
    - The method used: The project engaged a participatory approach to ensure that interventions delivered by the project are well targeted to achieve positive changes on farms and impact on farmers' livelihoods. This was a new research approach undertaken by NARI, where communities are actually engaged to set priorities for research interventions.
- Presentation of issues Identified from needs assessment
    - From needs assessment data, the Research Team processed production issues identified for crops, livestock and soil into simple messages. This was also done for water and socio-economic issues.
    - Simple messages were then translated into pictorial form in posters.
    - Messages on posters were presented mostly in plenary sessions
    - Farmers were allowed to verify information on issues
    - Adequate time was then allowed for discussions  
Adequate time was also allowed for poster reviewing
- Presentation of options for research, based on issues identified
    - After viewing pictorial presentations of issues, farmers then viewed a list of possible options for addressing the issues.
    - Adequate time were allowed for farmers to do this and to identify issues of interest to them
    - Below is an example of options for research, for a target site.
    - ❖ Improving the production of sweetpotato
    - ❖ Improving the production of other staple crops
    - ❖ Introduction of grain crops in my farming system
    - ❖ Using some of my staple crops for livestock feed
    - ❖ Using some of my staple crops for processing into flour and other products
- Voting Process
    - Following the viewing of pictorial and research options presentations, the voting process was explained to farmers
    - Farmers were separated into male and female groups and each voted separately
    - 3 stick-on dotes were allocated to each farmer for voting

- Priorities Identified
  - Following the voting sessions, votes were tallied separately for women and men at first, then combined
  - Priorities were then identified based on combined votes
  - These priorities were presented back to communities the next day
  - Farmers were given time to verify their agreement and raise any concerns
  - Refer to site reports for respective priorities

○ Planning, Development of site plans and participatory planning on site  
 Following the reporting back workshops and prioritization exercises, interventions were identified. The process included:

- Preliminary Interventions identified during the CRBWs (E.g PT SP, pig and chicken feeding practices)
- Further Analysis and prioritization of Interventions, for implementation (E.g. Unpacking community priorities)
- Research Team developed Operational Plans, with required resources and timeline
- Interventions were targeted more towards helping farmers producing food for themselves or to generate income to help purchase food
- Interventions were of various nature e.g. for improving productivity, i.e. higher yield; lower cost of production e.g. feed; diversify options for food security to narrow period of food shortage experienced periodically or seasonally.
- Following this, components implemented respective project activities at the target sites.
- Refer to site reports for respective roll-out plans.

O	Milestones	Expected Date of Achievement	Actual Date of Achievement
<b>A3</b>	<b>Annual Community feedback meetings held in pilot sites in PNG, Si, Vu</b>		
M1	Meetings held in PNG sites	Q4 2013 Q4 2014 Q4 2015	Q4 2013 Q4 2014 Q4 2015
M2	Meetings held in SI sites	Q4 2013 Q4 2014 Q4 2015	- Q4 2014 Q4 2015
M3	Meetings held in Vu sites	Q4 2013 Q4 2014 Q4 2015	- Q4 2014 Q 2015

- Outputs and milestones achieved.
- During the life of the project, a number of community assessments were conducted to assess social dynamics, interest and participation of farmers on newly introduced technologies in the community. The findings revealed that:
  - The majority of farmers involved with the project thought that the process taken to identify issues, prioritize those issues, and to identify and select farmers to be involved, was very good
  - The level of interest expressed by farmers in the target communities varies from very high in PNG to medium in Solomon Islands and low in Vanuatu.

- Farmers in PNG were found to engage more the knowledge gained from the project than counterparts in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands
- A copy of the report is attached in Appendix 1.

O	Milestones	Expected Date of Achievement	Actual Date of Achievement
A4	<b>End of Action surveys and stakeholder workshops to get feedback from beneficiaries</b>		
M1	Survey instruments and methodology developed	Q2 2015	Q4 2015
M2	Surveys conducted in three countries	Q3 2015	Q4 2015
M3	data analysed and report completed	Q4 2015	Q2 2016
M4	Stakeholder workshops held in PNG	Q4 2015	Q4 2015
M5	Stakeholder workshops held in SI	Q4 2015	Q4 2015
M6	Stakeholder workshop held in Vu	Q4 2015	Q4 2015

- o Output and milestones achieved.

#### **The Purpose of the final assessment was to assess:**

- perceived performance of introduced technologies vs existing technologies. For this, mostly qualitative information was collected. Quantifiable data were collected from on-farm trials.
- general interest in the community on introduced technologies
- perceived likelihood of further adoption of technologies
- perceived views on whether use of improved technologies would help bridge gaps of food shortage
- whether farmers would vote for a different priority based on current observations on technologies delivered

The method used was Focus Group Discussion using semi-structured questionnaires. Assessments commenced and completed for all sites in 2015; November in PNG, December in Vanuatu and January 2016 in Solomon Island.

#### **Preliminary Results**

- The research approach taken to engage communities in voting for research interventions was seen to be a success. Evidence: In most sites, farmers say they will vote again for same priorities.
- Nevertheless, very different responses observed from site to site, on the interventions, reflecting the strong influence of micro-environment (social, cultural, economic, etc) on technology interest and use.

A copy of the report is available separately.

#### **2. Modifications in implementation plans at sites for this component and overall component plan and why were the modifications necessary**

On going assessments were carried out during the life of the project rather than at the end of the year except for 2015. This was so that farmers who entered earlier in the projects are assessed, so in the event that they move on later towards the end of the project, we would have still captured required information from them. Also annual

feedback meetings were done by components and not all components together, due to some components progressing in their activities faster than others.

For final assessments focus group discussions were used instead of survey. We thought this was an appropriate method to get feedback from the community as a collective body, on what was useful or not, their interests in the process used and technologies introduced, and likely future use and sustainability.

### 3. Achievements for the overall Component objectives and Results – Provide the consolidated indicator information to support your statements on achievement of the Component Result/Objective

<b>Result 2:</b>		
<b>Suitable target smallholder communities in PNG, SI &amp; Vu identified, needs-assessed, and participating in the research and development process</b>		
<b>A1</b>	<b>Information gathering exercises to identify suitable target community groups in areas of PNG, SI and Vu at risk from drought, excess rainfall or sea water inundation</b>	
	<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Activity and output</b>
M1	Suitable target community groups identified based on desktop review and appraisal visits	Survey reports available Finalized list of sites
<b>A2</b>	<b>Baseline surveys in target communities to collect primary information on food security etc. and farmer participatory workshop to assess needs of target communities agree potential solution options &amp; help identify pilot sites</b>	
	<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Activity and output</b>
M1	Survey instruments and methodology developed	Survey instruments and methods use in data collection available
M2	Surveys conducted in three countries	Report in surveys in 3 countries
M3	Data analysed for all countries	Data available for 3 countries SWOT analysis available for 3 countries Analyzed data available for 3 countries
M4	priority interventions within project framework determined for each of the pilot sites in PNG, SI, Vu	Report on community reporting back workshops available Report on priority setting by communities available Report on interventions available for 3 countries
<b>A3</b>	<b>Annual Community feedback meetings held in pilot sites in PNG, Si, Vu</b>	
	<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Activity and output</b>
M1	Meetings held in PNG sites	Analysis on community feedback available
M2	Meetings held in SI sites	Analysis on community feedback available
M3	Meetings held in Vu sites	Analysis on community feedback available
<b>A4</b>	<b>End of Action surveys and stakeholder workshops to get feedback from beneficiaries</b>	
	<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Activity and output indicator</b>
M1	Survey instruments and methodology developed	Instruments and method used in data collection available
M2	Surveys conducted in three countries	Report on surveys available for 3 countries
M3	data analysed and report completed	Report available for 3 countries
M4	Stakeholder workshops held in PNG	Report on workshop available
M5	Stakeholder workshops held in SI	Report on workshop available
M6	Stakeholder workshop held in Vu	Report on workshop available

### 4. Technical Reports and other type of publication (popular or technical) produced or planned to produce

- Report on needs assessment analysis – draft report only
- Report on process used in reporting back workshop – draft report only
- Report on final assessment analysis – to be compiled

**5. Lessons learnt or any other relevant or notable observations as part of implementation**

The approaches used in engaging farmers to prioritize their needs and assessment of their participation was relevant and very useful. This approach should be considered replicating in NARI projects, where appropriate. The M&E plan was also quite useful to ensure appropriate information and their records are generated for M&E of the project activities and results.

**6. Other capacity building achievements in the component (organizational, individuals, research capacity etc)**

- Capacity building of cadets in data collection and analysis.
- A junior economist applied methodology gained from PGD to collect and analysis data from community participation assessments
- knowledge gained by research team on participatory action research