

# Trained farmers get free materials for on-farm trials

**FARMERS IN MIDDLEBUSH,** Tanna have benefited and are benefiting from the trainings facilitated by the National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) of Papua New Guinea and more recently the team of visiting NARI scientists and Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) officers.

The team travelled to Tanna on February 8, 2015 and conducted training and demonstrations specific technologies from pig silage, poultry to food processing as well as sow two 15mx15m plots of rice varieties (NR1 & NR15) at Middlebush project sites as previously reported.

Previous and participating model farmers were used in the training and demonstration of the specific technologies using the local vernacular and materials were distributed to the selected model farmers for on-farm trials after the training.

Participating farmers,

mostly women reported earnings between Vt30, 000 to Vt50, 000 from their first round of processing and most indicated to have paid for school fees, family food, farm tools and other equipment for their small food processing businesses.

Evidence of food processing and value addition products such as cassava, sweet potato crisp, pops, flour and cakes were packed, labeled and sold in the local airport shops including shops at Lenakel town and the market.

The team also paid visit to some participating farmers who shared their satisfaction on the use of pig silage and value addition of staple crops such as cassava and sweet potato.

Many participating model farmers had also organized and conducted their own trainings in their local communities on pig silage and value addition.

Some notable outcomes



Jubilant pig silage and poultry farmers get free materials.

of pig silage include good growth, big, fat and tamed pigs after they were fed silage.

Continuity in rolling out priority activities on poultry, pig and food processing,

technologies is a follow up action that the project identified as well as supplying

chickens to selected model farmers on Tanna Island for on-farm trials