

PAPP Activities – April 2016

1. Pacific Organic Tourism and Hospitality Standard Development Workshop

Following on from the Pacific Agritourism work last year, PAPP and POET com are working together to formulate a new Pacific Organic Tourism Standard. The Standard is aimed at promoting organic food within the Pacific's growing tourism industry. A regional workshop supported by PAPP was held at the Novotel Nadi on April 4-6, 2016 to review a draft of the Pacific Organic Tourism and Hospitality Standard. Participants were from the organic and tourism sectors and representatives of the PAPP Steering Committee.

An updated draft of the Standard, incorporating inputs from the workshop, is in the process of being circulated to stakeholders around the region. Once the Standard is finalised and approved it will be piloted in at least 2 Pacific countries.

2. Kava Value Chain work

This activity is with Australia's Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access Program (PHAMA) aimed at setting quality standards for this important Pacific crop.

There are more than 40 varieties of Kava in the Pacific. The work is being done in Fiji n Vanuatu and will help improve traceability to export markets including EU.

The major focus of this PAPP supported activity was to finalize the Fiji Yaqona Quality manual and the Fiji Yaqona Standard.

Purpose:

- i. Provide support to the Yaqona Taskforce and associated consultations through participation in meetings and out of session discussions; including sessions held out of Suva as relevant.
- ii. Provide inputs to finalise interpretation of the kava lactone and other results.
- iii. Provide inputs into finalising posters and content for the Yaqona quality manual national (Codex based)

3. Pacific Strategic Action Plan for Agricultural and Fisheries Statistics: First Working Group

First meeting of the technical working group (TWG) for the development of the Pacific Strategic Action Plan for Agricultural and Fishery Statistics (P-SPAFS). The group was formed during the regional 'Strategic Planning for Agricultural and Fishery Statistics in the Pacific' meeting held in October 2015. The TWG is meeting to finalise the Roadmap for development of the P-SPAFS and to provide strategic guidance on the proposed vision, mission, objectives and activities. The meeting is jointly supported by PAPP and FAO.

4. PAPP Technical Working Group Meeting – Regional Ag Strategy

A Technical Working Group (TWG), comprising selected members of the PAPP Steering Committee, convened for a meeting in Suva, Fiji, on 12-15 April 2016. The group took stock of PAPP progress over the last 9 months including findings from the ROM review, the 2015 progress report, and also reviewed a draft outline of the Regional Agriculture Framework currently under development. The TWG also agreed to an updated WorkPlan for 2016 and 2017 (pending an extension approval). The countries represented at the TWG were the Cook Islands, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Tonga and FSM.