

# PIFON

## Pacific Island Farmers Organisation Network



# Who is PIFON?

Network of farmer organisations that has been operating informally since 2008. Formally registered in 2013 by eighteen (18) foundation national FOs, from six (6) Island countries (Cook Is, Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Is, Tonga, Vanuatu,)



# Focal areas 2014/2015

Major themes:

- seeds,
- soils,
- farmer oriented value chain trainings  
and
- youth in agriculture.

# Funding Partnerships



## MTCP2

Medium Term Cooperation Programme  
with Farmers' Organisations in Asia and  
the Pacific, Phase II

Strengthening the Capacities of Farmers Organizations  
to Deliver Services and Engage in Policy Work



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

**Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC**



Enabling poor rural people  
to overcome poverty

# Pacific Partnerships

# PAPP

## Pacific Agriculture Policy Program

— *linking farmers, growing markets* —



European Union



**SPC**  
Secretariat  
of the Pacific  
Community

# What has PIFON done?

## Examples of types of supported activities

**Farmer to farmer technical exchange on: Legume Mucuna  
(Mucuna Pruriens)  
Taveuni – Nadi (FIJI)**



# Types of supported activities

**Farmer to farmer technical exchanges on papaya production : Fiji – Samoa and Fiji-Tonga**



# Types of supported activities

**Floriculture technical exchange**

**Fiji - Samoa**





# What has PIFON done?

**Commercial pineapple production technical exchange:  
Fiji – Samoa and Fiji - Tonga**



# Types of supported activities

Technical assistance in upgrading of seed production, processing and storage

**Solomon Islands**



# Types of supported activities

## Regional scoping study and project design

related to: “Utilizing farmer organisations to improve the access to high quality seed for Pacific Island farmers”



# Types of supported activities

## Asia Pacific Learning Exchange

Held in Taiwan with FOs, NGOs, universities and commercial seed producers on open-pollinated and hybrid seed production.



# Types of supported activities

## Farmer orientated value chain training

- Tei Tei Taveuni - Taro Value Chain Training
- FSA Pepper farmer value chain training Malo, Vanuatu



# Types of supported activities

## Learning Exchange Forum on Seeds

Manila, Philippines



## Training on Women Farmer Entrepreneurship

Ahmedabad, India



# Types of supported activities

## Regional training programme on ICTs

Simple movie-making technology for use by the FOs



# Highlighted activity

**REGIONAL FARMER ORGANISATION TRAINING ON TECHNOLOGIES**

*Supporting Off-Season Vegetable Production*



SPC  
Secretariat  
of the Pacific  
Community



Australian Government  
Australia Centre for  
International Agricultural Research

**PIFON**

**PAPP**  
Public Agriculture Policy Project



JUNE 1ST - 5TH 2015

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# Why FOs could play more active participation in the Pacific agriculture development

## Advantages

- Pacific FOs tend to own 2 key capital investment assets- **Land and Labour**
- Most of land is customary tenure or registered under communal ownership
- Natural resources (forests, seas/reefs and Geo-environment attractions are communally owned
- Labour is relatively affordable and in abundance
- May strengthen communal coherence ,maintenance of good traditional values
- Economy of scale lead to high chances of viability
- Ideal for complying with niche – market (Organic, Fair-trade etc) requirements
- Cooperative collaboration may be appropriate at certain levels of the Value-chain

## Benefits

- Facilitate investment and strengthen linkages with the higher marketing/trading /value-chain
- May facilitate access to financial credit along the value-chain
- Pooling of resources (land, capital and labour)
- Rise of Savings Clubs
- Ensure focused support services to the FOs rather than thinly spread to individual HHs
- Enable FOs to venture into more sustainable businesses and self-reliance
- Create opportunities for self-esteem thru self-employment for members
- Immediate benefits to members
- Common Goods and community welfare can be facilitated

# www.pacificfarmers.com

