



SOLOMON ISLANDS
GOVERNMENT



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK
ANNUAL REPORT 2010





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Executive Summary

Solomon Islands has sufficient land mass that can sustain food security, help the economic development and maintain livelihood activities for all its citizens. Such sustainability mind set to be fruitful needs proper short-and long-term strategic planning and ensuring plans are implemented accordingly. With the limited arable land size, low export of fresh agricultural produce, factors relating to market access and high intensity of subsistence farming, are seen as major hindering factors to productivity. With the added effects of climate change, changing environmental conditions, attitudes of farmers, low Private Sector support, location from major importing countries hence high freight costs, demanding international trade requirements, and land issues are challenges that contribute enormously to the slow progress of agriculture development in the country. Despite that, there are a lot of opportunities for promoting small-to large-scale holders to benefit from their agricultural activities, and have linkages to local and international market economies.

With the comparative advantage that Solomon Islands agricultural products have over some neighboring Pacific Island Countries (PIC), it has high competitive advantage at the local and international markets, and as such, there are numerous market opportunities available for investors to participate on within the agriculture sector.

This report however, highlights the activities implemented by the Ministry in carrying-out the mandated programs and projects. It also covers major constraints and challenges faced by the Ministry when trying to implement its activities. Furthermore, the report also put forward suggestions as a way forward for improvements.



Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Meanings
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
ACIAR	Australian Centre for International Agriculture Research
AIU	Agriculture Information Unit
ALP	Agriculture Livelihood Program
ASTI	Agricultural Science Technology Indicators
AVRDC	Asian Vegetable Research Development Center (The World Vegetable Center)
AWP	Annual Work Plan
CA	Chief Accountant
CBSLM	Capacity Building for Sustainable Land Management
CDC	Curriculum Development Center
CFO	Chief Field Officer
CIP	International Potato Center (Centro Internaciol de la Papa)
CLIP	Cocoa Livelihood and Improvement Programme
CPB	Cocoa Pod Borer
CPRF	Community Programme for Rural Funding
CTA	Certificate in Tropical Agriculture
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
DARD	Department of Agriculture Research and Development
DATC	Dala Agriculture Training Center
DFL	Distance and Flexible Learning
DLVS	Department of Livestock and Veterinary Services
DOE	Director of Extension and Training
DOP	Director of Agriculture Planning and Land-Use
DOR	Director of Agriculture Research
DOAQ	Director of Agriculture Quarantine
DSAP	Development of Sustainable Agriculture in the Pacific
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FES	Farmer Field School
FES	Field Experiment Station
GAS	Giant African Snail
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GPPOL	Guadalcanal Plantation Palm Oil Limited
GSLs	Government Small Livestock Support
GIS	Geographical Information System
HQ	Head Quarters
HRM	Human Resources Manager
IAASTD	International Assessment of Agricultural Science and Technology for Development
ICDF	International Cooperation and Development Fund
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute
IPAM	Institute of Public Administration and Management
IPDM	Integrated Pest and Disease Management
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IPPSI	Improved Plant Protection in the Solomon Islands
IT	Information Technology
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KGA	Kastom Gaden Association
KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency
LUP	Land-Use Planning

MAL	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
MDPAC	Ministry of Development Planning and Aid Coordination
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MIS	Management Information System
M.Sc.	Master of Science
MTB	Ministry Tender Board
NAP	National Action Programme
NAPA	National Adaptation Programs of Action
NCRA	National Coalition for Reform and Advancement
NCCCT	National Climate Change Country Team
NDMO	National Disaster Management Office
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NRRDP	National Rural Rice Development Programme
PAPGREN	Pacific Agriculture Plant Genetic Resources Network
PA	Project Assistant
PFO	Principal Field Officer
PGSP	Provincial Government and Strengthening Project
Ph.D.	Doctor of Philosophy
PM	Project Manager
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PS	Permanent Secretary
R & D	Research and Development
RDP	Rural Development Programme
RIPEL	Russell Islands Plantations Estate Limited
ROC	Republic of China (Taiwan)
SBD	Solomon Islands Bank Dollar
SIAQS	Solomon Islands Agriculture Quarantine Services
SICHE	Solomon Islands College of Higher Education
SIDT	Solomon Islands Development Trust
SIG	Solomon Islands Government
SPPL	Silvania Plantation Products Limited
SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Program
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SNR	School of Natural Resources
SOE	School of Education
SOS	Scheme of Service
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SRI	System of Rice Intensification
TICA	Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency
TOT	Training of Trainers
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
US	Under Secretary
USP	University of the South Pacific
VBMS	Vois Blong Mere Solomons
WEDO	Women Environment Development Organization



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MAL 2010 SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Note: Changes in the Senior Management in 2010

1. From October 2010: Mr. John M. Harunari was appointed the Permanent Secretary
2. From October 2010: Mr. Jimi Saelea was appointed the Under Secretary (Technical) - Acting
3. From October 2010: Mr. Maclean Vagalo was appointed the Director of Agriculture Research & Development – Acting
4. Mr. Francis Tsatsia was appointed the Director of Agriculture Quarantine Services (SIAQS)



Hon. Selwyn Riumana (MP)
Minister



Edward Kingmele (CBE)
Permanent Secretary
(Up to September 2010)



Mr. John M. Harunari
Under Secretary
(Technical) (Up to September 2010)



Dr. Ravindra C. Joshi
Senior Advisor (Agri. Dev.)



Ms. Emily Teitala
Under Secretary
(Administration)



Mr. Frank Maeaba
Director
Agriculture Planning & Land-Use



Mr. Michael Ho'ota
Director
Extension & Training



Mr. Jimi Saelea
Director
Agriculture Research & Development



Ms. Jacqueline Qaloboe
Human Resources
Manager



Mr. Barney Keqa
Director
Livestock & Veterinary Services



Mr. Francis Tsatsia
Director
Solomon Islands Agriculture Quarantine Services



Mr. Billy Toate'e
Chief Accountant

From the Desk of the Permanent Secretary

This year has been a tough time for the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL) in-terms of the transition period that had incurred during the change of Government. Despite that, many positive achievements were accomplished during the year. This report is however, based on the approved recurrent and development budgets passed in Parliament for year, 2010. With that, the activities carried-out in 2010 were funded by MAL-SIG Budget. Other support budgets were funded under the Rural Development Programme (RDP), and other donor-funded projects and programs. As such, all activities were focused towards meeting the needs of the People of Solomon Islands, Government, Public and Private Sector, and all stakeholders of the agriculture sector.

Past experiences have shown that most programs and activities could not be achieved as planned. Thus, during this year (2010), planning were done well in advance to ensure that funds are released as outlined during the different months of the year so as to successfully carry-out the tasks effectively. This year (2010), MAL puts specific emphasis on rural development to improve further the economic development of the country. This is the right direction taken at present to enhance food security, nutrition, and rural income generation. Despite the strategic plans put in place, there were barriers that were always encountered when carrying-out the ministry's programs. These barriers include; land tenure issues, slow progress of subsistence farmers towards commercialization, poor market access for agricultural products (international), climate change effects on agriculture production, slow to keep-up with the pace of agricultural technological change, little ability to innovate, and above all, the financial difficulties experienced at times during each year.

Solomon Islands is one of the developing countries in the world, and with all its resource endowments, it should make this country move forward in its socio-economic development. What has been achieved during the year was a shared and combined responsibility of all Departments of MAL. With the full responsibility in implementing the 2010 Work Plan, some of major intended outcomes were achieved.

This annual report is aimed at informing the People of Solomon Islands, Government, Line Ministries, Donor Partners, Bilateral Partners, NGO's, Private Sector, Farmers, and all our good stakeholders that the achievements reported here were the combined efforts of all our hard work.

John M. Harunari

Permanent Secretary

Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock



GLANCE: QUICK FACTS

123MT
Total Coconut Oil produced in 2010.
 An increase compared to the previous year.
(CBSI, 2010)

5,395.653MT
Total Cocoa Production and exported in 2010.
 An increase of 14.3% from the previous year
(CEMA, CBSI, 2010)

25,389.22MT
Total Copra Production and total export volume in 2010 was 23,466MT
 A production drop of 1.4% in 2010, compared to 2009
(CEMA, 2010)

85%
Rural population of Solomon Islands who participate in the subsistence farming

SBD140,652M
Total value of Cocoa export in 2010
(CBSI, 2010)

28,615MT
Palm Oil
7,532MT
Palm Kernel Production in 2010
(CBSI, 2010)

302
Total MAL establishment 2010 (Staffing)

515,870
Total population of Solomon Islands
92,251 Households
264,452 Males
251,418 Females
(2009 National Population Census)

Six (6)
Number of Departments in MAL
(Administration, Planning, Agriculture Extension, Livestock & Veterinary Services, Solomon Islands Agriculture Quarantine Services, Agriculture Research & Development)

18,718.48MT
Total Rice Imports in 2010
111.114MT
Total Domestic Rice Production in 2010. A decrease compared to last year (2009) with 658.2MT

25,541Kg
Coffee production in 2010.
133,822 Kg
Coffee production 2009
 A decrease in production
(CBSI, 2010)

Ten (10)
MAL Development Projects were funded in 2010

61 MT
Total Honey Production in 2010,
 An increase from the previous year
(CBSI, 2010)

SBD17,631,171
Development Budget Actual for 2010
(Total 2010 Budget: SBD30,750,000)

50MT
Approximate Production in 2010. Kava production continues to increase
(CBSI, 2010)

“The real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the country is estimated to have grown by 7.1% in 2010 as a result of strong performance in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries sectors”
(CBSI, 2010)

699 Kg
Provisional Production of Vanilla for 2010
17,865 Kg, Vanilla Production in 2009. A significant decreases in production
(CBSI, 2010)

SBD23,251,317
Recurrent Budget
Actual for 2010
Recurrent Budget was SBD23,164,424

MAL Established Staff (Ratio) 76% are Male Officers, and 24% are Female Officers

TOTAL LAND AREA (APPROXIMATE)
Solomon Islands total land area: 28,159km²
 Choiseul: 3,297km² (Pop. 26,372)
 Western: 5,289km² (Pop. 76,649)
 Isabel: 4,068km² (Pop. 26,158)
 Central Islands: 1035km² (Pop. 26,051)
 Guadalcanal: 5,476km² (Pop. 93,613)
 Renbel: 286km² (Pop. 3,041)
 Malaita: 4,564km² (Pop. 137,596)
 Makira: 3,198km² (Pop. 40,419)
 Temotu: 946km² (Pop. 21,362)
(National Census Bulletin, 2010)

1.0 OUR VISION

Enhance and promote a sustainable agriculture and rural development in the Solomon Islands for economic stability, food sovereignty, and improve rural livelihood.

1.1 OUR MISSION

To promote, improve and lead agriculture development in Solomon Islands to a profitable and environmentally sustainable future by being the premier provider of information, research, extension, education, regulatory, and other services to improve the agriculture sector.

1.3 OUR VALUES

In the development and delivery of practical solutions to the national and provincial governments, tribal communities, resource holding groups, women and youth, non-state actors and church groups of the Solomon Islands. The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock is committed to provide information, technical advice, transfer of practical skills and knowledge through:

- i. Consultative, cooperative, and partnership development
- ii. The development and application of innovative yet rigorous scientific techniques
- iii. The engagement of an active participatory approach to an effective delivery of extension service
- iv. The recognition of the invaluable role women and youth play in agriculture
- v. The facilitation and involvement of private sector in agriculture, trade and commodity development
- vi. The principle of empowerment of resource-owners; and a fair, equitable and a timely enforcement of regulatory measures

1.4 OUR ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL) is the primary public sector institution responsible for formulating, executing, monitoring and coordinating the Solomon Islands Government's (SIG) agricultural policies. MAL has two broad sets of responsibilities and functions; one is related to policy, while the other is related to the provision of technical support and regulatory services.

The policy-related functions include:

- i. Formulation, implementation and coordination of sectoral policies, programs and projects designed to achieve the SIG's policy priorities
- ii. Design and execution of strategies and programmes associated with the sub-sector and commodity-specific activities
- iii. Monitoring, evaluation and periodic review of policy and programme impacts at the sector and sub-sector levels
- iv. Policy guidance and recommendations to MAL sectoral and cross-sectoral issues
- v. Coordination of the SIG's policy initiatives with development and other technical assistance from regional and international organizations and with respect to obligations under regional agreements
- vi. Creating an enabling environment for private sector investment in the agricultural sector
- vii. Human resource management, development, training and career planning

The Ministry's responsibilities in the provision of technical support and regulatory services include:

- i. Applied research and development activities
- ii. Provision of extension services
- iii. Domestic and international market and trade facilitation, quality control and standards

- iv. Design, and management of the regulatory framework relating to the agricultural sector
- v. Education, training and public awareness
- vi. Provision of physical infrastructure
- vii. Provision of soil conservation and natural resources
- viii. Biosecurity and protection against pest and diseases
- ix. Provision for adaptation to Climate Change and Mitigation
- x. Data collection and information management to support planning and decision-making
- xi. Provision of information and recommendations on technical matters
- xii. Facilitating linkages and networking between national, regional and international organizations
- xiii. Development of annual planning, programming and budgeting cycle to execute the responsibilities, and do monitoring, evaluation and accurate reporting in a timely manner

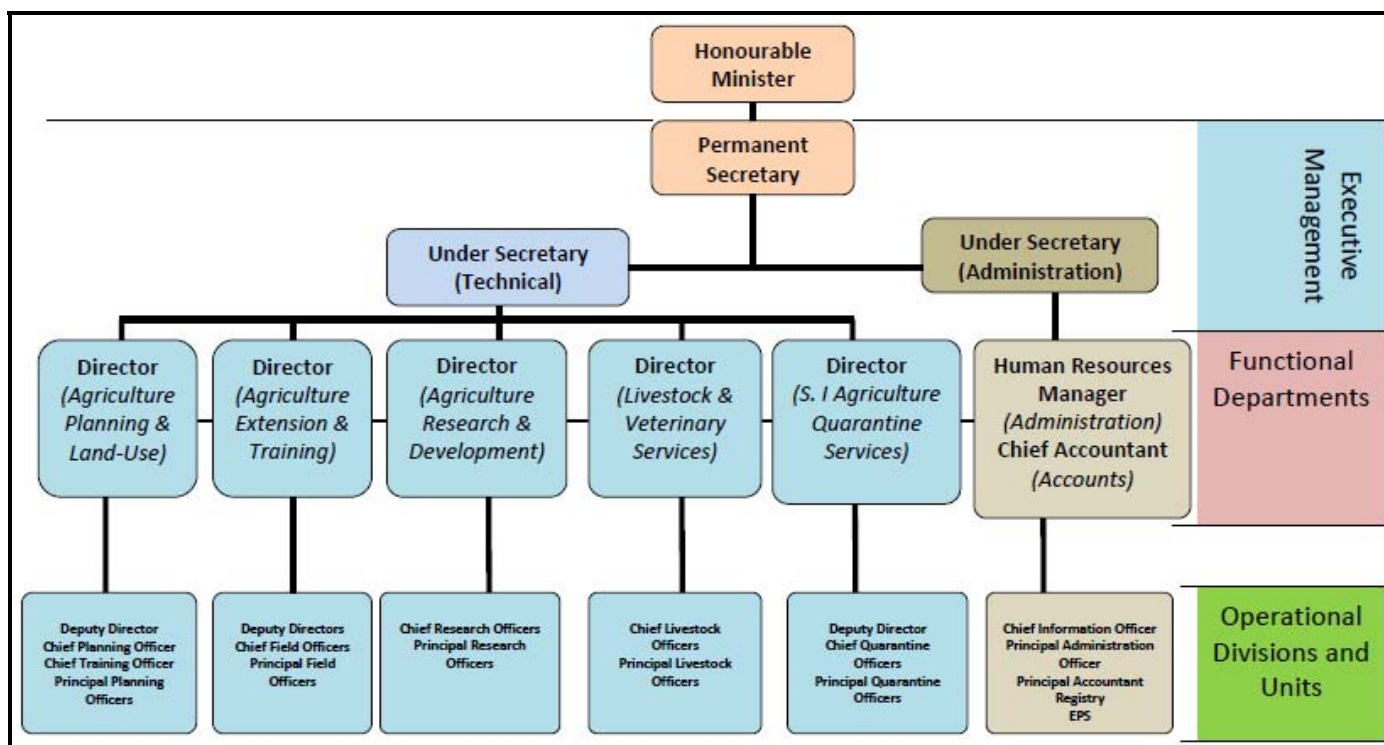
1.5 THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK WE OPERATE IN

MAL's aim in meeting agriculture growth and development in the country is guided by the National Development Framework that includes:

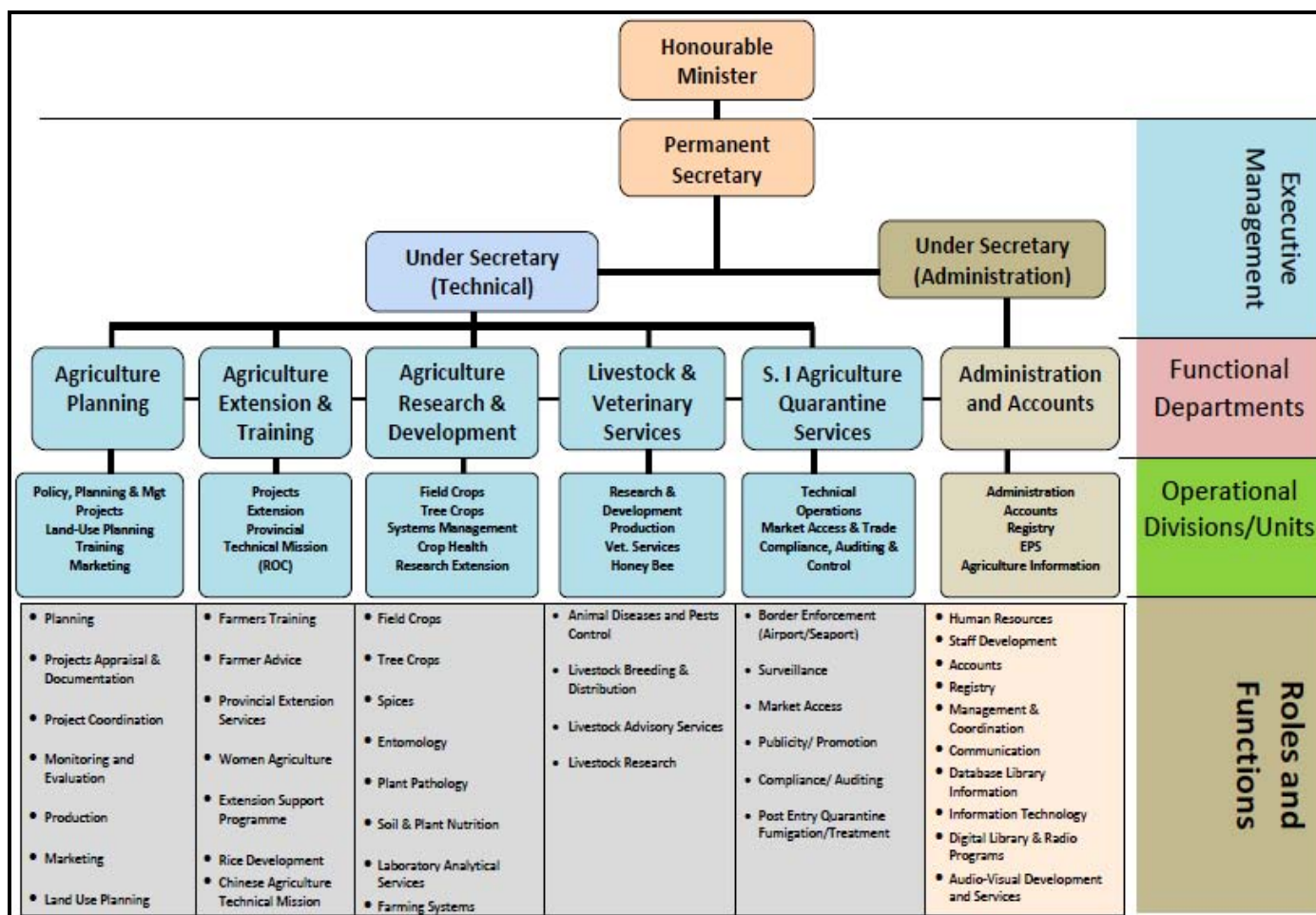
- Address the basic needs of the people in the villages and the rural areas where the majority of the people live and ensure real improvement in their standard of living
- Work towards food security for the nation and ensure a healthy, literate and a contented population
- Generate job opportunities for the growing population and achieve high economic growth, wealth and social well-being for all Solomon Islanders
- Ensure sustainable utilization and conservation of natural resources, protection of the environment and successful adaptation to climate change
- Improves the economic growth and development of the country



1.6 THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



1.7 ROLES AND FUNCTIONS OF MAL



1.8 SUMMARY OF MAL ORGANIZATIONAL STAFFING

DEPARTMENTS	ESTABLISHED POSTS	MALES	FEMALES	VACANT POSTS	TOTAL AT POST
Head Quarters (Admin)	4	3	0	1	4
Administration (Support Services)	8	4	4	0	8
Finance & Accounts	6	5	1	0	6
Agriculture Planning	13	11	1	1	12
Agriculture Extension	149			12	137
Agriculture Quarantine Services	46			1	45
Livestock and Veterinary Services	26	17	4	5	21
Agriculture Research & Development	36			1	31
Agriculture Information	5	2	2	1	4
TOTAL	288			22	302
Non-Established	52			0	52
Grand Total	354			22	340

1.9 MAL ORGANIZATIONAL STAFF PROFILE

DEPARTMENTS	SS4	SS2	L12/13	L11/12	L10/11	L8/9	L7/8	L6/7	L5/6	L4/5	L3/4
Head Quarters (Admin)	1	2	1 (v)								
Administration (Support)			1			2		1	2	1	1
Finance & Accounts			1		1	2	1		1	1	
Agriculture Planning			1	1	2	3	6				
Agriculture Extension			1	2	14	18	31	39 *	32*	26*	
Agriculture Quarantine Services			1	1	1	4	2	5*	7*	23*	1
Livestock and Veterinary Services			1	1	2	4	9	11*			
Agriculture Research & Development			1	2	4	2	7*	10*	5	4	1
Agriculture Information					1	1 (v)		1	2		
Supernumerary					1	3	1	1			
TOTAL	1	2	8	7	26	39	57	68	49	55	3

Keys: (v) – Vacant * – Include vacant posts



2.0 SOME OF THE MAJOR EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS OF 2010



World Food Day

15th October 2010

Malaysian Investor visited Waisisi Oil Palm Project

17th – 23rd July 2010

Agriculture Research & Development Conference (SIBC Conference Room)

October, 2010

SIDT/MAL

The 2010 Monitoring and Evaluation of Agriculture Funded Projects in the North and Central Guadalcanal

Agriculture Trade Show – Buala

18th - 23rd October 2010



Kwai Island:

Organic Farming in the Solomon Islands for Family Food and Nutritional Security (Kwai Island DVD Video Documentary)



National Parliament Papers – Approved

- National Rice Sector Policy (2010 – 2015)
- The MAL 2008, 2009 Annual Reports
- MAL Annual Work Plans (2010)
- Solomon Islands Government Policy on Organic Agriculture Systems
- The National Food Security, Food Safety and Nutritional Policy (2010 – 2015)
- The National Agriculture and Livestock Sector Policy (2009 – 2014)

Malaysian Oil Palm Board Technical Team visited Auluta Oil Palm Project

11th – 14th July 2010

Agriculture Provincial Extension Conference (SIBC Conference Room)

20th – 24th September, 2010

A workshop on the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) was held in 2010

Queen Bee Rearing Workshop Western Province



Policies Produced and Approved in 2010 by SIG Cabinet

- National Rice Sector Policy (2010 - 2015)
- Solomon Islands Government Policy on Organic Agriculture Systems
- National Food Security, Food Safety and Nutritional Policy (2010 – 2015)

National Rice Sector Policy (2010-2015)

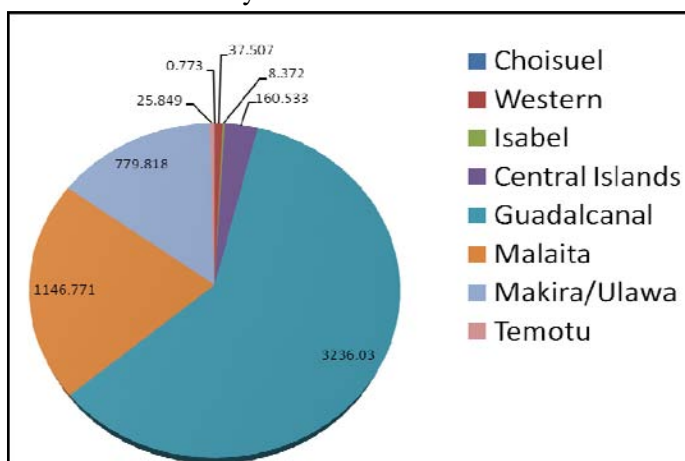


January 2010

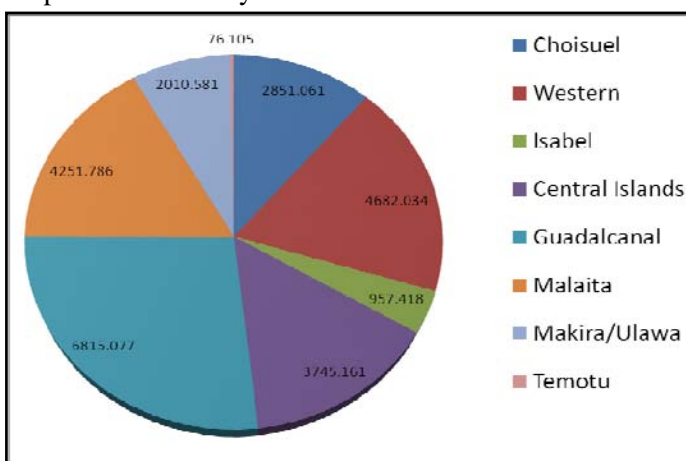
3.0 AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION AND MARKET INFORMATION

3.1 AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION INFORMATION ON COCOA AND COPRA

Cocoa Production by Province



Copra Production by Province

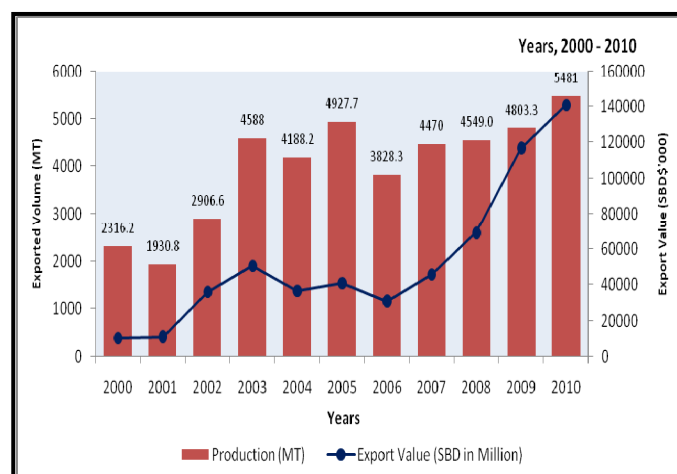


Source: CEMA, 2010

Guadalcanal Province continued to lead the production of Cocoa in the country every year. Malaita Province with the highest human population continues to remain behind Guadalcanal Province in Cocoa production almost every year. Makira, Central Islands Provinces are third and fourth highest producers of Cocoa, while the rest of the provinces produce reasonable amount of the commodity. With Copra production, Guadalcanal continue to remain the highest producer, followed by Western, Malaita, Central Islands, and the rest of the provinces with low production level. Production of Copra has dropped in 2010 compared to 2009, while Cocoa on the other hand had reached a breaking record of 5,395.653MT for the first time in the last 32 years.

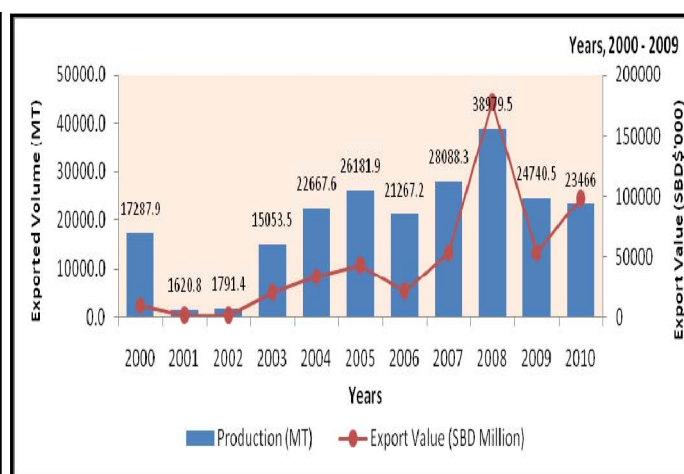
3.2 AGRICULTURE EXPORT INFORMATION, 2010

Cocoa Production (MT), and Export Value (SBD)



Source: CEMA, 2010

Copra Production (MT), and Export Value (SBD)



Source: CEMA, 2010

For the past 5 years, Cocoa production continues to increase, while Copra continues to drop after 2008. Despite few price fluctuations, the value of Cocoa, and Copra continue to increase in marginal returns. Cocoa production this year however, was boosted by the various activities of farmer trainings, and advices that MAL through the Rural Development Programme (RDP), and the Cocoa Livelihood and Improvement Programme (CLIP) funding were focusing in. On the other hand, Copra production had dropped in 2010 due to the significant increase in the production of Coconut Oil in the country.

Exported Commodities for 2010

COMMODITY	WEIGHT (MT)
Cocoa	5,395.653
Coconut Oil	27,000
Copra Bulk	23,466
Copra Cake	147.01
Palm Kernel	4986.03
Sawn Timber	779.8005
COMMODITY	WEIGHT (Kg)
Dry Coconut	400
Green Coconut	8,600
Frozen Cassava	30
Kava	3,7025



Source: SIAQS

Apart from Cocoa and Copra, Coconut Oil, Coconut Bulk and Coconut Cake were exported in 2010. Dry Coconuts and Green/Young Coconuts were also exported to other countries in the region. In 2010, most of the Kava produced were exported to Kiribati, and Nauru with increasing trend compared to last year.

3.3 AGRICULTURE IMPORT INFORMATION, 2010

A. Fresh Produce Interceptions

In 2010, imports of fresh produce came from Australia and New Zealand.

NO.	PRODUCE	TOTAL (Kg)	NO.	PRODUCE	TOTAL (Kg)
1	Apples	64828.5	20	Kiwi fruit	1603.7
2	Avocado	150	21	Lemon	18
3	Bean Sprout	170	22	Lettuce	460
4	Beet root	80	23	Lo Bok	60
5	Broccoli	1354	24	Mandarin	2450
6	Brussels	20	25	Mushroom	50
7	Cabbages	7443.02	26	Nashi	390
8	Capsicum	106	27	Nectarine	150
9	Carrot	54465	28	Onion	554330
10	Cauliflower	870	29	Oranges	17400
11	Celery	1546	30	Pears	8455
12	Coriander	30	31	Plums	30
13	Corn	150	32	Pop corn	50
14	Courgelts	10	33	Potatoes	48140
15	Custards	50	34	Pumpkin	200
16	English Spanish	30	35	Rock melon	290
17	Garlic	34470	36	Rose Mary	0.5
18	Grapes	1089.4	37	Tomatoes	270
19	Honey dew	710	38	Turnips	120

Source: SIAQS

The number of main fresh produce imported into the country in 2010 was reduced compared to 2009 data. This is reflected in the downsizing of number of RAMSI personnel as being the biggest importer of fresh agricultural produce.



B. Other Plant Product Imports

Imports of Grains are in Metric Tons

COMMODITY	COUNTRIES	TOTAL IMPORTS (MT)
Rice	Australia, China, Hong Kong, PNG, Sri Lanka, Thailand, USA, Viet Nam, Japan, Singapore	18,718.48
Wheat	Australia	34,709.68
Stock Feed	Australia, Papua New Guinea (PNG)	2,418.742

Source: SIAQS

Rice import has increased by 405 percent in 2010 compared from 2009 data. This is reflected in a number of competitors entering the market that resulted in the slight price reduction. Wheat import was also increased in 2010. This is also reflected by the increased number of bakery companies in Honiara, and also with the increasing demand, and urban population increase. Feed stock import was also increased in 2010 based on the increasing smallholder livestock farmers in the country. Despite the increasing prices, demand for feed by farmers is also increasing. This trend is signaling a need for local animal feed production firms to establish in the country.

C. Animal Products

PRODUCT NAME	EXPORTING COUNTRIES	TOTAL IMPORTS (MT)
Beef	Australia, New Zealand, Vanuatu	356.33
Beef Sausage	Fiji	1.01
Chicken	Australia, New Zealand, Fiji	821.98
Chicken Sausage	Fiji	2.21
Lamb Sausages	Fiji	1.893
Lamb	Australia, New Zealand	41.93
Duck	Australia, New Zealand	7.08
Meat Pie	Australia	11.21
Pork	Australia	47.76
Table Eggs	Australia	14.12

Source: SIAQS, 2010

The import of Livestock products (meat and eggs) has increase in 2010 compared to 2009 data. Beef import remains staple in 2010 (356.33MT) compared to 2009 (356.68MT). Chicken as one of the main protein food sources in the country (urban) had decreased slightly in 2010 (821.98MT) compared to 2009 (896.47MT) data. Pork import had decreased from 65.08MT in 2009 to 47.76MT in 2010. In a country where pigs are found in almost every village, the level of import shows there was a reduction in imports in 2010 to meet local demand. The concept of import substitution of livestock products still remains a challenge for MAL, and the country until such time local production will sustain the local demand, and further reduce pork imports.



Solomon Islands, Honiara International Sea Port. Photo Credit: MAL

4.0 DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES AND SIGNIFICANT OUTPUTS

4.1 HEADQUARTERS AND ADMINISTRATION

Investments in institutional capacity are critical to ensure that the public sector can effectively carry-out its functions, which include coordination, participatory development of sector strategies, policy formulation, research and development, and allocation and monitoring of public investments in agriculture. The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock over the years have faced numerous set-backs due to number of reasons, the most common one being limited budgetary allocation. The department sets the foundation in making sure logistics, capacity-building, and payments are done on time. In addition, they ensure officers are comfortable with their job and human resource management issues are dealt promptly and accurately.

A. ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

I. Recruitment, Promotion and Confirmation

From 50 vacancies, 13 officers were recruited in 2010. With a total of 302 employees, 5 were on Fixed Term Appointment (FTA), 48 on trial promotions, and 31 officers on probation. Apart from that, there were 28 officers confirmed at upper positions by the Public Service Commission. Review of acting allowances and charge allowances were also done to ensure officers are rewarded for performing beyond their normal duties. There were 10 officers promoted by the Ministry in 2010. Most probationers were confirmed at their posts and acting allowances were activated for officers on acting positions. These major tasks were done to improve staff morale and motivation to work hard. Postings to appropriate positions were also done accordingly. Work performance across the Ministry's departments as observed, had been improved drastically this year.

II. Management

The Administration Department had involved in numerous management duties of the Ministry. Monthly meetings were planned and properly coordinated with meeting minutes remained up-to-date for all sessions. Apart from Senior Management meetings, other meeting preparations were organized for some important dignitaries, donor partners, international agencies, NGO's, inter-ministerial, funding agencies, and stakeholders.

Other general management aspects of the Ministry were also up-to-date with time and resources available. These include: salary management, departmental annual work plan, procurement of office materials and equipment, vehicle, trainings, and overall staff welfare.

III. Review of Rentals

More than 25 officers of the Ministry were under the Public Service Rental Scheme. With the increasing recruitment and the continued demand for rentals, MAL devised and allocated in-house short-term rental scheme for its staff. It is for a short period of up to three months however, the system was also abused as many officers reside for more than the period allocated and it costed the Ministry. Refinement to the scheme is in progress.

IV. Review of Performance Measure for Administration and Account

A system for staff attendance records and staff tracking was in place, but was not that effective as expected. However, staff performance was measured using the level of work they do, and the positive impacts of the tasks on the organization. Accounts Section has also put in place a tracking system for imprest holders to adhere to, and to ensure things are done professionally done with appropriate procedures.

V. Office Renovation & Repair at MAL

With the state of MAL headquarters building, renovation, and repairs were done in 2010 to ensure officers are working in a clean and decent environment. Due to lack of office space to some of the Departments, the renovation work had significantly allowed enough space to work in, while very few were still finding working space by sharing rooms with colleague officers.

VI. Records Management

With records management, filing and filing system has been up-to-date, and file movement and tracking has been monitored efficiently. Efforts are being made to put in place electronic database filing system to improve tracking of files.

VII. Retirement Exercise

The Administration Department remains up-to-date in tracking the retirement exercise. In 2010, seven (7) officers retired of which five (5) were established, while the other two (2) were non-established staff. Their required packages were prepared in advance and were ready in time before they finally repatriated to their respective destinations. Two (2) officers were also resigned in 2010, to take up new jobs in other organizations.

VIII. Coordination of Intergraded Planning and Budgeting Process

The Department had participated actively in the 2011 budget preparation. One of the major tasks was ensuring vacant and new positions within the ministry are budgeted for in the 2011 budget. With the help of the Accounts Section, consultations were done with other Departments to ensure the 2011 budget is realistic, and reflective of the kinds of planned activities for that year.

IX. Tours

Accompanying the Accounts Section, four (4) provinces were visited in 2010, namely: Choiseul, Isabel, Makira and Temotu. The purposes of these provincial tours were to take stock on the Ministry's assets and value them on their net worth. The kinds of assets assessed were Outboat Motors, Canoes, Computers, Laptops, Buildings, Vehicles and other smaller varieties of equipment and materials. From these tours, it was found that MAL has a lot of used and unused assets worth huge amounts of money. Actual amount worth of the assets is still under calculation and valuation.



*Inside the MAL Library and Office.
Photo Credit: MAL Library*



4.2 SOLOMON ISLANDS NATIONAL AGRICULTURE INFORMATION UNIT

The goals and objectives of the Agriculture Information Unit can be summarized as follows;

- To provide information, technical advice, transfer of practical skills and knowledge through partnership development
- Active participatory approach to an effective delivery of extension services

Thus it is expected that the Ministry has;

- An effective and efficient information management with communication, and dissemination of information
- Appropriate agriculture information, and provide information, and services to its target audience

A. Overview

- Producing, and disseminating of agriculture information: Production of video, radio, and printed materials
- Dissemination of right information to farmers, and other agriculture stakeholders
- Management of library information and services, and provide information through internet access to students, and interested individuals

B. ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

ACTIVITIES	ACHIEVEMENTS
Famas Kona Radio Program	This program was suspended after the passing away of the former Chief Information Officer (CIO). With the newly appointed CIO, broadcasting of the program by the SIBC has resumed, and improved
Library Services	Continues to provide library services to all stakeholders. Over one thousand (1000) students, teachers, and farmers were attended to, and served with this service
Market and Technical Information	Market reports were sent to provincial extension officers to inform farmers on current up-to-date prices
Staffing	Throughout the year, the need to have one more staff was highlighted, and efforts are in progress towards this request
Regional Workshop	Two officers of the unit attended a regional workshops on information issues in Papua New Guinea (PNG)
Provincial Tours	Few provincial tours were done towards the end of the year to Malaita
IT Monitoring and Maintenance	All MAL IT problems were attended to, and a weekly or daily departmental timetable on computer maintenance was put in place to at-least cover all the Departments within one week
IT Management and Up-grading	This was temporary suspended due to financial difficulties, and also because the status of the current building is still unclear
Publication Screening Committee	A committee was in place to oversee articles, and publications done by MAL are of quality, accurate, and are from reliable sources
Agriculture Bulletin	This was not done due to lack of resources, and technical support
Educational Awareness	This was not done due to shortage of staff, and technical support

C. Constraints and Challenges

With financial constraints implementation of the 2010 work program had resulted in delays, and delivering of the services to our stakeholders. Work outputs were affected due to financial, and human resources, thus is reflective of few achievements during the year.

D. Recommendation

In order to fully implement the activities, and meet the aims of the government on disseminating information to the rural farmers, funds should be made available to fully carry-out required work. The need to train officers on editing, and disseminating information is important for their competency, and professionalism.



4.3 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PLANNING & LAND-USE

Agriculture Planning and Land-use Department is responsible for planning, policies, monitoring and evaluation of agriculture projects, and engaging farmers to form farmers' organizations. The department also is responsible for the land-use practices on different locations in the country while it is also responsible for staff trainings and development. Marketing as a unit within the department looks at market research, and information on agriculture commodities.

4.3.1 POLICY, PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

A. Annual Reporting

The 2008, and 2009 MAL Annual Reports were completed in February and May in 2010 and became National Parliament documents or papers. Compilation of Annual Reports had not been done consistently since 2004, and producing a report for the Ministry is one of the achievements for the department this year. This is one way of informing the people of Solomon Islands, Government, Stakeholders, and the general public about work, and achievements of MAL over the past two years.

B. NCRA Policy Translation

The MAL part of the NCRA Policy Translation was successfully compiled and completed by the department and submitted to the Prime Minister Office, and the Bureau of Economic Unit.

C. Corporate Plan 2011 - 2014

The MAL Corporate Plan 2011 – 2014 was in a draft form by the end of 2010. The Corporate Plan was designed in a way that it links three major documents. From the Corporate Plan, Departmental Action Framework was formulated, and specific Annual Work Plan per year is extracted. Quarterly and Annual Reports are compiled in collaboration with what activities in the Annual Work Plan has been achieved.

D. Policies

Two Policies were designed by this Department during the year: The draft Cocoa Development Policy and the draft MAL Staff Development and Training Policy. These two Policies will be completed in 2011, and submitted to the Cabinet for approval and implementation. Apart from the Cocoa Policy, a “Cocoa Steering Committee” was established under the supervision of the Cocoa Livelihood and Improvement Programme (CLIP). The committee consists of all Cocoa stakeholders in the country, including both Public and Private Sector. The committee shall also design a National Cocoa Strategic Plan to support the Cocoa Development Policy.

E. Solomon Islands Information for Agriculture and Rural Development (SIIARD)

The Goal of SIIARD: SIIARD will improve agricultural capacity in the Solomon Islands

SIIARD is a proposed three-year program partnership, with extensions for future applications, to improve agricultural capacity in Solomon Islands. It will provide spatial data, and analysis for agriculture, strategic planning, and rural development planning and policy. It is a tool (input) for agriculture growth and productivity in the country.

This project initiative was developed by the Department at the beginning of the year which was at that time was formerly called Solomon Islands Agriculture Profiling Project (SIAPP). Through various consultations and workshops held with other stakeholders and Australian National University (ANU)/Australian National University Enterprise (ANUE), the project initiative was then named SIIARD. In December 2010, a MoU was signed in terms of exchange of letters between MAL and ANUE to continue to pursue for project design and assistance, and assist MAL in planning, management, and other agriculture related issues.

F. International Donor Projects

A project was designed in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Meteorology and Climate Change. A USD5.53M, will be funded by the Adaptation Fund. The project title: “Enhancing resilience of communities in Solomon Islands to the adverse effects of climate change in agriculture and food security” has three (3) components.

- Adaptation initiatives implemented in at-least 30 Communities across 3 regions in the Solomon Islands
- Institutional strengthening to support climate resilient policy frameworks for the agriculture sector
- Climate Change Adaptation specific knowledge production, sharing and dissemination

Consultations with provincial agriculture offices were done, and also with MAL head quarters staff. Further consultation was also done with the Department of Agriculture Research and Development, and Kastom Gaden Association. This project once approved will support MAL in implementing its activities in selected project sites across the country. It will also support the designing of other MAL policy documents, and the Agriculture Act, to ensure climate change concept can be mainstreamed, and effects are minimized as much as possible in the country. The third component will help the Agriculture Information Unit in producing, and disseminating information on agriculture and climate change to the rural areas of the Solomon Islands.

4.3.2 THE COCOA SUPPORT SCHEME AND COCONUT REHABILITATION



Total Project Funding	Cocoa Support (CS)	SBD2,000,000
	Coconut Rehabilitation (CR)	SBD2,000,000
	Total Project Cost	SBD4,000,000

The aims of the Cocoa and Coconut support scheme are to;

- Increase export value of Cocoa and Copra through quality and downstream processing to increase foreign revenue
- Improve cash flow problem in the rural communities
- Foster economic activities in the rural communities
- Encourage involvement of youth in agriculture



A. Project Requirements

I. Requisitioning

- The Project Implementation and Coordination Committee (PICC) approves project listings, and submitted to PS MAL Office for endorsement
- Requisitioning completed, and signed by Director of Agriculture Planning, and delivered to PS MAL Office for signing, and Accounts Division to raise payment vouchers

II. Protocols

- Protocols for both project funding were submitted to PS MAL Office for endorsement and trans-serving to the Ministry of Planning and Aid Coordination for the release of funds

III. Project Payments

- It was anticipated that project payments will be done and completed by the months of April and May. However, late payments were done in October, 2010. A total of 56 Cocoa Projects, and 47 Coconut Projects were funded in 2010. Refer to annex 2.0 on the list of funded projects.



IV. 2010 Development Budget Summary

ACCOUNT CODE	ACCOUNT NAME/ FUNDING	No. OF PROJECTS	PROJECTS (SBD)	M & E (SBD)	TOTAL (SBD)
270-1144-5799	Cocoa Support (CS)	56	1,847,413.64	152,586.36	2,000,000
470-1615-5799	Coconut Rehabilitation (CR)	47	1,850,761.15	149,328.85	2,000,000
	Sub Total		3,698,174.79	301,915.21	4,000,000

B. Provincial Project Distribution Summary

I. Cocoa Support (CS) Projects

PROVINCE	NO. OF PROJECTS	TOTAL VALUE (SBD)	PROPORTION (%)
Guadalcanal	23	690,172.64	34
Malaita	17	550,400	28
Western	2	80,000	4
Isabel	4	194,000	9
Choiseul	2	41,000	3
Makira	6	190,340	9
Central Islands	2	60,000	3
Temotu	0	0	0
RenBel	0	0	0
Monitoring		152,586.36	7
Total Projects	56	1,847,413.64	93
Total Budget		2,000,000	100

II. Coconut Rehabilitation (CR) Projects

PROVINCE	NO. OF PROJECTS	TOTAL VALUE (SBD)	PROPORTION (%)
Guadalcanal	12	190,498	9
Malaita	12	577,763.77	29
Western	9	310,965.25	15
Isabel	4	218,852	11
Choisuel	7	214,190	11
Makira	0	0	0
Central Islands	7	238,900	12
Temotu	0		0
RenBel	0		0
Monitoring		149,328.85	7
Total Projects	51	1,850,761.15	93
Total Budget		2,000,000	100

4.3.3 LAND-USE PLANNING

Land-Use Planning Unit had work closely with the Department of Research and Development (DARD) under the SLM work program. Major tasks were concentrated on conducting training for communities, and farmers on land-use and ways to maintain soil fertility on populated locations in the country. In addition, other tasks included, providing advice to farmers on farming systems and practices, especially on land-use planning.

Major works were also concentrated in certain parts of the Western Provinces (logging affected areas), and in Northern parts of Malaita, the Northern part where population pressure on land was high.

Apart from volcanic island problems, tours were also done to atoll islands where sea rise level is affecting food production, and livelihoods. A trip was done to the Ongtong Java and Sikaiana with other ministries and

organizations to assess the situation on food security of the two islands. Discussions with the inhabitants of the islands, and seeing what is happening, people in these islands need urgent actions from agriculture organizations to look at ways in which balanced food becomes available to the people at all times, and is affordable.

The Unit also lacks the necessary tools and equipment to carry-out its planned activities, and work is under way to seek help from international donors. With financial constraints experienced, the Unit could not fully operate and implement important activities such as; land cooperatives, land reforms to deal with land issues, farmers' organizations, further land-use trainings to communities, and assessments on major agriculture developments.

4.3.4 MAL TRAINING UNIT

The MAL Staff Development and Training Unit ensures that officers are well trained, competent for efficiency, and effective delivery of services, and technical manpower is available within MAL at all times. MAL Staff Development work in collaboration with the Rural Development Program Component 2 (RDP: C2), addresses institutional capacity-building, and Professional Development Trainings are done through attending short trainings at the Institute of Public Administration and Management (IPAM). A large number of MAL staff had attended various training programs/courses at this Institute.

The bilateral donors also provided training opportunities for MAL Officers through their foreign diplomat/resident offices. Some of the funders include: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA-Japan), Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA-Thailand Fellowship), and International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF-Taiwan). MAL Officers continue to improve their competency training through attending various degree programs in various technical institutions. Formal trainings in undergraduate, and postgraduate programs were continuing for MAL Staff under in-service training programs.

A. Formal Qualifications: Upgrading Program (In-Service Training)

Officers to be graduated by end of 2010 and the type of qualifications

NAME	DEPARTMENT	QUALIFICATION	INSTITUTION/COUNTRY
Rickson Wate	Livestock	Bachelor of Agriculture	Alafua/Samoa
Macleane Vagalo	Research	Ph.D	Australia
Kenrick Tangoeha	Extension	Diploma Teaching	SOE/SICHE
Francis Suiromea	Research	Certificate in Tropical Agriculture	SNR/SICHE
Andrew Melanolu	Extension	Bachelor of Agriculture	Alafua

B. On- going students studying abroad

NAME	DEPARTMENT	PROGRAM OF STUDY	INSTITUTION/COUNTRY	STATUS
Ellen Iramu	Research	Ph.D.	Australia	3 rd year
Simon Iro	Livestock	PGD/M.Sc	NZ	1 st year
Simon Baete'e	Livestock	PGD/M.Sc	NZ	2 nd year
Allen Takanunu	Extension	Bachelor of Agriculture	Vudal, PNG	1 st Year
Ledley Diudi	Extension	Bachelor of Agriculture	Vudal, PNG	1 st Year



C. Returned from Overseas study due to private reasons

NAME	DEPARTMENT	PROGRAM OF STUDY	INSTITUTION/COUNTRY	STATUS
Elison Toramo	Extension	Bachelor of Agriculture	Vudal, PNG	1 st Year

D. Officers studying at School of Natural Resources (SNR), SICHE

NAME	DEPARTMENT	PROGRAM OF STUDY	INSTITUTION	STATUS
Cornellio Bubuatu	Extension	Dip. In Agriculture	SNR,SICHE	1 st Year
Margaret Kiko	Extension	Dip. In Agriculture	SNR,SICHE	1 st year
Wilfred Revision	Extension	Dip. In Agriculture	SNR,SICHE	1 st year
Simo Pitavoga	Livestock	Dip. In Agriculture	SNR,SICHE	1 st Year
Gertrude Varuia	Research	Dip. In Agriculture	SNR,SICHE	1 st Year
Steward Teoga	Quarantine	Dip. In Agriculture	SNR,SICHE	1 st Year

Following areas were covered under the MAL support for officers studying at SICHE;

- Tuition fees
- Accommodation
- Meals
- Stationary
- Registration
- Subsistence Allowance & Accommodation whilst waiting for admission

E. Long-term Training for 2011 Scholarships and Institutions

A total of 14 officers applied for overseas long-term in-service training and 9 applied to do studies at the School of Natural Resources, SICHE. Results of successful officers for long-term training were revealed at the end of 2010 or early 2011.

F. Short-term Courses Overseas

Opportunities were available through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the Thailand (TICA), Taiwan (ICDF), Japan (JICA) and Korea (Korea International Cooperation Agency - KOICA).

G. Rural Development Programme [Short-term training locally]

RDP /MAL Component 2 continued its program in conducting trainings in Honiara, and the provinces. A total of 19 different short-term courses were conducted by RDP: C2, and attended by 282 MAL Officers at the MAL Headquarters, and or around the provinces. The duration for each course ranges from 1-5 days. RDP Advisors and MAL Officers were conducting the short-term trainings.

H. Professional Courses Conducted by IPAM in 2010

A total of 24 different courses were conducted by IPAM and attended by 114 MAL Officers in 2010. This record only accounted for Honiara base trainings.

I. Improved Plant Protection in the Solomon Islands (IPPSI)

Under the IPPSI project, two trainings were conducted to test the newly designed Plant Protection Curriculum. The trainings were conducted in Malaita, and Guadalcanal Provinces. A total of 20 participants attended the course, and resources personnels conducting the trainings were from IPPSI partners (Terricircle , KGA, Vois Blong Mere Solomons, and MAL).

J. MAL Support for Pre-service Students, 2010

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock continues to support a number of Pre-service trainees with tuition fees and lunch. Support is given to students who have applied and were selected based on merit. A total of 10 pre – service, first and second year students at the School of Natural Resources, SICHE were supported by MAL in 2010.

K. Work Attachment

Students from various Rural Training Centers, and the School of Natural Resources, SICHE continued their work attachment in acquiring skills and knowledge from various departments of the Ministry. The attachments were done on voluntary bases, and were on-going throughout the year. Each department has to compile a report on individual students' performance, and submitted to their respective schools.

A total of 8 students had gone through work attachment with various departments of MAL in 2010. Students were from Airafu, Afutara, and Don Bosco Rural Training Centers.

L. MAL Training Committee

The MAL Training Committee has been delegated to work on the MAL Staff Development and Training Policy. A draft has been completed, however, it is still pending for collection of other inputs from wider stakeholders.

M. Consultation Meetings

- Consultation meeting with Chief Training Officer (Public Service) in negotiating a way forward to secure a scholarship for Mr. Allan Takanunu
- Dr. Ebenebe from Alafua Campus, USP
Subject: Review on USP /Agriculture students' attachment in the Solomon Islands
Advise: USP to submit a formal request to the PS/MAL
- Airafu -Agriculture Teacher
Subject: students on work experience with MAL, procedure, monitoring and reporting to the institution
- Director of National Training Unit
A MAL student's scholarship will be taken over by SIG funding from RDP and formalities for admission to Vudal University is progressing well. RDP funds transfer to Education formalities advice on protocols
- Attended the Senior Agriculture Extension Staff Conference and presented MAL staff Development and Training

N. Conclusion

MAL Staff Development and Training Programs went on smoothly with the collaborative team spirit from various officers from various Departments. MAL Staff Development and Training valued such team spirit in order to effectively deliver its services. As such, MAL officers had able to attend various international and local trainings over the year. However, MAL Staff Development and Training is still operating without a Recurrent Budget Vote Allocation, despite the financial budget submission to the Ministry of Finance. The Unit needs to be supported by its own budget for convenience and smooth carrying out of its planned activities



4.3.5 AGRICULTURE MARKETING

The Agriculture Marketing Unit has been involved closely with the Market Access Section of SIAQS. In 2010, a market survey was carried-out on local institutions (Hotels, Motels, Restaurants and Schools) as a source of market avenue for farmers around Honiara and its surrounding. Results of the report will be available in 2011.

The major problem faced by the unit was lack of budget allocation in the departmental annual budget that it can operate with, and carry-out its planned activities for the year. Any organization needs funding to carry-out its work effectively. With the added lack of office space for the whole year (2010), the unit was almost non-functional to operate to meet its annual work plan. MAL has put in place strategies to improve its budget allocation, and office space for all staff.

4.4 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE EXTENSION AND TRAINING

The Department of Extension and Training links farmers, and Research and Development, where agricultural technologies are developed, tested and/or modified. Generally, the extension service has three roles; one is the transfer of readily usable technologies; next is the simplification of technologies which cannot be transferred in the form produced by research institutions; and thirdly is the identification, and transfer of right information to the farmers. On the other hand, farmers' problems can also be identified by Extension Officers, and reported to Research Institutions where possible solutions to solve these problems can be done.

The department has the largest number of officers in the ministry which in turn, is vital in ensuring that both national and provincial agricultural development policies, and activities are implemented in the rural areas. The aim should be on how to get the 85 per cent of the rural population to become active participants and contributors to the national economy. This can be achieved through participating in any form of agriculture, and or in other developments suitable to their area.

Agriculture extension has a major and vital role to play in stimulating, and instigating agricultural development throughout the country, however they need to be;

- Well trained to be competent to meet the changing needs of farmers, and to be able to adapt and disseminate up-to-date information, and technologies to them
- Strategically placed with the communities to be able to carry-out their activities efficiently, and effectively
- Well resourced: logistically and financially to carry-out their activities efficiently
- Able to assist farmers to form farmers' associations or other legal entities

Over the last couple of years, the Rural Development Programme: Component 2 (RDP: C2) has greatly assisted the extension services, and MAL in addressing some of the major issues that hinders delivery of services. Without RDP the Extension Department will continuously be unfairly accused of doing nothing without understanding the underlying factors hindering their operations. Now-a-days, for the first time, one can see Agriculture Extension Officers actively carrying extension services in the rural areas. This is an indication of the effect of RDP: C2 support towards improving the image of the extension services in the rural areas. However, there are still outstanding issues that need to be resolved in order to further improve the Department, to be an effective and efficient service provider of farmers' needs. The department is looking forward to the continual support of RDP: C2, and other agencies to come forward, and reach-out to farmers.



A. Current Manpower of the Department

Total staff establishment in 2010 was 138. With this number, the current average staff to farmer ratio is 1:3,818. In essence this means, an extension staff will be able to visit one farmer, once in every 10 years. In terms of area coverage, proportionate to the countries land mass, an extension officer is expected to cover 203 Km².

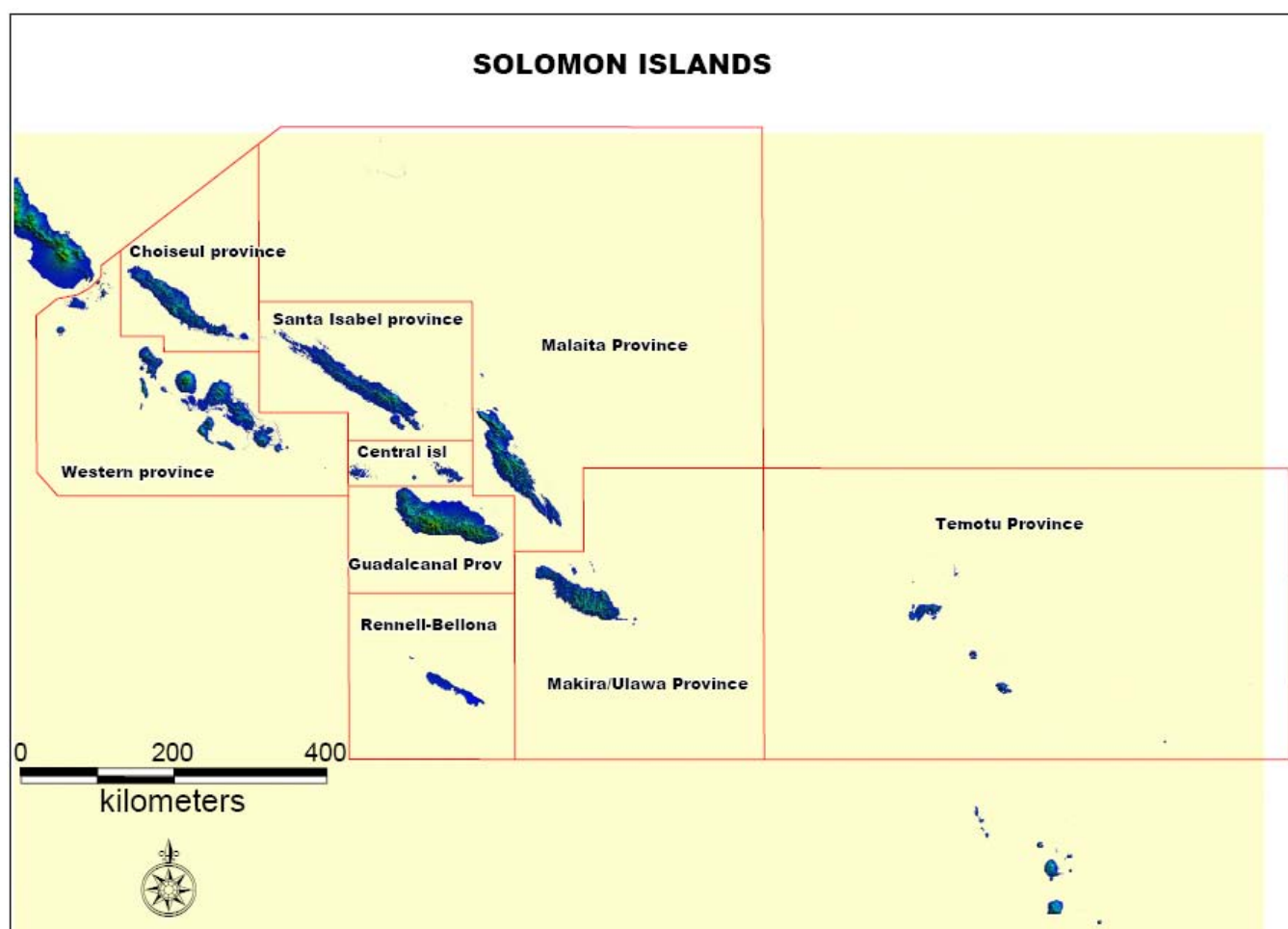
Over the last ten years, the human resources development of the Department of Extension has been neglected due to circumstances that are beyond its control. As a result of the negligence, there is a huge gap between the aged and experienced staff, and newly recruited officers (new graduates). As such, if nothing is done immediately to narrow this gap, the department will be technically incapable of carrying out its mandated tasks after five years from now.

4.4.1 EXTENSION BUDGET 2010

EXPENDITURE	FINAL ESTIMATE (SBD)	2010 ACTUAL EXPENDITURE (SBD)	% EXPENDED
Recurrent Expenditure	5,826,518	4,813,914	83
Other Charges	2,474,542	2,260,321	91
National Rural Rice Development	10,000,000	6,539,649	65
TOTAL	18,301,060	13,613,884	74

4.4.2 PROVINCIAL PROGRESS REPORTS

The Map of Solomon Islands



Source: Solomon Islands National Census Bulletin, 2010

A. MAKIRA AND ULAWA PROVINCE (MUP)

I. Staffing

Makira and Ulawa Province has 15 staff, including 3 vacancies are yet to be filled. Furthermore, housing has been an on-going issue that needs urgent attention, and a national agriculture housing program can address the issue. The logistics issue of land, and sea transports is of great concern, and needs immediate attention. This has affected extension services to the rural parts of the province. With lack of spare parts for vehicles, and OBM repairs, the logistics problem will further be affected. In addition, the non-existence of safety equipment for sea travelling and basic necessary tools for touring has aggravated the difficulty of touring on both land, and sea.

MUP has been engaged in capacity-development of its staff in attending workshops, and training organized by MAL Honiara, IPAM, CLIP, and Paravet. Farmers were also privileged to undertake various trainings especially in Cocoa with the help of CLIP. About eight non-state actors were involved in various activities in MUP. Analysis of the geography, resources, skills, and knowledge available at MUP, guides the allocation of priorities on how actions were delivered to maximize farmers' benefits:

- Priority One: Cocoa rehabilitation and expansion
- Priority Two: Coconut rehabilitation and replanting
- Priority Three: Rice production with emphasis on smallholders and gradually establishing semi-and-commercial farms. With the availability of machines, improved marketing, and the roving rice engineer, farms will now be significantly producing high yields
- Priority Four: Root Crops and Vegetables aiming at stabilizing food security as priority with small subsistence farms. Further expansion shall be going into commercial farming, and marketing network
- Priority Five: Livestock development involving smallholders in raising Poultry, Piggery, and Goats under the Coconut trees
- Priority Six: Large scale Livestock involving rehabilitation, pasture improvement, restocking and repair of the Kirakira butchery
- Priority Seven: In the highlands where there is low population, Coffee, Kava, Onion, and Taro can be produced

In order to successfully implement the above priorities, marketing and associations must be established with adequate and efficient transportation networks, communication links, technical and financial support.

B. MALAITA PROVINCE

I. Staff

MAL Malaita Province has 33 staff. Officers are from various agricultural divisions (Extensions, Administration, Research, Livestock, Rice) including Oil Palm Project.

II. Agriculture Development and achievements during 2010

- Coconut development: 53 farmers were assisted on plantation expansion (new plantings), rehabilitation, and dryers
- Rice development: 10 ha of rice (2 farmers), and smallholder farmers with 3.5ha per farmer
- Over thirteen trainings were held in various locations by RDP, ACIAR, and CLIP
- Around 400 visits were made by various officers in their respective areas making contacts with more than 1,000 farmers
- Under CLIP; 2,371 projects were approved, and 599 were funded whilst 1,772 are yet to pay their equity before funds are released

- Under CLIP, Cocoa tools were distributed to all Cocoa farmers to help them in their plantation maintenance, harvesting, fermenting and drying, carrying, drier units, chainsaws, etc.
- CLIP Farmers/Staff Training: Training of Trainers. Trainings include Cocoa pruning, Cocoa Rehabilitation, IPDM, Cocoa grading, and Quality Assurance
- Field Days: A total of 1,600 farmers participated in the trainings, and field trips
- CLIP IPDM sites: A total of 746 farmers were using IPDM in 28 sites around the province

III. Benefits

- Introduction of cropping cycle, and the IPDM technology to staff and farmers through the use of Farmer Field School (FFS)
- Follow-up trainings with farmers
- The use of discipleship model had empowered farmers to pass on the technology to friends, and wantoks
- Preparedness for the Cocoa Pod Borer (CPB)
- Provision of tools at an affordable price to farmers

IV. Challenges

- Verification of Field Assessment Results carried-out during the year is yet to be completed
- Monitoring of tools supplied to farmers to ensure farmers are using the supplied tools
- Closure of CLIP support prematurely will affect farmers moral to continue

V. Non-regulatory functions

- Involved in disaster surveys on food gardens in West Kwaio from Bina to Maa when 49 families were affected by heavy rain
- Assessment of food security/Marine Resources/Crops in Ontong Java
- Involvement of staff during registration of voters and administration of the National Election.
- Involvement of staff in preparation and participation at the Mini-Trade Show during the Malaita Second Appointed Day in August at Afio, South Malaita

VI. Divisional Challenges

- Human Resources Development
 - Recruitment of a typist at the Auki Office
 - Activation of promotion of SFO Atori
 - Recruitment of new staff to other stations
- Effective Coordination of MAL Office in Auki
 - Livestock Division
 - Research Division
 - Land-Use Planning Division
 - Extension Division
- Staff Housing - Auki Station, and other outer sub-stations, housing for staff is a real problem
- Staff Discipline - internal and external



C. GUADALCANAL PROVINCE

I. Staff

Guadalcanal has 19 staff at post in 2010, and were all posted around the sub-stations in the province. However, it has been expressed that for 2011, staff number has to be increased to 29 in order to cater for the farming needs of the province.

II. Training

The provincial officers have had trainings on Training of Trainers that was budgeted for by CLIP. Paravet and Queen Bee grafting was contacted by MAL: Livestock and Veterinary Service Department, and Pest Control was jointly ran by MAL & KGA. A total of 292 farmers had benefited from trainings held in various sites around the province, especially in Pig and Poultry production, and Cocoa rehabilitation. These trainings were funded by MAL, Agricultural Livelihoods Program (ALP), and CLIP.

III. Development Programs

- **Rice Development**

There are nine rice projects assisted by MAL and ROC: TTM. A total area of 12.9 ha was already planted and aims to further cultivate and expend further to reach a total of 135 ha in the future. Three institutions, namely St Joseph Tenaru, St Martin RTC, and Don Bosco RTC have 9.4 ha of their land covered. It should also be noted that some individuals have taken the initiatives to do planting on a smaller scale.

- **Cocoa Development**

Guadalcanal Province has engaged in Cocoa rehabilitation since 2007. Some 20 applications had been sent to MAL for the 2010 funding, but they are yet to receive an advice for any assistance. Under the CLIP funded project, through ALP, a total of 3,234 projects were approved whilst payment were made to 682 projects with tools been dispatched to appropriate farmers. Through the Integrated Pest and Disease Management (IPDM), technical information, and skills were transferred to farmers to control pest and disease problem. Training and field trips were organized for staff, and farmers. Logistics support on transport, finance, and tools were also provided under CLIP.

- **Coconut Development**

Work by individual farmers continued as planned despite not receiving funding assistance.

- **Coffee Development**

Although little progress has been made so far, remoteness of the farming areas, poor road infrastructure, and irregular visits by agriculture staff had put Coffee development at a slow start. Coffee still has a lot of potential in the area, and interested farmers are continuing to work at their own initiatives.

- **Livestock Development**

There is little Cattle development, although it has the potential to expand with a reasonable injection of funds. However, on a smaller scale, assistance has been given for Poultry, and Piggery farmers in the province.

- **Vegetable and Root Crops Production**

Vegetables and Root-crops production had been the main agricultural activity pursued by individual families aimed for income at the Honiara markets. There is an adequate production and supply of vegetables, and root-crops to Honiara consumers.

IV. Challenges

Staff housing has been a long standing issue which needs a national plan to resolve the issue. Current labor force is inadequate to provide services for the province, thus an increase in manpower was proposed. The transport fleet for both land and sea needs to be increased to provide effective and adequate services to farmers. The process of acquiring funds was slow, and adversely affects progress in carrying-out the planned activities, and communication links between stations, and sub-stations with headquarter can be improved with two-way radios.

D. CENTRAL ISLANDS PROVINCE

Central Islands Province has 12 established Officers, two non-established workers, and four direct employees. The provincial staff and farmers under-go trainings in Fruit and Nut Trees, Peanut Growing, Cocoa Processing, Paravet training, and Bee Keeping. The Provincial Government and Strengthening Project (PGSP) had also support the Hakama livestock up-grading project, and restocking. Some of the program carried-out in the province includes; Rice Development Program, Cocoa planting through family units and Gela Cocoa Growers Association visits, livestock and animal feed assistance, and Peanut variety bulking using varieties from PNG. Gela, MAL Officers also participated in the non-regulatory functions such as the registration of voters, general elections, and Disaster Assessment and Trainings. Major projects earmarked for 2010 were the agriculture office building, renovation of staff quarters, restocking of Hakama poultry and piggery, maintenance of Hakama building, communication network, and logistics support.

The Central Islands Province strengths are in Betel nut and traditional food crops production, Megapod eggs, its proximity to Honiara, and Coconut plantation. The province also recognizes its weaknesses as; the aging of transport pool, reduction of the provincial budget, poor communication, and lack of housing.

The following are seen as issues to be looked at with urgency:

- The ownership of Hakama Training Centre. There were conflicting issues between the Church of Melanesia, Province, Landowners, and MAL on who owns the training center
- Human resource issues relating to officers not receiving their substantive posts or levels

E. ISABEL PROVINCE

I. Project Report Summary

Based on the analysis of the Chief Field Officer of the province, success on agriculture sector has been around 40 per cent. With projects, farmers found it difficult to acquire funds from recurrent budgets, and there was no feedback from project donors. Logistic support was not felt, and inefficient, and officers were not either housed or were living in indecent houses when at post. Further to that, communication linkages on roll-over of activities were unclear for readjustments. On the other hand, the province is also in need for a livestock officer, and work is under way with the appropriate department to recruit an officer to work in the province.

II. Staff Matters

Staff concerns are on issues related to:

- Lack of adequate housing
- Some trainings have been done for officers, such as, in-service, short courses, attachments, and farmer trainings but, not for all staff
- The need for monitoring & evaluation for staff performance, and activities were implemented accordingly

- A clear plan on Staff Development Plan that can be implemented by Isabel Province should be in place by MAL Training Unit
- Posting of officers for their appropriate posts are vital for good service delivery

III. Other Activities

Other activities that the Isabel Province Extensions Officers were involved in were; the show casing of Isabel agricultural activities, and development of commodities. Isabel has four District Associations of which, the Isabel Farmers' Association was formed for the purpose of sharing of knowledge and advocate for their interests. The Gozoruru Copra Mill has been operating in Isabel supporting Coconut farmers around the area.

IV. Funding Sources

Financial resources, and technical inputs to the province came from the following sources; MAL Extension Department with its recurrent and development budgets, and partnerships with ROC (TTM), Isabel Provincial Government, SIG through the Ministry of Provincial Government, and Institutional Strengthening (MPGIS) with PGSP, direct Aid Programme from Australia, New Zealand, Japan Grassroots Projects, and other funding from various businesses from Isabel Province

F. TEMOTU PROVINCE

I. Staff

In 2010, Temotu Provincial Agriculture Officers were composed of officers from Extension, Livestock, Research and Quarantine. There were 17 staff members including one direct employee of the province. Since the CFO will be retiring this year, a proposed replacement has been made for additional posts.

II. Training (RDP)

RDP has been funding various trainings in vegetable seed planting (nursery), and soils. It has also been instrumental in other activities like PRA with communities, Rice development, Taro program, controlling of Yellow Crazy Ants in the Reef Islands, Mucuna establishment, Cocoa survey, pruning demonstration, extension concepts, and report writing.

III. Rice Program

There were 104 ha of rice established in the province of which 40ha was under commercial operations, and the remaining 64ha were under smallholder farmers. Production of rice has increased from 2009, however, it was also affected by less visits from project staff to give technical advice when needed, and management issues. There is a rice variety trial on-going, and the appropriate rice suitable for Temotu would be found upon trial results is finalized.

IV. Taro Program

Farmers have seen positive results from the use of chemical control trial on Taro. In 2009, more than 100,000 Taro suckers were planted by 200 farmers in 10 ha, and in 2010 the target to plant more than 12 ha was achieved. In June 2010, about 6 ha was already been planted. More than 27 farmers participated with an average of 1,700 Taro suckers. The provincial government plans to stabilize the Taro farms to meet the growing food need of the provincial population. Surplus from the production can be sold to Honiara market, as well as to Vanuatu and Kiribati.



V. Housing

Housing was an issue for Temotu in 2010, as there were no houses for its officers in the out-stations. There are plans in place to build the Lata Agriculture Office and three residential houses in the various stations in the province. They are still waiting for the Planning Office to complete the architectural plans.

VI. Unknown Deaths of Poultry

There were sudden deaths of chickens in seven villages around the province. Causes were un-clear and samples were sent to Honiara, and overseas with the assistance from Honiara Veterinary Doctor. Results of the samples send were found negative to all possible predictions. For further details, refer to the DLVS section J. on page 50.

VII. Recurrent and Development Budget 2011

A proposed budget under Recurrent and Development budget has been submitted for consideration for next year's budget to continue with the current programs, including a slaughter house, and a Nambo drier facility.

VIII. Challenges and Recommendations

Temotu Province had encountered many challenges that include; staff housing, adequate office space, familiarity with RDP forms used, lack of materials for livestock, no proper internal transport arrangements, up-to-date computer skills, and immediate responses to agricultural uncertainties. It is therefore recommended that their needs are addressed with MAL Directors, Administration, RDP Management, Finance Division and Temotu Staff.

G. RENBEL PROVINCE

I. Staff and Housing

There are four officers in Renbel, but one has been transferred to Makira Province. The highest agriculture position in the province is Principal Field Officer (PFO). Due to lack of housing for the Agriculture Division, officers were sharing houses with other Ministries' (Education and Health) staff houses. Residential houses owned by the Agriculture Division were not suitable for human habitation and as such, it is therefore recommended that urgent repairs with building of new houses for officers are done in 2011.

II. Support Service

There were no office stationeries or office equipment nor safety equipment, fuel, tools, or other equipment for touring and work. As such, agricultural activities were generally not active in the province. Plans are under way to ensure positive work outcomes are felt in the province.

III. Activities/Training

Trainings were held for farmers on Taro chemical application, but crop rotation, and small livestock husbandry is yet to be done. One of the staff had also attended Integrated Pest Management (IPM) training in Israel.

IV. Challenges

There was a need to build four houses, and repair the two existing old buildings. There is also a need to recruit new officers to carry-out tasks more effectively and in preparation for any retirees. The province would need at least 3 additional officers, and a Chief Field Officer to ensure agriculture activities are effectively carried-out in the province.

V. Renbel is always disqualified from funding sources because of its small population sizer. However, it should be noted that Renbel is also prone for hunger, sickness, natural disasters, and environmental degradation. In

the next years, MAL has to put in plans to actively participate in the province to ensure food security approaches are strategically implemented.

H. WESTERN PROVINCE

I. Manpower and Programs

Western Province has 18 staff and 5 vacant positions yet to be filled. In 2010, provincial agricultural programs they have been engaging in were; the RDP: C2, NRRDP, Oil Palm Project, CLIP, Cocoa and Coconut Rehabilitation, and Fruits and Nut Trees.

II. Rural Development Programme

The RDP: C2 which aims to improve agriculture delivery service to the rural areas has involved in the following activities in the Western Province; PRA consultation, On-farm trials, Demonstration farms, Farmer trainings, Farmer field school, and Out-sourcing of activities to non-state actors. In the past six months, 20 activities were undertaken involving participation of 453 farmers. RDP training includes; Paravet, Management mentoring, Survey and data analysis, Extension intervention, Reporting and Report writing skills, Paravet introductory, Paravet epidemiology, Market access, Queen Bee rearing, and Basic computing.

III. Other Trainings

Other staff training organized by SIG/IPAM, CLIP, and National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) include; Knowing your Public Service, Customer Service, Code of Conduct, Report Writing, Training of Trainers (Cocoa), and Lessons Learnt from Tsunami. Twenty three staff from MAL (Western Province) also attended the various trainings at different locations.

IV. Rice Program

About 70ha of land had been cleared, planted and harvested. These farms were either semi-commercial or commercial. Smallholders were also working in pockets of farms. Despite the good progress in rice production, the following issues were also affecting the rice program;

- Farming inputs not available on time
- High cost of transportation to get rice to the nearest mill
- Delay in delivery of spare parts to mills, and unavailability of qualified operators to service them
- Lack of regular follow-up, and supervision of projects by extension officers

V. Cocoa Livelihood and Improvement Programme

After the recruitment of eight Cocoa enumerators, Cocoa assessment was conducted in Shortlands, Simbo, Ranongga, Vella, Vonavona and some parts of New Georgia. It was found that with the 766 farmers counted, there were 645,864 Cocoa trees covering an estimated land area of 582 ha. Cocoa assistance from CLIP funding was received by 500 farmers.

VI. Challenges

Challenges facing the province include:

- Geographical setting of the province is a major limiting factor to effectively and efficiently coordinate service delivery to the rural farmers
- Lack of housing for staff
- Lack of office space for all officers
- Absence of staff development plan, hence lack of new innovations

I. CHOISEUL PROVINCE

I. Staff Establishment

Choiseul Province has 10 staff at post and 3 vacancies to be filled next year. There was one non-established staff who was working as the Project Manager for the proposed Choiseul Palm Oil Plantation.

II. MAL Programs

The programs which were directly implemented by MAL Provincial Officers are:

- **National Rural Rice Development Programme**

Kole and Poroporo Rice Projects and two other communities were identified to venture into commercial rice farming of which, in ward 2, people were more engaged with commercial rice farms. In addition to these major rice farms, smallholders were also taking the initiative to do rice farming. In ward 7 and 8, where rice milling machines are located, rice farming has been increasing over the years. The province is expecting a Mini Rice Mill in the near future, and the idea is more appropriate for smallholder farmers' benefits.

- **Cocoa & Coconut Rehabilitation**

The provincial extension services were yet to receive updates on Cocoa and Coconut project information from the Agriculture Planning Department. To date, 8 farmers were shortlisted to receive assistance, and two farmers have been assisted with their Copra dryer.

- **Oil Palm**

The Oil Palm Project has its own Project Manager. There were consultations going on with landowners and progress to start the project has been slow. There was no budget allocation for the project as any other Palm Oil projects in the country but supported under the provincial RDP: C2 budget.

III. RDP Activities

The RDP cover the following activities; PRA, Food Crop Improvement, Livestock development, Cash crop development, Resource management, Quarantine activities, and follow-up visits. More than 600 farmers had benefited from the trainings, and workshops held on 26 occasions in the province. Under the surveillance for GAS, eight traps were set-up in different locations. In addition, two hundred (200) coffee seedlings were raised, and transplanted during the follow-up sessions.

- **Management Information System**

Progress has been made with the establishment of Management Information Systems (MIS) in the office. It is anticipated that the system will improve its reporting system, and management. However, data are yet to be uploaded into the system for analysis, and reporting.

- **Cocoa Livelihood and Improvement Programme**

Under this project, 125 farmers were assessed, and 64 farmers their projects were approved for funding. Fifty six (56) farmers were approved for rehabilitation, and 8 were approved for driers. Out of the approved projects, 35 farmers have paid their contribution as equity to get funding.

IV. Choiseul Provincial Agriculture and Rural Development Program (CPARDS)

The scheme had assisted 9 enterprises with an amount of SBD54,000 covering agriculture areas such as; Chicken layers, Broilers, Piggery, Ducks, and Copra buying. The province also has its demonstration farm that carry-out activities of Cocoa seed garden, and a 5 sow piggery unit to supply piglets to farmers.

V. Repair and Maintenance of Buildings

Repairs were done to some staff houses while others are yet to be re-furbished. Materials for the shed building were purchased, and a new design for the South Choiseul staff quarter was completed.

VI. RDP Transport

RDP: C2 has been instrumental in financing four OBMs for transportation, motor bikes, and bicycles for short distances. RDP: C2 was also helpful to finance the office with stationeries, computers and laptops, printers, photocopiers, and safety kits.

VII. Strengths

The engagement with many partners and stakeholders was very helpful especially with RDP, Provincial Government through Provincial Grants, stakeholders like the Churches, NGOS, improved shipping services, and improved communication.

VIII. Challenges

The Extension services have been met with certain difficulties worth mentioning.

- The need for establishment of sub-stations
- Provincial grants not fully utilized
- Delay of RDP funds from PSU/PCU office
- High costs of goods, and services due to high inflation
- Climate change impacts affecting certain parts of the province

IX. Recommendation

It is recommended that the following steps be undertaken to improve agricultural development in the province:

- Strengthen community village based extension officers
- Rental arrangement for field officers
- Strengthen relationship with provincial government
- Improve collaboration with PSU and Provincial Secretary
- Improve linkage with other MAL Departments
- Support and encourage production activities



4.4.3 NATIONAL RURAL RICE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (NRRDP)

A. Smallholder Rice Farmers

With the reduced support from ROC- TMM, smallholder rice farmers under NRRDP were assisted with farm inputs, and technical advices.

B. Summary of Achievements

PROVINCE	NO. OF FARMERS	HECTARES (ha)	UNPOLISHED (Kg)	POLISHED (Kg)
Malaita	23	5.7	8,235	5,241
Guadalcanal	14	2.8	2,428	1,546
Isabel	56	12.4	18,142	11,258
Temotu	62	18.6	23,864	15,643
Makira	18	3.2	3,894	2,524
Central	8	1.6	2,247	1,435
Western	42	6.4	9,258	6,086
Choiseul	8	1.5	2,026	1,264
Renbel	0	0	0	
TOTALS	231	52.2	70,094	44,997

C. NRRDP Projects

NRRDP 47 Projects	=	70 ha.
Production (polished)	=	66.117 MT
Smallholders	=	52 ha.
Production (polished)	=	44.997 MT
Total achieved	=	122 ha.
Total Production	=	111.114 MT
Total Value	=	111114Kg x SBD15 per Kg = SBD1,666,710

CONSTRAINTS FACED WHEN IMPLEMENTING THE NRRDP	
PROBLEMS/ISSUES	SUGGESTED ACTION
<i>Solomon Islands Government</i>	
No Specialist Trained Rice Officers. E.g. Rice Technicians, Water Engineers, Rice Research Officers, Entomologists, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SIG should recognize the importance of rice as an important staple food in the country with regards to food security; and as such must take the initiatives to train specialized staff on rice production In this regards, rice production should be treated as a separate Division apart from the Extension Department for more concentration given to rice production, and rotational cropping The SIG, NRRDP facilitators, implementers and rice project owners should have the mentality of ownership of the NRRDP
SIG cash flow problem: - farm inputs, tools, machineries, equipment and disbursement funds were usually not in time according to the rice cropping seasons and work schedules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If it does not violate the Financial Instructions; The NRRDP Standing Account should be held by MAL
Top-down decision on NRRDP rice projects and machines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the success of the program at-least respect, trusts, and confidence should be vested on the Technical Officers/MAL and implementers of NRRDP Only projects endorsed by the Provinces will be funded

MAL & Provinces	
Though funds are available in the Ministry of Finance; the slow process of raising requisitions affects the slow progress of NRRDP implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the importance for food security and import substitution; MAL [and the Ministry of Finance] should regard NRRDP as a priority program for financing for successful implementation
No Headquarter Extension truck driver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the headquarter Extension Department to recruit a driver so that the Procurement Officer and DOE's office work are not affected
Provincial Rice reports not produced on time or not at all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The importance of reports, and the type and procedures of submissions should be reiterated to all the CFOs/PRCs E.g. Types of reports - quarterly, six monthly and annual reports. Procedures of submissions, example; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly reports by PRCs - to CFOs, copy to DDP NRRDP HQ & Provinces summarized quarterly reports by DDP/CFO to DOE Six monthly & annual reports - CFOs to DOE NRRDP HQ & Provinces summarized six monthly & annual reports by DDP/CFO to DOE
PROBLEMS/ISSUES	SUGGESTED ACTION
Non functional or inactive Provincial Rice Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since the Rice Projects were identified and endorsed by the Provinces in their initial stage, Chief Field Officers, and appropriate staff can recommend the inactive projects for cancellation Provinces should assess their current Rice Projects and submit any for cancellations, and also to include those that are still to receive assistance
Provincial Rice Projects are scattered in many islands in the country. The situation has put huge strains on financial assistance and has impacts on the maximum output, cost effectiveness, benefits, and project sustainability; hence, NRRDP is becoming very expensive to implement, evaluate and monitor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NRRDP to continue assisting the current, and new 5-10 ha. approved projects for 2011; but more emphasis should also be geared towards establishing 2 to 3 bigger projects of 500 ha. to >1,000 ha. in the Provinces that have Provincial alienated potential lands Provinces that do not have alienated lands but have large potential customary lands should have their land recordings for registration (as with the Oil Palm Projects) carried-out The 500 to >1,000 ha. projects should be fully mechanized either on fully joint venture or joint venture nucleus out-growers scheme arrangement with potential investors
Lack of spare parts, and back-up services for rice machineries, and equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suppliers of rice machines, and equipment should also provide back-up services (i.e. spare parts, repair, machines servicing & overhaul workshop) If this is not done by the suppliers, out-sourcing the back-up service function may be an alternative
Minimal support for smallholder rice development program because of the reduction of assistance by TTM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MAL to consult with the signing of the new ROC/SIG technical agreement SIG to also allocate for the smallholders in its budget and that the smallholders should only be concentrated around the parameters of the current semi-commercial rice projects for easy access to milling machines, threshers, etc.
NRRDP Provincial Rice Projects	
Land disputes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land owners should be properly identified through Chief hearings, local land courts, etc. Land recording and registration
Mismanagement and misuse of project funds, tools, inputs, machines and equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project managers to attend more training on project management, simple financial record keeping, etc. Project by-laws should be in place so that any persons found to have

	<p>infringed them shall be punished accordingly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The management committees of the projects to under-go workshops on their roles and responsibilities
Lack of support by members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merging individual farmers into the communal concept or vice versa

D. Provincial Rice Tours

One Rice Project tour was made during the year by CFO Operations and Machinery Operator. Mekana Rice Project at Choiseul Province was visited on request for rice awareness talks, new project assessments, and monitoring and evaluation of old projects. The Deputy Director Projects and the Machineries Operator Trainee had also toured Western Province, and assessed Noro and Alu land for possible purchase or lease by SIG.

Maromaro Agriculture Extension team had also attended the Trade Show held in Buala, and show casing the NRRDP and Agriculture Extension Services activities. The show was really a success for all who took part in the dissemination of information about Rice, and NRRDP to the public and farmers.

4.5 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE QUARANTINE SERVICES (SIAQS)



The Agriculture Quarantine Services has 5 sections which includes;

- Operation section:- involves more on border enforcement
- Surveillance & Post entry:- deals with post border activities
- The Market Access:- Market opportunities for agriculture products
- Publicity and information on pre border, and awareness
- Compliance and auditing:- oversees the Quarantine Act

A. Quarantine Inspection and Certification of Plant and Plant products

II. Exports

The table outlines consignments certified for export in 2010

2010 QUARTERS	INSPECTION CERTIFICATES	PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATES	WILD LIFE CERTIFICATES	PHYTO CERTIFICATES ON ROUND LOGS
Q1	227	142	8	61
Q2	167	144	5	1
Q3	222	174	10	51
Q4	140	142	7	31

II. Licensing

TYPE OF LICENSE	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
No. of Permits (Animal Products)	93	73	65	121
No. of Permits (Plants/Plant Products)	32	21	14	30

Note: Q1- 1st Quarter, Q2- 2nd Quarter, Q3- 3rd Quarter, Q4- 4th Quarter.

4.5.1 AIRPORT OPERATIONS

A. Number Flights and Passengers Processed

AIRCRAFTS	NO. OF FLIGHTS					PASSENGERS PROCESSED				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
Solomon Airlines	41	40	35	43	159	2,966	3,839	3,788	4,546	15,139
Air Niugini	47	52	53	54	206	1,685	1,846	2,147	2,489	8,167
Air Pacific	12	13	13	13	51	686	862	946	1,140	3,634
Air Nauru	24	26	27	20	97	249	174	273	175	871
Heavy Lift Cargo Airlines	25	0	0	0	25	2,047	0	0	0	2,047
Pacific Blue	3	26	27	25	81	0	2,660	3,189	2,682	8,531
Military Flights	11	3	10	17	41	35	94	132	145	406
Pacific Air Express	3	12	16	4	35	125	0	0	0	125
Private Flights	11	15	26	19	71	0	16	105	33	154
Others	2	0	1	0	3	114	0	0	0	114
TOTAL	179	187	208	195	769	7,907	9,491	10,580	11,210	39,188

Numbers of flights to Solomon Islands in 2010 has been increasing over that year, with the highest number of passengers came in the last quarter. The increasing numbers of passengers coming into the country also pose threats to the agriculture sector in terms of bringing animal or plant materials with them, and as such, SIAQS at all times ensures passenger checks are done thoroughly to counter any risk of pest intrusion.

B. Airport Data on Interceptions Destroyed

INTERCEPTIONS DETAINED AND DESTROYED	DESTROYED ITEMS (Kg)				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
Fruits (<i>including dried /processed</i>)	10.8	6.63	11.29	11.4	40.12
Plant Materials	0	0	1.401	0.1	1.501
Vegetables (<i>including dried /processed</i>)	1.85	1.69	6.12	0	9.66
Bulbs /Tubers /Rhizomes (<i>including fresh, frozen, cooked</i>)	13.75	2	2.1	0	17.85
Animal Products	0	2.6	3.1	0.5	6.2
Other Plant Products/foodstuff	4.1	0	0.1	1.8	6
Cooked /Dried Meat	6.862	11.3	9.51	8.41	36.082
Bee /Bee Products	3	4.375	1.35	0.11	8.835

Fruits, and Cooked dried meat were amongst the highest detained items at the SIAQS Airport operation in 2010. Bulbs, Tubers and Rhizomes are also carried by passengers during travels, while other items are very low. Through these agriculture materials, exotic pests can intrude into the country.

4.5.2 SEA PORT OPERATIONS

A. Ships Cleared

NAME OF PORT	NO. OF SHIPS CLEARED				TOTAL	DISCHARGING PASSENGERS/CREWS				TOTAL
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Honiara	137	104	130	233	604	15	18	29	30	92
Tikopia	1			1	2					0
Utupua	1				1					0
RenBel		1			1		28			28
Total	139	105	130	234	608	15	46	29	30	120

Sea Port Operations include; vessel clearance, garbage collection, and disposal, cargo clearance on imports, and exports, checking for risk items, GAS trapping and revenue collection. Most ships were cleared in the fourth quarter of 2010. Plant products intercepted and destroyed was high in the 1st quarter, with a total of 1,421.2Kg destroyed. Animal products detained and destroyed was high in the 4th quarter, with a total of 769.09Kg.

B. Sea Port Data on Interceptions Destroyed or Re-shipped

INTERCEPTIONS DETAINED AND DESTROYED OR RE-SHIPED	ITEMS (Kg)				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
Plant Products	505.9	326.3	420	169	1,421.2
Animal/Animal Products	59	33.7	31	645.39	769.09
Animal/Animal Products (re-shipped)	64*	0	0	0	64

4.5.3 QUARANTINE SURVEILLANCE AND POST ENTRY

The Quarantine Surveillance have engaged mainly in general plant health surveys, and involved in targeted pest surveys such as, Giant African Snail, Yellow Crazy Ants, and CBP.

A. Giant African Snail (GAS)

Giant African Snail containment activities carried-out during the year were;

- Hand picking
- Slash and burn
- Bait application (every two weeks)
- Salt water spray
- Awareness – sign boards
- Control movement of logging machine, vehicle, in hot spot areas
- Washing all logging machines before shipped to logging sites
- Follow up survey on high risk logging camps (every year)
- Hire casuals (up to 40 at a time)

B. List of Infested Sites covered during the Monitoring and Eradication Operation

ZONES	GAS INVESTED AREAS
ZONE A: Gwaimaoa and Matariu Casuals	Feralaoda, West Kola, Matariu, Gwaimaoa, Namuliki, Varacreek, Varamata, No. 3, Skyline residential area
ZONE B: Ranadi Casuals	Ranadi land field, Honey house area, Dalgro area, Oceanic Mariners area, Peter Wale area, Elite area, Katalake area, SI aquarium, Medical area, Quality Food area, Vincent's residential area, JBM area
ZONE C: Fox Wood Casuals	Tenakaro garden area , Red beach area
Noro invested sites	Noro International Port area, Soltai Cannery area

C. Constraints Incurred During the Operation

During carrying-out of GAS activities, rainfall problem has affected most of the field work. This had also contributed to the continuous increase of snail population in all established infested sites, and its spread to new areas.

Below is the list of identified problems;

- Delay of availability of funds to engage contracted workers to control the pest, as well as purchasing of tools and chemicals to control GAS
- Some of the infested sites were unhygienic and dangerous for humans, hence, complete eradication is a challenge
- Bad weather was also a factor that affected the execution of the field activities (e.g. bait application were disturbed during rainy days)
- Public response to assist in containing and eradicating the pest from the infested sites was not helpful (e.g. Removal of materials from infested areas without proper cleaning and inspection)

D. Recommendations

Controlling of GAS is a challenge; however it is recommended that the following issues be addressed;

- Continuous engagement of casuals in the containment and eradication program in keeping the sites clean, and continuous monitoring
- Funds for engagement of casuals must be available at all times to keep them working
- Funds to purchase tools, and other necessary equipment must be available at all times, not only for the pest (GAS) but also for other exotic established pests in the Solomon Islands

The existence of Giant African Snail in areas around Honiara, and Noro International Sea Ports area is posing huge threat to the Solomon Islands Agriculture Industry and the environment. However, the SIAQS Department has undertaken all responsibilities and measures, as the country's frontline defense, to control and eradicate the pest from all detected infested sites in the country. These include the engagement of contracted casual workers to assist in implementing the eradication program activities in all infested locations. The Surveillance Unit of the SIAQS Department with its six hard working staff were leading the group in supervising all activities in the controlling and eradicating the pest. Despite their hard work, there is much more to be done to completely wipe out the pest from the country.

E. Cocoa Pod Borer (CPB)

Since confirm reports of CPB in Bougainville was revealed in 2009, SIAQS had established high level surveillance programs in Choiseul and Western Provinces.

There were no reports of the sightings of this pest in all farms visited in the two provinces in 2010.

Major activities undertaken were;

- Cocoa pod assessments
- Farmer interviews and awareness
- Erecting pheromone traps and monitoring the presence of the pests in the trap sites (Choiseul, Shortland Island, Mono Island, Vella, Rannogga, Rendova).

F. Yellow Crazy Ants Surveillance

This pest has been established on Fenualoa Island in the Reef Islands of Temotu Province. The Quarantine Department (SIAQS) has been involved in containing the pest through use of chemical bait. No casual workers were involved in this program, however, it was proved successful in controlling the pest, but more work is yet to be done to eradicate this pest.

G. General Pest Surveys

Two provinces were covered on general pest surveys by two officers from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) Australia and a staff from the Land Resources Division of SPC. Farm visits were conducted on Guadalcanal from Berande to Selwyn College. On Malaita, a survey was conducted along the South Road to Koa, the Busurata in highlands, the East road towards Atori, and the North road towards Anokelo. Before and during these surveys, four (4) Quarantine Officers had received trainings and were given equipment to assist them in the Plant health surveys.

H. Post Entry Quarantine Facility Construction

The newly constructed facility at the Henderson International Airport area will be completed in 2011. The facility still requires minor patch-up work to be done before its final commissioning. These works includes;

- Installation of a 12M high water tank
- Installation of a water pump and accessories

- Improve drainage system around the building
- Construction of benches for plants
- Sign boards, notices and security lights installation
- Complete PEQ draft protocol
- Review fees and charges
- Construct a Soil Steriliser

4.5.2 MARKET ACCESS

The SIAQS Market Access and Trade Facilitation is a unit within the Quarantine Department. Market Access operates to uphold plant quarantine discipline by facilitating safe trade, monitor the movement of risk materials, protection against the introduction of new pests, regulate the import and export of plants, help exporters & importers meet the entry & exit quarantine requirements of other countries.

A. Overview to Trade in Solomon Islands

Solomon Islands had experienced slow increase in the level of commodities exported in the last years, despite the availability of diverse agricultural products can be exported. Although accessing international markets had been made possible, the *Marketing Systems Approach* implemented can still be improved to increase the country's export revenue. There are hindrances and deficiencies that exist in the implementation of the current commodity export system. *As such, it is fragile that future potential commodities may be denied from entry into the International Markets, if the issues are not properly addressed.*

The current commodity export system performs procedures that need further improvements. For Solomon Islands agricultural commodities to enter and remain competitive in the international markets, collaborative consultations and combined efforts from all stakeholders are needed to push exports of agriculture commodities forward. This is because the appropriate infrastructures and facilities to support products for trade needs to be in place. Therefore, non-adherence to remove the underlying hindrances will affect and reduce the chances of Solomon Islands commodities achieving the required international trade standards.

The current Solomon Islands commodity systems approach can be strengthened if the private sector and the government institutions can work together in the whole marketing process. With that, a practical collaborative systems approach to maintain the desired quality and health standards set by international trading partners can be reached amicably.

Currently, the Plant Quarantine Services have not been fully utilized as expected because those involved in the export trade have not diversified their potential plant commodities for export. There is a great need to help support exporters of agricultural products to be diversified with the required technologies, to ensure international trading can benefit farmers of the country. This is the approach that other neighboring countries in the South Pacific had gone through, and such countries had demonstrated success in their diversification approach and benefited rural farmers. Solomon Islands has the equal opportunity with diversified crop commodities for export.

B. Activities

For this year, there were number of seminars and tours were carried-out in various provinces mainly to alert farmers of the possibilities of marketing the local agricultural products to a much efficient markets, locally and internationally.

I. Seminar

The Market Access Unit had organized a Market Access seminar at Munda, Western Province. The purpose was to ensure stakeholders are aware of the significance of export procedures which Solomon Islands had engaged in for many years, and to access and uphold plant quarantine discipline in facilitating safe trade through vigilant monitoring of pest and disease risk material movements. Demonstrations of protecting invasive pests and diseases

that may enter Solomon Islands, through miserable trading systems, and procedures when engaging plant crops and livestock commodities in trade were also highlighted.

Solomon Islands had to diversify its trading potentials in business, and boosting the export of diversified farmed commodities as a way forward into creating a healthier economy. In addition, the seminar was also to assist potential farmers, exporters, importers and traders to see opportunities for a brighter economic future, through trade with the support embedded through SIAQS. A total of 20 participants participated in the seminar.

II. Baseline Survey Tour

- **Kava Production at Kolomola and Koregu Village Farms in Isabel Province**

Tour was made to Kolomola, Aualu, and Koregu areas to identify and assess Kava growing, and production. The production capacity on Kava commodity in Solomon Islands was assessed to distinguish producers with how much was the production scale of their farm. The baseline information compiled will enable the ministry to monitor Kava production, and to assist the formation of export trade protocol for Solomon Islands' Kava. To enable market access for this crop, it is important to validate the country's Kava export capacity so that it can be justified in international market access negotiations whenever a Bilateral Quarantine Agreement (BQA) is required to be made.

III. Workshop at Kaotave (Rural Training Center)

A one day workshop was held with farmers (producers) and potential exporters at Kaotave Rural Training Centre in the Guadalcanal Plains. The purpose of the workshop was to create an understanding, and build strong links between potential crop producers in the area, and keen exporters in tapping international markets, particularly into Nauru and Kiribati. An understanding was established between producers and exporters who will consistently purchase crops to export into the two countries. A total of 26 farmers and 5 Exporters attended the workshop.

IV. Market Access Strategy

The draft formation of the Market Access Strategy provides the basis for discussion with stakeholders of the private and public sectors to develop a final strategy that reflects the government, and industry's interest for stakeholders to implement. It is recognized that the final strategy agreed may end-up with a different scope (than the initial draft) and that it can be modified to form part of the broader sector wide on national export strategy. The work involved in defining of initial market access work priorities by stakeholders, and the actions and resources required.

V. Conclusion

In conclusion, there is a need to review visited farms again in 2011 to see how they are progressing. A more organized system should be planned by congregating farmers together to form into organized groups per crop to facilitate a way forward into formulating farmer registration network, so that they can meet certain international market requirements, as per crop requested.

VI. Licenses Issued for importing Plants and Plant Products

- **Multiple Entry**

COMMODITIES	NO. OF LICENSES ISSUED	COUNTRIES
Fruits & vegetable	14	Australia and New Zealand
Polished rice	25	Australia, China, Viet Nam, Thailand, Papua New Guinea (PNG)
Vegetable seeds	1	Fiji
Copra	1	PNG
Onion	3	New Zealand



- **Single Entry**

COMMODITIES	NO. OF LICENSES ISSUED	COUNTRIES
Fruits & vegetables	9	Australia, Fiji
Polished rice	11	Australia, China, Viet Nam, Thailand, United States
Seeds	11	Australia, China, Fiji, Taiwan, Vanuatu
Cuttings	3	Fiji, Singapore
Popcorn	2	New Zealand, Argentina
Tissue culture	7	Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia
Seedlings	1	Taiwan

4.5.3 QUARANTINE INFORMATION & PUBLICITY

Organizing information and publicity as awareness program is just another way of combating the introduction of new pests and diseases into the country.

A. Activities and Outputs

I. Productions of Awareness Material

Production of materials done were on the following quarantine pests and diseases; Cocoa Pod Borer, Foul Brood of Honey, Yellow Crazy Ants, Banana Bunchy Top, Banana Blood Disease, Bird Flu, Screw Worm Fly, Foot and Mouth Disease, New Castle Disease, Queensland Fruit Fly, Rabies, and Roles and functions of SIAQS. There were 1,950 copies produced and reprinted in 2010. Newly produced copies were 1,000 making the total production for the year; 2,950 copies.

II. Production of SIAQS Calendar (2010)

Calendar (2010) was produced purposely to promote the activities of SIAQS, and make farmers, the general public, and all stakeholders aware of activities carried-out, and to involve the public in the basic quarantine lines of pest controls. Eighty (80) copies were printed and sent to quarantine offices in the provinces, and further distributed to the extension officers, and farmers. Remaining copies were distributed to various MAL Departments, and other Ministries.

III. Quarantine TV Awareness Commercials

With the aim of reaching the wider urban-population on agriculture and quarantine activities, television (TV) was used as an effective means of conveying messages to the public. The awareness adverts were on the Giant African Snail (GAS) pest problems in the country, exotic pests, quarantine requirements, and activities of SIAQS.

B. Awareness Program

I. Radio Program

SIAQS had liaised with the Ministry's information network in the Famas Kona radio program. Topics covered in the program were Cocoa Pod Borer and GAS. The radio program was aimed at targeting, and reaching out to the rural dwellers in the country.

II. Awareness Talks

Awareness programs were carried-out in some communities of Fox Wood area that was infested with GAS. A quarantine talk was held at the EU conference room and to NGO women's groups on the roles of SIAQS. All women participants had expressed their appreciations, and commended for the important roles quarantine is doing in the country.

III. Agriculture Trade Show (Buala)

SIAQS has had a successful awareness program at the Buala Agriculture Trade Show. The aim was to continue to inform the public, and showcase quarantine activities of SIAQS. The awareness activities carried-out during the show includes; explaining the risk of pest intrusions, showcasing items confiscated at the various points of entry (airport and seaport), and explained to the public the risks attached to these items if not intercepted.

IV. Dissemination of Pamphlets, Posters and Brochures

Awareness materials were sent to Choisuel, Western, Temotu and Malaita. Further distributions went to organizations in Honiara, such as secondary schools and other line Ministries. Production of information sheets includes posters, brochures, and pamphlets.

C. Conclusion

From the awareness programs carried-out during the year, SIAQS have learnt a lot from public responses that awareness is reaching the public. This is evident through companies, residential areas, communities, and individuals enquiring at the office for assistance with GAS control, and students seeking information on GAS, and quarantine issues for research purposes.



*Buala Trade Show SIAQS promotion
Photo Credit: SIAQS*

*Giant African Snail (GAS) laying eggs
Photo Credit: SIAQS*



4.6 DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK AND VETERINARY SERVICES

This year, 2010, has been a challenging year for the Department of Livestock and Veterinary Services (DLVS). The challenges include implementation of Development Projects, attending to farmers' queries, and slow progress in carrying-out the provincial livestock programs.

Our work program comprised of four development projects: the National Cattle Development, Malaita Commercial Piggery, Slaughter House Facility Development, and the Honey Bee Development. These National Projects were funded by the Solomon Islands Government (SIG) under the Development Budget allocation. A Small Livestock support program to assist smallholder livestock (Pigs, Poultry, Goats, Ducks), was also included under the recurrent budget.

4.6.1 STAFF POSTING AND TRAINING

The DLVS has seventeen (17) established staff, and two non-established workers, while four officers were on long-term overseas training in 2010. Each province has an officer, and ten out of twelve provincial posts have been filled, while two officers earmarked for Makira/Ulawa and RenBel Provinces are awaiting their transfer.

4.6.2 DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

A. Development Projects

I. National Cattle Development

In 2010, there was no budget allocation under MAL Development Projects for the National Cattle Project.

- **Existing Status of Tenavatu Farm and Plans for Re-development**

With remaining commitment of SBD7.7M (ROC/SIG Development Budget) for the National Cattle Development, 2010 plans were prepared to continue re-developing Tenavatu Farm (Quarantine site) and preparation of equipment and facilities for the import. The physical status of the property has been reassessed by officers from the Department and confirmed that the property needs to be re-developed again. A re-development work plan and budget has been developed for this purpose and furthermore it is strongly recommended that a review of the current import arrangements be done so that an alternative option can be considered.

- **Possible Way Forward**

With the shrinking revenues and consequently cash-flow problems felt by the government departments and continual deferring of the National Cattle Development Project, securing funds for Cattle importation and re-development of Tenavatu Farm will continue to be a real problem. Thus, it may be necessary to take other options as means to start with this development project. It was suggested that following options be considered.

Recommendation 1

Pursue arrangements to facilitate importation of 200-300 breeding cows and 35 bulls from a suitable source, either from Vanuatu, Australia, New Zealand or Papua New Guinea. Selection shall be based on animal health status, costs and practicalities in shipping and handling (1: 25 bull to cow ratio with, 15 extra bulls)

Recommendation 2

Assess the current local Cattle herds on Russell Islands Plantations Estate Limited (RIPEL) properties in the Russell Islands, Guadalcanal and Malaita, and make arrangements to purchase 200 heads of Cattle.





*Stockyard with fallen rails, and woody weeds.
Photo Credit: DLVS*



*Posts and fence decimated by weeds.
Photo Credit: DLVS*

To take stock of the extent of Cattle herds in some of the known areas, assessments were conducted on a number of Islands in the Russell group, West Guadalcanal, and Numbu areas of Guadalcanal Province, and West Kwaio, East Kwara'ae and Kwaibaita in Malaita Province. It revealed that the number of cattle and herds in these areas were rapidly decreasing.

With the 28 farmers known around Malaita, Guadalcanal, and Russel Islands, their Cattle farming were still up-and-running with some management practices. It was estimated that total of more than 300 heads still exists on the three islands.

II. Malaita Commercial Piggery Development

The Malaita Commercial Piggery Project was an initiative of the Malaita, Provincial Administration in cooperation with DLVS. Developments commenced in 2002, with establishment of a 5 Sow unit at Dala Farm. The objectives of this undertaking were to supply domestic demand for quality pork and breeding stock to local farmers of Malaita and the rest of the pig farmers of the Solomon Islands.

The provincial government provided funds to improve housing while initial stock were purchased by the Department and handed over to the current management. Proceedings from the sales of stock were injected into developing a 39 sow unit complex and improving the current facility. At the present time, a unit containing stalls for dry sows, mating pens and farrowing stalls has been completed. Construction of nursery, fattening and porker pens have commenced, but pending further funding support.

An imprest of SBD203,300 (from the Malaita Commercial Piggery Development Project) was injected into the implementation of this project and for the payment of outstanding costs of contract and materials used in completion of the building (39 sow unit piggery complex). It also covered for upgrading of training centre facilities at Dala Farm, and operational costs including communication, stationary, tours and travel, and handling charges.

To-date the construction of the buildings were fully completed including the installation of 33 dry sow stalls, 10 farrowing stalls and mating pens, and the partial completion of nursery pens, and drainage systems.



*Side view of Building 1.
Photo Credit: DLVS*



*Interior dry stalls Building 2.
Photo Credit: DLVS*

Further implementation of this project will continue in 2011. A number of activities and tasks not completed in 2010 will roll-over into the 2011 budget. These include purchase of stock, feed and farm equipment. These items have been included in the Development Budget Bid for 2011.

III. Slaughter House Projects

The slaughter house project establishment is a strategy aimed at improving hygiene slaughtering and processing, and product quality. It will apply to an extent of control over widespread backyard slaughter and bush kill for public consumption. The approach was to identify and reward experienced operators by improving their animal slaughtering capacities in terms of expertise, tools, equipment, and facilities.

Two properties have been identified and preliminary consultative meeting had been held with the operators and owners of these properties and environment health authorities. This project however was temporarily discontinued following instructions from the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of National Planning and Aid Coordination.

IV. National Honey Bee Program

The National Honey Bee Development Project (NHBDP) aims to assist Bee keepers to improve their apiaries and increase their domestic honey production. A development budget of SBD250,000 was approved for the program in 2010.

The following activities were implemented;

- i. Beginners Training – Isabel and Renbel
- ii. Queen rearing/training – Gizo & Trials in Munda of hives exposed to Asian Bees
- iii. Hive materials distribution – 50 complete hives (15 Renbel, 17 Makira, 18 Guadalcanal)
- iv. Bee equipment, tools, extractor, wax and roll wires (Renbel, Makira and Guadalcanal)

The ACIAR/DLVS research project on suppression of Asian bees (*Apis cerana*) has been completed and the final report will be officially received by Department soon. The main observations include: Asian Bees in certain islands out-competed *Apis mellifera* for nectar, and honey stealing from hives. Thus this leads to a general weakness of *A. mellifera* colonies and hives. Further observations showed general hive managements was also a major contributing factor to the weakening of *A. mellifera* hives, however, Sugar syrup was found to be the most effective means of suppressing Asian bees. In this regard, more work should be done to strengthen colonies in *A. cerana* exposed islands.

In 2011 onwards DLVS intends to focus more efforts to the Honey industry. This industry has significant potential as both a livelihood, and export commodity. Strategies will be put in place to stimulate production, and development after the negative impacts of *A. cerana*. This project will intensify MAL support to farmers from small to large scale production. It will assist and promote processing, marketing and exporting groups and encourage best practice management regimes to reduce effects of the highly competitive Asian bee. In 2011, as way of promoting local production of hive materials and assorted components of hives will be purchased from West Kwaio on Malaita, and distributed to Western, Renbell and Makira/Ulawa Provinces for the provincial apiaries and smallholder Beekeepers in these provinces. Current strategies also include trapping, and destroying colonies of Asian bees on exposed locations.

4.6.3 RECURRENT BUDGET ACTIVITIES

A. Small Livestock Support

The Small Livestock Support is a SIG recurrent budget supported activity. The budgetary allocation for Small Livestock Support is SBD219,500 to cover all provinces including Honiara.

The support budget is designed to reward hard-working farmers who have established their farm units using their own resources and initiatives, and that require assistance in specific areas in the development of their farming unit.

The assistance covers areas in establishment cost: stock, materials and tools, and equipment (wire mesh, water tanks and tools). It however does not normally cater for recurrent costs, including feed and labour. Each province has an allocation (see Table below) for its smallholder farmers.

I. Provincial Allocation

PROVINCE	AMOUNT (SBD)
Malaita	32,925
Guadalcanal	32,925
Isabel	21,950
Temotu	15,365
Makira	21,950
Choiseul	15,365
Western	30,730
Renbel	13,170
Central	13,170
Honiara capital	21,950
TOTAL	219,500



*Semi-commercial Piggery Farm.
Photo Credit: DLVS*

Due to cash flow problems experienced by the government finances, the 35 per cent cut has affected all SIG recurrent and development allocations for farmers' projects. This resulted in a drastic cuts of the small livestock allocation to SBD142,674 (from SBD219,500). Consequently, a number of proposals had to be deferred owing to the reduced support budget. Furthermore, provinces which had not submitted approved proposals had missed the opportunity for this farmer support allocation. (*Refer Annex 1.0 on funded Small Livestock Projects*)

The importance of this grant support to smallholder small livestock farmers is of paramount importance. These farmers usually seek assistance for the completion of a component of their farm, and allowing production to increase. It was highly recommended that the Small Livestock Support budget allocation be increased to benefit more farmers.



*Small Livestock Support to Weaners.
Photo Credit: DLVS*



*Farmer discussing with CLO for support.
Photo Credit: DLVS*



4.6.4 CAPACITY-BUILDING

A. Paraveterinary and Field Epidemiology Training Course

I. Paravet Training

The Paraveterinary training is a course aimed at capacity-building and improve the competencies of MAL Staff, NGOs, Rural Training Center Teachers, Farmers, and Extension Agents. The course was focused on improving animal production in the communities through understanding animal husbandry and production practices for increased animal production and improvements, animal health, and reduction in disease incidents. Participants were trained to assess different animals in the communities and the constraints farmers face in terms of production practices as well as animal health and diseases. The trainings were funded by RDP: C2, and jointly coordinated with DLVS and SICHE. The Secretariat of the South Pacific Communities (SPC) was responsible for marking course participants' assignments and examination papers. There were two rounds of trainings done in 2010, with a total of 44 participants (trainees).

II. Field Epidemiology Training

Data on animal production and problems encountered in animal production, and marketing in livestock are not available in the Solomon Islands. Furthermore, surveillance of animal production, and disease was not that active to farmers in identifying unusual occurrences of disease. At most times, officers from DLVS, and local Veterinarian based in Honiara are mobilized to collect samples for overseas laboratory analysis and diagnosis.

One of the main strategies of DLVS to improve the current situation is to establish an active disease surveillance process, which will involve systematic data collection, analysis, and reporting of animal health, and production. With investigation capability, problems will be addressed, and opportunities will be identified accordingly. This will require considerable support on technical from both local and regional organizations, equipment, and appropriate facilities, logistics, and emergency response planning, information resources, and training.



Paravet classroom session.
Photo Credit: DLVS



Field Epidemiology session.
Photo Credit: DLVS

4.6.5 FARMER TRAINING AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

A. North Guadalcanal Farmers Pig and Poultry Training

Farmer training forms one of the main strategies towards intensifying production, and improving product quality. The main areas covered in farmer training include improved production practices in smallholder Pigs and Poultry, and Honey Bees. A total of 40 farmers including 16 women and 13 youth attended a 5 days Pig and Poultry course organized by DLVS, and Agriculture Extension Guadalcanal at the Don Bosco Hall, North Guadalcanal.



*PS MAL presents certificates to farmers.
Photo Credit: DLVS*



*North Guadalcanal Farmers with certificates.
Photo Credit: DLVS*

B. Henderson Community Field Day

Over 60 participants: 14 women, and 10 youths attended a one-day-farmer outreach program organized for smallholder farmers of Henderson community. The one-day outreach program was aimed at educating participants to improve production practices, including; nutrition, sow, and litter management to improve and increase production performance of animals raised. This program will continue to improve pig raising from traditional systems amongst rural families to a semi-commercial production system.

C. Vatupilei Farmers Training Workshop: North West Guadalcanal

A pig husbandry and management training workshop was held for village farmers of Vatupilei village in Northwest Guadalcanal. The workshop was sponsored by UNDP with the aim of improving rural livelihoods through improved farming practices. DLVS Staff and the Provincial Agriculture Extension counterparts jointly organised the training workshop, which was conducted on the 8th -10th September 2010.

The objectives of the Pig husbandry and management course were for participant to be able to;

- Posses the knowledge and skill in pig husbandry and management
- Apply the knowledge and skill in their farms with minimal supervision by agriculture officers
- Manage their piggery project successfully, and profitable to increase production, and quality of products
- Start applying the skills in their own piggery projects

A total of 23 males, and 9 females have participated in the workshop.



*Castration demo on piglet at Vatupilei.
Photo Credit: DLVS*



*Supervising pen construction.
Photo Credit: DLVS*

During the training workshop, it was observed that some of the major constraints include; lack of veterinary medicines, lack of extension and teaching materials, and lack of trainer-of-trainers. Farmer interest on food security enhancement activities remains significant; hence the need for such farmer training workshop is of paramount importance to the rural areas.

D. Kolotubi Farmers Training Workshop –Isabel Province

A week long training for farmers on Bee Keeping, Pig Husbandry, and Livestock Production was organized by DLVS, PAES and RDP at Kolotubi village from 27th September to 1st October 2010. A PRA conducted in the area revealed that farmers lack the basic knowledge of management and production in Pigs, Poultry, and Honey Bees; although there were significant interests by farmers to participate in these livelihood activities. There was a need to enhance farmer knowledge and skills in improving the quantity and quality of livestock commodities produced in the area. Farmers need to be taught on the right practices to help them improve their units. It was identified prior to the workshop that farmers also lack adequate knowledge on animal nutrition and health practices. This workshop therefore was conducted to address these issues.

- **Honey Bee Projects**

In 2010, DLVS MAL had provided assistance to establish one project for making Honey Bee boxes and its assorted accessories in Isabel. With that, further up-grading was done to two existing Apiaries in having 20 hives each as a source for breeding [suppliers of nucleus], and distribution to other farmers. Farmers are capable of starting their honey project using their own resources, but addition of one or two hives per farmer will boost their ability to expand further.

- **Piggery Projects**

It is recommended that all participants of the Pig Management Workshop be assisted through the Small Livestock Support Program with materials, tools and equipment, and stock to start their projects. To start with, half of the number of participants can operate a 3 sow breeding unit enterprise to sustain the supply of piglets to neighbouring farmers. The other half can operate on pig fattening enterprise of up-to 15 to 20 pigs per fattening period, in their initial establishment. To further sustain production, one project should control feed stock enterprise and located in Kaevanga



*Bee Keeping Field day at Kolotubi.
Photo Credit: DLVS*



*Pig Husbandry training at Kolotubi.
Photo Credit: DLVS*

E. Renbel Bee Keeping Workshop and Tour

A DLVS staff had conducted a workshop in Renbel Province from 9th to 13th October, 2010. The purpose of the tour was to conduct a Bee Keeping workshop for Bee Keepers of the province.



*SLO giving a talk on Bee keeping.
Photo Credit: DLVS*



*Participants taking part in discussions.
Photo Credit: DLVS*

Fifteen course participants (all youths: 5 females and 10 males) attended the course at the Renbel Training Center. The course consists of classroom theory sessions and practical sessions to emphasize the theories learnt. It was observed that unreliable shipping and shipping schedules were the major constraints to the economic development of the province.

F. Buala Trade and Agriculture Show

A Trade and Agriculture Show were organized by the Ministry of Commerce and Trade, Ministry of Provincial Government, and Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock at Buala, Isabel Province, on the 17th to the 22nd of October, 2010. A team of eight (8) Livestock and Veterinary Services (DLVS) personnel participated in this official event.

The DLVS stall displayed live animals and involved in awareness activities. In the piggery stall, different exotic strains and the crosses of livestock was put on the show. The exotic breeds include; Large white, Landrace and Duroc. The Poultry stalls were housed with Broilers, Layers, Ducks, and Village Chickens. The Honey Bee stall displayed nucs and bee hives.



*Honey Bee nucs/boxes.
Photo Credit: DLVS*



*Local ducks in Buala show.
Photo Credit: DLVS*

G. Laboratory Upgrading and Veterinary Kits

With the increasing need for laboratory and surveillance capacities, RDP Livestock Advisor, Local Veterinary and Senior Livestock officers were finalizing list of items and equipment to upgrade the Animal Health Laboratory. The existing laboratory (Vet-Laboratory) space was still generally in good condition. A Livestock Officer has been identified as the Cadet Laboratory Technician, and was on training at a Regional Laboratories to undergo basic hands on-the-job laboratory training in Onoomba in Townsville Australia, and Dangerous Goods Training at the Maitaka house in Fiji.



*Rapid Test Kits for Avian Influenza .
Photo Credit: DLVS*



*Vet Field Kit box and field test kits.
Photo Credit: DLVS*

The upgrading of the Veterinary Laboratory facilities was a significant improvement for the Department. The RDP Livestock Advisor was tasked to facilitate the procurement of Veterinary Kits, refurbishment, and improvement of the Laboratory.

H. AnGR Blood Sampling – Village Chickens and Native Pigs

A large majority of the rural population raise local or native livestock species under traditional village systems. Native or village species provide food security, income, and social status to the owner. These breeds are very important Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) as they are known to carry desirable traits such as; hardiness, and disease resistance. Although these beneficial traits and the use of these local breeds are important, its importance is significant. No compilation of information of the phenotypic and genotypic characteristics was done. The Secretariat of the Pacific Communities had commenced implementing an assessment on the DNA of native livestock species of regional countries with the aim to determine whether native pigs and village chickens strains are unique for production purposes.

I. Blood Sampling

Staff of DLVS had participated in a week-long Blood Sample Collection; led by the SPC Animal Health Officer based in Suva. DLVS field officers collected blood samples from village Chickens and native Pigs on Guadalcanal and Malaita Provinces. Eighty blood samples were collected; 40 from village chickens and 40 from native pigs. In each province, 20 blood samples were taken from village Chickens; the same number was also collected from native pigs. On Guadalcanal, most of the samples were taken from stocks from North, and West Guadalcanal while in Malaita the sample area was largely in Central and West Kwara'ae. The actual DNA analysis will be conducted at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) Laboratory in Beijing China. A copy of final report of this exercise will be given to DLVS on completion.



*Blood sampling from tail end.
Photo Credit: DLVS*



*Blood preserved for further tests.
Photo Credit: DLVS*

J. Temotu Poultry: Sudden Deaths Reported

Officers from DLVS had attended to a report on unknown chicken mortalities occurring amongst village chickens in a numbers of villages near Lata on Nendo Island, Temotu Province. An investigation team comprising of local officers were dispatched to investigate the causes of the mortalities. It was noted however that this occurrence was not new, and there have been past experience, and sightings by villagers on poultry mortalities but not reported.

Rapid tests for Avian Influenza were conducted on exposed, and non exposed chickens in the villages of Luova, Luesalemba, Manelu, Naban, Manepia, Matu, Wia and Malo. These tests were all negative for Avian Influenza. Samples of blood and internal organ tissues were collected, preserved, processed and sent to Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL) in Melbourne. Laboratory tests for “influenza A virus” using competitive ELISA test for detection of antibodies revealed that whole blood samples from exposed chickens of Uta village were all negative. Tests for Newcastle Disease Virus using Haemagglutination Inhibition Test for detection of antibodies were all found negative on all samples.

4.6.6 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In 2010, DLVS had implemented important projects and programs, while most of them are on-going, results will be measured after few years of implementation and assessments. Furthermore, DLVS’s approach is aimed at building confidence and competency of staff in handling animal health, and production problems in the field.

DLVS is working on policy objectives and guidelines to implement its strategies hence lack of clear direction can slow future developments of the livestock sector. This new undertaking of developing a policy guideline and framework will set the foundation for livestock development.

A. Constraints

- Shortage of adequately qualified staff to plan, and implement priority programs and activities
- Capacity gaps in areas of Animal Nutrition, Animal Health, Animal Breeding, and Pasture Agronomy
- Lack of Chief Veterinary Officer to address animal health and disease issues, matters at national, provincial, and rural levels
- Cash flow issue in government finances, thus planned activities were not fully and effectively implemented

B. Opportunities

DLVS must implement strategies to capitalize on opportunities to improve its capacity to deliver quality service to enhance food security, rural livelihoods and economic development. These opportunities include;

- RDP to continue to provide support to enhance improved service delivery in better planning and implementation of activities
- Recurrent budget allocation for livestock survey (census). An opportunity to develop and do data collection and other surveillance data on production performance, local and exotic breeds and population
- Newly graduated officers to do further long-term training and capacity-building
- Steady participation of smallholder production in the pig industry especially from small-commercially oriented farmers on Malaita and village pig producers of Temotu Province. They can be evaluated for further development
- Extent of rural participation in village poultry rearing in the rural livelihoods
- SPC involvement in preparedness and emergency response, disease surveillance, and reporting to improve capacities on emergency responses and surveillance
- Increase the interest for sub-sector participation and increasing demands for animal and meat products
- Paravets: About 44 Paravets are in the country and could be increased to 66 by the end of 2010. This means extension agents can support and do active surveillance around the country

C. Recommendations

Considering the constraints that restrict the capacity of DLVS to implement its planned activities for 2010, the opportunities can be explored to improve service delivery and the industries potential. The following recommendations must be considered.

- Develop a Human Resource Development Plan to clearly outline staff training for 2011 to 2015. Identified staff to be trained at Bachelor and Masters' Level in areas of Animal Nutrition, Animal Breeding, Animal Health, Pasture Agronomy and Veterinary Science
- Human Resource Division to support DLVS and aggressively pursue the recruitment and appointment of graduates to fill in requested positions
- Identify secondary school (Form 6 science) to take up Bachelors' courses in one of the above Science fields in preparation for Veterinary Science studies as a long-term measure. While efforts must be taken to appoint an expatriate Veterinary Officer in the short-to medium-term, and also utilize two local Veterinary where, and whenever appropriate
- Establish a Research Unit within the Department to immediately plan and develop research strategies entailing data collation, as well as on farm trials for animal production and health
- Consistence liaison with MAL accounts to update on availability of development project funds, for support in acquiring funds from Finance Treasury for project implementation, and speedy processing of requisitions and PVs for project implementation
- RDP to continue support Paraveterinary training and Field Epidemiology training for selected staff. Also to incorporate components on aquatic animal disease in the Field Epidemiology course and take in Fisheries officers to be participants
- Commence assessment for laboratory upgrade with the involvement of the RDP Livestock Advisor and Local Veterinarians. This upgrading should be addressed in line with training and capacity-building of identified officers
- Allocate a budget for emergency response possible with or the same budget head as livestock survey and animal health and disease surveillance. This is to response to emergency situations such as disease out-breaks and mortalities e.g. Poultry Mortalities in Temotu
- Increase budget for all livestock allocation in view that Livestock and Veterinary Services is a Department and its functions will expand
- Increase grant/subsidy support to smallholder small livestock farmers through the recurrent budget, e.g. Small Livestock Support

4.7 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (DARD)

4.7.1. FIELD CROP AGRONOMY SECTION

Field Crop Agronomy Section had achieved some of their planned activities during the year, 2010. The field crop programs and on-going implementation of activities were supported by the AVRDC Vegetable Project, CIP Sweet Potato Project, SPC Yam Project, RDP: C2, and Solomon Island Government (SIG).

The activities and outputs achieved were due to the good teamwork between DARD, Partners and Farmers. Through this teamwork, goals were achieved despite some difficulties.

Future engagements should include working in collaboration with other stakeholders such as the Provincial Governments, Institutions such as Rural Training Centers and general community services. For on-farm trials, the partnership with the Provincial Agriculture and Extension Services is important.



4.7.1.1 ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

A. Vegetables

The work on vegetables was done under the Integrated Vegetables Management Project. In 2010, trials were conducted in Malaita and Guadalcanal Provinces. In Malaita, vegetable experimental trials were established in Busurata and Dala Agriculture Training Centre (DATC). In Busurata, Onion varietal trial, Ball cabbage net trial and Eggplant seed production plots were established. On DATC, Pak choi confirmation trial, Sweet pepper, and Tomato observation trials were established. On Guadalcanal, vegetable experimental trials were established at Popoloi village (on-farm trial) and Taiwan Technical Mission (TTM) Farm at KG VI (on-station trial).

I. Onion Varietal Evaluation Trial

The purpose of the trial was to compare different varieties of Onion for quality and yield. The trial was established at Busurata, Malaita Province. Seven Onion varieties ('Taipan', 'Grenade', 'Python', 'Yellow Granex', 'Texas Grano', 'Granes 1380' and 'Granex 120') were sown at the site. The trial was established on open environment to analyze its growth capability in the local environment. The germination rates were high but fail to drive against the continuous rain on Malaita hence, dumping-off disease had affected the seedlings, and thus the trial is pending further design methods, and improvements. The trial will be repeated again in 2011 with improved methods.



Sowing of Onion seeds in trays
Photo Credit: DARD



Germinated onion seedlings
Photo Credit: DARD

II. Pak Choi Varietal Evaluation Trial

The purpose of this trial was to evaluate different varieties of Pak Choi (Chinese cabbage) for quality and yield. The trial was conducted at DATC, Malaita Province. The trial design was a randomised complete block design with 3 replications and four treatments (Varieties: 'CR101', 'CR020', 'CR073' and 'CR007'). The trial was planted on April 13 and harvested in May 26, 2010. Data collected was on weight of heads for yield and quality. From the field observations and data analysis, CR020 performed better than the other three varieties. The variety is recommended to be re-tested with other varieties before final recommendation and distribution of seeds can be done for farmers.



Pak Choi Varietal Trial Plot.
Photo Credit: DARD

III. Tomato Varietal Evaluation Trial

The purpose of this trial was to evaluate the different varieties of tomato for growth performance, yield, and disease and pests tolerance. This trial was established at Popoloi Village, Guadalcanal Plains. The trial was a randomised complete block design with three replications, and three treatments (Varieties: 'CHT 501', 'CLN 207IB' and 'CLN 162IE'). Clone 162IE is recommended for promotion trial on farmer's field, based on its high yield capacity.



Tomato Seedlings.
Photo Credit: DARD



Weighing Tomato fruits.
Photo Credit: DARD

IV. Net Trial - Evaluation of Different Netting Methods on Damage by Pests, and Yield of Ball Cabbage

The purpose of this trial was to evaluate the different netting methods with zero netting, whether they have any significant influence on yield. The trial was conducted at Busurata, Malaita Province using a randomised complete block design with 3 replications and three treatments (no netting, floating net and veggie net). Planting was done on the 22nd April, 2010, and harvested on the 6th August, 2010. Data collected was on the number of marketable and non marketable heads and weight of marketable, and non marketable heads. From field observation, and data analysis, the veggie net found to perform better than the other two treatments. From the results obtained, veggie net was recommended to be used by farmers. Depending on each farmer, and their level of operation; costs and accepting the technology depends on affordability. Costs of nets are reasonable, and can be afforded by innovative subsistence, and semi-commercial farmers.



Ball Cabbage Vegetable Trials using nets as control.
Photo Credit: DARD

V. Drip Irrigation Trial: Evaluation of Low-Cost Drip Irrigation System

This trial was established at the ROC: TTM Farm in Honiara on lettuce variety: Tropicana. The design of the trial was using a randomised complete block design with eight replications and two treatments (hand watering and drip irrigation). The trial is on-going and will be repeated in 2011 for further investigation, and analysis before final recommendations can be done.



*Drip Irrigation Trial Plot on Lettuce variety.
Photo Credit: DARD*

VI. Eggplant Seed Production Plot

Eggplant (variety 'Pingtung long') seed production plot was established at Busurata and DATC in Malaita Province. The purpose of the plot was to produce Eggplant seeds, and supply them to farmers for food security and livelihood. The seed production plot is continuing to ensure large proportions of seeds are available before distribution to farmers can start in 2011, and 2012.



*Egg plant Trial.
Photo Credit: DARD*

VII. Seed Distribution

Seeds of Yardlong bean, Tomato and Eggplant had been distributed to farmers, and partners in Malaita, Guadalcanal and other provinces. A total of 600 farmers were supplied with new varieties of vegetable seeds. Most of the seeds were given during the Buala Agriculture Trade Show in Isabel, while others were distributed to farmers and households in Honiara upon request.

VIII. Publication

Fact sheets on Tomato, Yardlong bean, Sweet pepper, Slippery cabbage and Cucumber on vegetables commonly grown in Solomon Islands were developed and distributed to partners and farmers. More than 140 copies of each vegetable were distributed to farmers, and students.

B. Root Crops

Most of the trial activities were implemented in Guadalcanal and Malaita Province under the ACIAR/CIP funded Sustainable Sweet Potato Production Project. Yam collection was also done in three provinces (Guadalcanal, Malaita and Central) funded by SPC under the Plant Genetic Resources Conservation Program. Sweet potato varieties imported from SPC were distributed through the partnership with Kastom Gaden Association (KGA) to Farmers in the provinces.

I. Evaluation of Nineteen Introduced (SPC) Sweet Potato Varieties

The purpose of this trial was to evaluate 19 introduced varieties of Sweet Potatoes from SPC for adaptability, dry matter content, and field performance. The Sweet Potato Varietal Evaluation Trial was established at DATC. The trial was a randomized complete block design with 2 replication and 20 treatments (19 introduced varieties and one local check). Data were collected on number of marketable and non-marketable tubers, weight of marketable and non-marketable tubers, and pests and disease infection. The varieties were planted in March and first harvest was done in July, 2010. Varieties that perform well, and recommend for Dala area were IB07-26, IB07-197, IB07-107.



*Harvesting and weighing of Sweet Potato Varieties Trial.
Photo Credit: DARD*

II. Planting Material Trial: Comparison of sources of planting materials (cuttings) to growth and yield of Sweet Potato

Sweet Potato farmers in Solomon Islands usually use cuttings from production plants without using any selection criteria. Hence, this method usually results in productivity decline in the successive cropping. According to theory, cuttings from high yielding plants will produce high yield, therefore, the use of positive selection of cuttings is a way of maintaining the productivity of the plants. The purpose of this trial was to compare the cuttings from selected tubers to farmers' cuttings (planting material size). The trial was established at Popoloi village, Guadalcanal plains with a design trial of split plot design, with 3 replications. The main plots had two main varieties ('Kaulogo' and 'Wana-wana') and sub-plots have other sources of cuttings;

- B1= Cuttings from plants which produce >1000g/plant tubers (high marketable uniform roots size)
- B2= Cuttings from plants which produce 650-850g/plant tubers (high marketable uniform roots size)
- B3= Cuttings from plants which produce <500g/plant tubers (marketable uniform root size)
- B4= Cuttings from production plants (farmer's cuttings)

Data collected was on the number of marketable and non-marketable tubers, weight of marketable and non-marketable tubers, and pests, and disease infection. First harvest was done after 4 months, and second harvest after 5 months. The trial has been repeated on the 26th June, 2010 to confirm result with the first trial. The trial is continuing, and need further study before recommending the technology to farmers.

III. Tissue Culture Salt/Drought Varieties of Sweet Potato from SPC Cepact

Fourteen tissue culture sweet potatoes varieties imported from SPC Cepact Center were planted at ROC: TTM Farm for bulking. These varieties will also be evaluated in the lowland areas.

IV. Bulking Plots

The yam collection plot at ROC: TTM farm was harvested and new bulking plots were established at DATC, and ROC: TTM farm. In addition, Sweet potato and Cassava bulking plot at ROC: TTM farm were also harvested and replanted. This is to provide planting materials to farmers when requested.

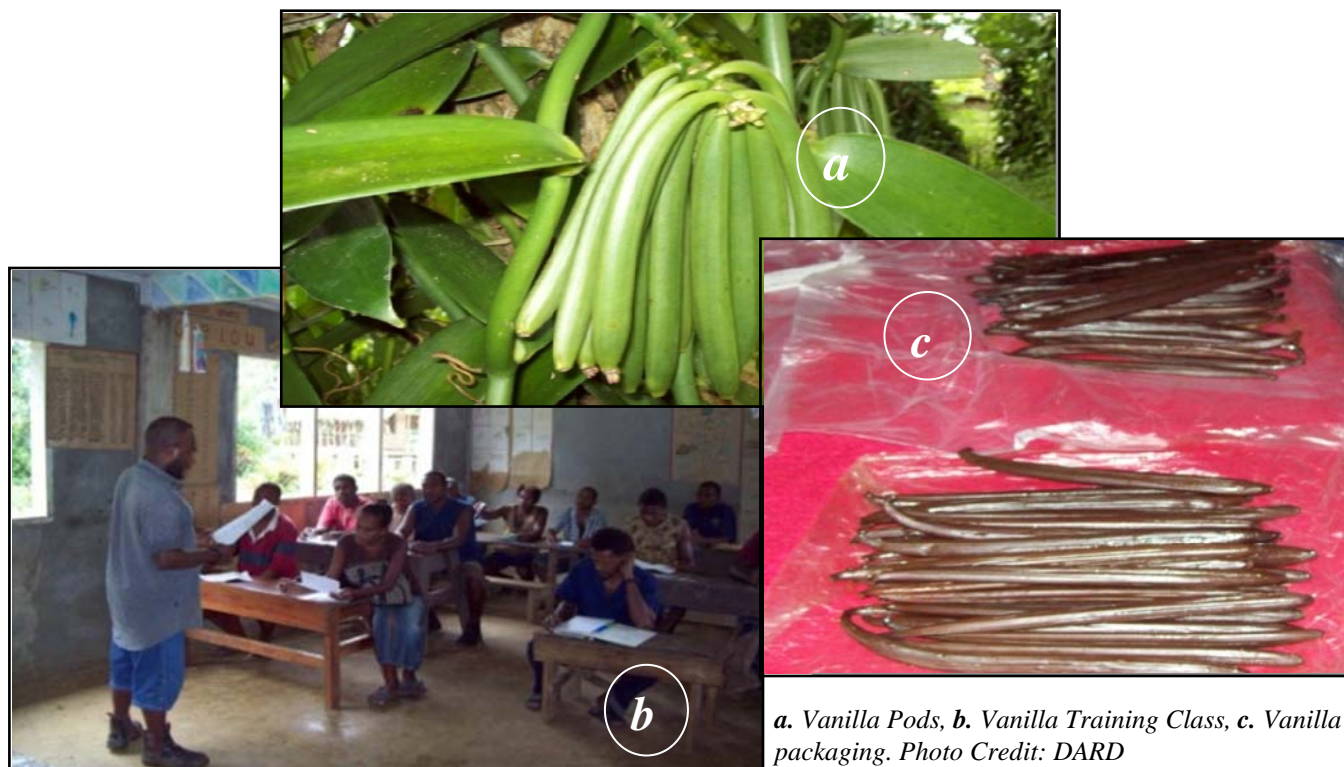
C. Spices

I. Vanilla survey

A Vanilla survey was conducted in some part of the Central region of Malaita. Result obtained showed that from the 15 farmers surveyed had 2, 238 plants. There is a need to conduct more survey in other parts of Malaita Province, and other provinces.

II. Vanilla Training

A Vanilla Training Workshop was conducted on the 5th - 6th July, 2010 at Kilusakwalo Village, Malaita Province. The RDP: C2 had funded the training workshop and was conducted by MAL (Auki) Research Staff. A total of nineteen (19) farmers attended the training. During the training workshop, the 19 farmers formed the Central Malaita Vanilla Farmers Association. The officer responsible for spices in the area also assisted farmers in establishing new plots in south road of Auki, Malaita.



a. Vanilla Pods, b. Vanilla Training Class, c. Vanilla packaging. Photo Credit: DARD

D. Conclusion and Recommendations

The Field Crop Agronomy Section had successfully achieved some of its aims, and fulfilled some of its work plan for 2010. Some of those activities that were not completed will roll-over to the 2011 work plan. The Sweet Potato-CIP, Vegetable -AVRDC and Yam collection-SPC Projects were on track in implementing their work plans for the year. The partnership that was created with the donors under the projects had assisted in achieving most goals.

The Vegetables Program promotes new vegetable varieties of beans, and eggplants though confirmation of these trials will still be conducted. Further trials will be on identifying promising varieties of Pak choi, Tomato, Sweet Pepper and Onion. Confirmation trial on netting for Ball cabbage has a promising result for small organic farmers. Further results from drip irrigation trial will provide technology in preparedness for drought periods.

The introduction of new Sweet Potato varieties for crop diversification, and promoting new technology in using clean planting materials provided a technology that can be adopted. New Sweet Potato varieties were promoted, especially in using selected tubers for planting materials as new methods for planting materials. Results obtained from these trials is very promising, however work is still on-going. The technique is cheaper to use by the small farmers compared to using pathogen testing materials that were done in laboratories.

The Vanilla survey result and the forming of associations showed that farmers are taking this crop seriously as a cash crop. Thus, government should provide more support to assist farmers to expand and enhance strong rural livelihood. The training workshop carried-out in Malaita was first for most farmers, especially in Vanilla processing. The training assisted farmers to upgrade their skills and knowledge of the crop. Thus, more training and research have to be conducted in other provinces to expand and increase Vanilla production. MAL will assist farmers through advice in supporting them in improving their production.

It is evident that there is a great need for the Field Crop Section to carry out more research for food security and cash crops to prepare for uncertainty, especially in the demanding time of climatic change. Thus, it is very important to come-up with short and long-term mitigation strategies to these current problems through research.



4.7.2 TREE CROPS AGRONOMY SECTION



a. A young Coffee Plant, b. A full grown Coffee plant with ripe fruits, c. Officer at work in a Coffee trial plot, d. Officer inspecting Coffee plants in the field

Photo Credit: DARD

4.7.2.1 ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

A. Fruit Trees and Nut Trees Development

Activities carried-out in 2010 include;

- Establishment of a new Citrus collection at Ringi FES
- Replacement of dead plants (or genetic materials) in the Ringi FES collections
- Raising of fruits and nut trees seedlings
- Raising of seedlings of Citrus rootstocks varieties *P. trifoliata* and *C. volkameriana*
- Seeds of various breadfruits were raised at Newi FES collection in Santa Cruz, Temotu
- Raising rootstock seedlings for grafting and budding



As a result of these fruit trees development, the following has been achieved.

- Breadfruit seedlings are now distributed through nursery in Honiara
- Seedlings of various fruit and nut trees ready for gapping up, and rootstock seedlings are ready for grafting and budding
- Supply planting materials of breadfruit and avocado to the Girl Guides Association in Honiara

B. National Arabica Coffee Projects 2010-2012

The following activities were carried-out in 2010 for the National Arabica Coffee Project;

- Implementation of National Arabica Coffee Project
- Collection of field data in the Guadalcanal highlands, Small Malaita and Isabel highlands Arabica coffee growing areas
- Establishment of nine Arabica Coffee Growing Associations
- Field surveys conducted in Guadalcanal highlands, Small Malaita, Isabel, Central Malaita
- Identification of Coffee Growing Associations and formation

As a result of the many activities, Coffee Growing Associations in the country has been formed, and registered:

- **East Guadalcanal:** *Lambuhila, Vatuallibora, Suhgu, and Tetekanji*
- **West Guadalcanal:** *Wanderer Bay, and Tangarare*
- **Small Malaita:** *Aulutalau, Honosiroto, Uruhitani, and Riverside*
- **Northern Region of Malaita:** *Central Malaita*
- Lambuhila CFA has 7.0 ha of coffee currently bearing (35,015 trees), 17.2 ha non-bearing (85,807 trees) and an equivalent of 12.3 ha of coffee under nursery (63,156 seedlings).
- Vatuallibora CFA has 3.4 ha of coffee currently bearing (16,958 trees), 20.6 ha non-bearing (102,875 trees) and an equivalent of 9.5 ha of coffee under nursery (47,410 seedlings).
- The two associations have approximately a total of 48 ha of *Arabica coffee* established (240,655 trees) and an equivalent of 22 ha of coffee (110,566 nursery seedlings) ready for field planting

A Coffee survey done in 2010 also showed that substantial plantings were made in the Aulutalau region of small Malaita. Unfortunately, the majority of these plantings turned out to be Robusta coffee which has no local market as of 2009 when the only local buyer and exporter, Varivao Holdings, stopped buying Robusta coffee. Therefore small Malaita farmers will have to be resupplied with Arabica coffee seeds and seedlings. In addition, Coffee pulping machines, and other materials for processing were procured for associations which have coffee trees that are bearing; namely Uruhitani, Vatuallibora, Aulutalau, Tetekanji, Central Malaita & Wanderer Bay CFAs. Also, a Coffee pulping machine and a Coffee pulverizer were also purchased for Isabel Agriculture Extension Division for farmer training purposes.

C. National Kava Project 2010 – 2012

The activities carried-out in 2010 on the National Kava Project include;

- Supply of planting materials to farmers
- Establishment of additional market outlets (buyers and exporters) in order to create more competition hence ensure farmers get better price for their produce (dried kava)
- Administration of Kava Projects application forms
- Establishment of 5 Kava Associations
- Construction of central kava nursery in Honiara
- Procurement of planting materials for farmers in East Central Guadalcanal
- Provide market support by providing processing and packaging equipment for new farmer groups and individuals wishing to engage in buying of dried kava and processing & marketing of kava product (powder)
- Identification of Kava Growing Associations and formation

With the many work and efforts done in 2010, Kava Associations were formed, and registered in some parts of the country.

- **Choiseul Province:** *Veveala Kava Association*
- **Central Province:** *Vatila Kava Association*
- **Temotu Province:** *Nelu Kava Association*
- **Isabel Province:** *Poponoqara Kava Association*
- **Malaita Province:** *Faubaba Kava Association*

Two new buyers; Solomon Kava Buyers and Exporters Enterprises, and Waro Kava Project were assisted with funding for Kava grinding machine, generator, packaging materials and equipment, and working capitals. Sol Popular Kava Enterprises, an existing buyer, processor and exporter was also assisted with funding assistance for working capital.



A newly established Kava nursery trial
Photo Credit: DARD



A Kava plant with good management practices
Photo Credit: DARD

4.7.3 SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT SECTION

Components of the Systems Management Section are; Food Processing, Postharvest and Farming Systems, linking the Capacity Building for Sustainable Land Management (CBSLM) Project, Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC), and Venezuela Grant Projects. Activities carried-out by each of the components were financed by the Solomon Islands Government (SIG) as well as donor funding, of which was coordinated by this section. Each donor funded project has their own officers that guide, and coordinate project execution within their scope of duties. The Systems Management Section has three staff, and all were able to execute activities in achieving government policies despite of the limited resources available to them.

4.7.3.1 ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

A. Food Processing Building

A constructor was selected by the Central Tender Board to complete the building. However, the building is yet to be fully completed and used for its intended purposes. A Food Technology graduate was employed, and is heading the food processing office. The officer will also be responsible for food processing activities and over-see the operation of the Unit in terms of carrying out food processing activities, trainings, and food processing research activities.

B. Establishment of Bulking Plots

The Farming Systems Section had established a Sweet Potato, and *mucuna* bulking plot at Ringi Field Experiment Station (FES) under SIG funding. The Sweet Potato bulking plot is to produce planting materials for the demonstration plots which are to be also established at Ringi FES. The *mucuna* bulking is for the purposes of collecting seeds that will be used in the demonstration plots as well as distribution to farmers to help with soil improvement programs. The Sweet Potato bulking plots were harvested for further demonstration plots until recommendation such time it will be distributed to farmers.

C. Workshops, Trainings, and Awareness Programs

A number of workshops (both national & international) were attended by staff members. National workshops include those provided by IPAM, and conducted by DARD. International workshop includes; the PRAISE portal, a

new online reporting system introduced by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and mitigate the effects of drought for all member countries. PRAISE replaces the normal National Reports by member countries to UNCCD member countries.

Two staff attended separate workshops on priority setting and project management cycle organized by NARI-EU Programme in Partnership with Solomon Islands (MAL) and Vanuatu. These workshops were geared towards building-capacity of officers to set research priorities, and manage projects.

A workshop on National Adaptation Programs of Action (NAPA) was also attended in Apia, Samoa; to train officers on preparation of project proposals for adaptation areas identified in the NAPA.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) also organized a workshop for Food Security and Sustainable Livelihood Programme (FSSLP) in Apia, Samoa. The workshop was mainly to train National Coordinators and Sub-Regional Coordinators on the Project Cycle Management in preparation for the Programme to roll-out.

The Section also took part in number of awareness programs namely: World Biodiversity Day, Environment Day, and the World Food Day.

D. Project Coordination and Implementation

I. Capacity-Building on Sustainable Land Management (CBSLM) Project

In 2010, implementation of awareness on Sustainable Land Management was held at Su'u National Secondary School, and Community High Schools in East Fataleka, Malaita Province. A demonstration plot was established at the Mana'abu Community with the help of Research and Extension staff of Malaita Province. A similar approach was also conducted in the Western Province. In addition, demonstration plots were established at the Ringi FES, and at Lady Lever Community. The demonstration plots at the Lady Lever, Ringi FES, and Mana'abu Community were harvested, and data will be assessed and published for information purposes.

A Land-Care Forum was held in Sydney, Australia in March 2010, and was attended by the Chief Research Officer and CBSLM Project Manager. The Purpose was to establish links with Land-Care International for the establishment of Land-Care approach at the Auluta Basin. Links have been established, and communications were made in relation to establishment of the Land-Care approach in Auluta Basin under the CBSLM Project.

The curriculum component of the SLM project was contracted to the Curriculum Development Center (CDC). CDC has completed the curriculum development, and will introduce the concept to a Technical Working Group, before pilot trialing in high schools in all the provinces in 2011.

II. Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) Project

The project's major results achieved during the past twelve months include an increase in inter-collaborative efforts at the national level to carry out planned activities, and planning of proposed project activities. The Project Management Unit including the Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) conducted an urgent meeting with the Pelau and Luaniua (Ontong Java) House of Chiefs representatives as part of the project introduction to these traditional leaders of where the project will be implemented. As such, a significant number of Government Agencies, Donor Funded Agencies, NGOs, Faith Based Organizations (FBO's), and Civil Society Organizations (CSO's) are members of National Steering Committees, and Core Technical Team of PACC spearheading projects planned activities. Through joint

consultation with various organizations and projects working within the food security sector in the pilot sites, clear indications of activities, and responsibilities have been mapped out.

The work on the development of the National Climate Change Policy is progressing well under the supervision of the engaged local consultant which the draft policy is in place. The launching of the draft policy during the Solomon Islands provincial premiers' conference in Buala- Isabel Province is a result of collaboration work lead by the local consultant through MECDM, Climate Change Department with various thematic working groups of the Second National Communication (SNC), and other projects such as, GEF NAPA Implementation, and EU Adaptation to Climate Change Project.

There is a general slow progress in the demonstration component of the project which activities would be effectively implemented when the Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment (V&A) has been carried out in the pilot sites to identify what adaptation options the PACC project would embark on. The GIS Surveying and V&A Assessment have been outsourced by the Project Management Unit (PMU) based on recommendations made by the National Country Climate Change Team (NCCCT) and the PACC Technical Working Group (TWG). The rationale behind the outsourcing of such activities is to ensure that local professionals contribute to the implementation of the PACC activities at the national level, and feel ownership of the project.

The PACC PMU has taken a further initiative to strengthen its coordination and involvement in activities organized at the national level by collaborating with various government ministries, donor funded projects, government funded projects, Non-Government Organizations (NGO's), Faith Based Organizations' (FBO's) and stakeholders in programs such as; school and community awareness in the areas of climate change impacts, and food security.

The major delays to the implementation of the project activities at the pilot sites was the difficulty in shipping services to the outer islands, since they have been regarded as uneconomical routes. However, with the formation of the national shipping franchise committee, the PACC PMU have direct consultation with the committee which some positive outcomes on the discussion on how to address this issue at the project level have reached. The NCCCT, and TWG is set up at the national level to oversee the overall execution of the project activities.

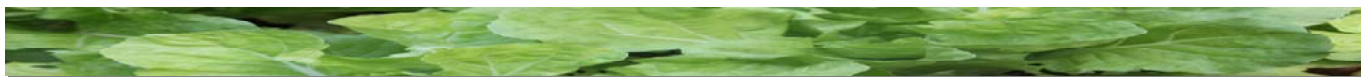
III. Venezuela Grant Project

Under the Venezuela Grant project, implementation of component one (Agro-forestry), and component three (Water Harvesting) had started. Nursery to raise fruit trees and forestry species was established in Temotu and Sarawasi Community, Small Malaita. Five water tank with accessories were purchased and shipped to Temotu, and Sarawasi and were all installed. The water tank for Sikaiana was transported and installed at its site.

H. Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project

The CBSLM Project had embarked on a number of project activities during 2010. The following activities have been successfully implemented with cooperation of both the UNDP Project, and MAL Project Team members. Activities carried-out in 2010 were;

I. Awareness Activities in 5 communities and 4 Community High Schools on Malaita, Guadalcanal and Western Provinces. It was also intended to extend the awareness programs to communities in six remaining provinces of the country. The awareness programs were contracted to Rural Training Centers (RTC) to implement them in the surrounding communities within their localities.



II. Demonstration Farm: Three *mucuna* demonstration farms were established and two have been harvested and yields recorded for future comparison. The harvested plots were replanted with Sweet Potatoes to ascertain the impact of leguminous plants on the soil previously planted with leguminous plants. Further studies will be conducted in three communities to capture the impacts of using *mucuna* on improving soil nutrients.

III. Land-Care: The Chief Research Officer, and the Project Manager attended the Land-Care Conference held in Adelaide, Australia. Contacts have been established between the Secretariat of the International Land-Care, Australia to assist in the establishment of Land-Care approaches in the country.

IV. Curriculum Development

Work on the Sustainable Land Management practices for Solomon Islands Primary, and Secondary School Curriculum has progressed well after the engagement of the Curriculum Development Center (CDC) of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development. All resource materials for teaching the subject in schools have been produced by CDC, and is ready for trailing before finalization and adoption.

4.7.4 CROP HEALTH SECTION

A. Provincial Tours

I. Two officers toured Rennell Island in 2010, to assess and analyze the results of Taro nematode trial set-up in 2009. The trial was conducted on Taro, using trimmed and non-trimmed planting materials. The crop was heavily infested by the pest in that year, and the need to conduct the research was established. However, the result of the trial did not show significant difference between trimmed, and non-trimmed planting materials used. As such, further trials will still be used to find a lasting solution to control the pest.



*Officers spraying a Taro patch to treat Nematodes.
Photo Credit: DARD*

II. A research trial was established at Ringgi FES, Kolombangara Island; Western Province on Taro beetle control. The objective of the trial was to analyze the effect of pesticide control on Taro beetle, and crop yield. The trial was the beginning of a series of further research trials, and final results with recommendations will be published once analyses are finalized.

III. A SPC Officer with two local Research Officers made a fact finding trip to Temotu Province in search for a parasitoid organism that can control Coconut leaf miner on Santa Cruz Island. The parasitoid was collected, and

sent to SPC for Identification and further studies. The outcome of their study will be send to MAL at a later date.



*Officers inspecting a Coconut front affected by Coconut Leaf Minor.
Photo Credit: DARD*

- IV. A team from Crop Health Section, with the senior local entomologist, assessed a Cocoa farm at LDA area in Guadalcanal Province, on Cocoa pod pest invasion. The pest feeds on Cocoa pods, and leaves rasping marks on the pods. The pest was collected and identification to confirm its name is yet to be finalized.



*Officers inspecting Cocoa Pod damage by un-known insects.
Photo Credit: DARD*

- V. A one week training on Plant Protection funded by RDP: C2 was conducted at Lata by Chief Research Officer and Chief Training Officer on various crops.
- VI. A two weeks training on Plant Protection funded by RDP: C2 was conducted at Ringgi, Kolombangara for Western Province Agriculture Extension Officers.



VII. A new Taro Beetle Management (TBM) demonstration plot was set up by Crop Health Section at Ringgi FES and funded by RDP: C2. Work on the Taro demonstration plot is continuing and results with recommendations will be done after analyses are finalized in 2011.

B. Plant Health Advisory Service

This service is on-going in helping farmers, and students seeking advices on crop pests, and disease problems.

C. Plant Health Laboratory



*A SPC Researcher, Ms. Shareen Prasad carrying out insect identification work in the laboratory.
Photo Credit: DARD*

The construction work of the Laboratory Building was finally completed in May 2010, and the Electrical Section of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Development finally fund the electrical work.

D. Staff Development

A SPC entomology assistant, Ms. Shareen Prasad visited Honiara during 12th-16th April 2010. Purpose of the visit was to assist the entomology staff members to set-up the laboratory, and preserve the Solomon Islands National Insect Collection.

All Crop Health Staff members attended various short courses organized through IPAM, Ministry of Public Service. Trainings were done in phase I of Priority Setting Training and the Participatory Rural Appraisal. A senior officer of DARD had returned from his Ph.D studies in Australia, and a number of Research Officers also attended the Code of Conduct Training organized by the Public Service.

E. Plant Protection Training (IPPSI)

MAL partners of IPPSI have been preparing training materials for the first series of trainings conducted in Guadalcanal and Malaita Provinces.

A week (17th – 26th May 2010) long training in Plant protection was conducted for Guadalcanal extension, and other MAL staff members at SICHE, Honiara. Guadalcanal MAL Office has 12 of its officers trained in plant protection.





*Research Officer participating in training.
Photo Credit: DARD*



*Officers participating in training discussion.
Photo Credit: DARD*

MAL partners; the Crop Health Section, VBMS and KGA conducted a week (26th – 30th July 2010) long training in Plant protection for Malaita Agriculture Extension Staff at Busurata, Malaita Province.

F. Field Trials & Observation

A small plot of taro were planted in May 2010 at ROC farm area, Honiara, as an activity to continue work on biological control of taro leaf hopper in Rennell Island. Head cabbage seeds were also planted in the nursery in preparation for alternative pesticide demonstration to control diamond back moth.

Plant pathology staff conducted a small trial to screen beans against virus diseases (of beans) using 8 different varieties. The field trial was conducted to test the effect and successes of using insecticide on DBM using Head cabbage as host plant.



A Research Officer taking time in the field measuring and analyzing research trial plot. Photo Credit: DARD

G. NARI EU ACP S&T Programme

The Chief Research Officer of Crop Health was given the responsibility to coordinate/implement the project activities under this project on-behalf of MAL, DARD.

Activities relating to the project continued throughout the third quarter of the year.

Four senior officers from DARD had attended a two weeks training on Project Cycle Management NARI, Lae, Papua New Guinea (PNG). In ensuring continued contacts with the project base in PNG, network cabling was carried-out in DARD Office where NARI EU ACP S & T Project Office is located.

H. Agriculture Trade and Cultural Show – Buala: Isabel Province

Two Crop Health Officers, Hilda Wratten and Clyde Zoti took part in the Agriculture Trade and Cultural Show in Buala, Isabel Province (18th - 22nd October 2010). The team, including other officers from the Oil Palm Unit represented DARD at the show.



a. Hilda Wratten and Research team at the show, b. Vegetable show, c. Nursery Demo. Photo Credit: DARD

4.7.5 RESEARCH EXTENSION SECTION

4.7.5.1 ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

A. On-Farm Research Site

I. Coffee Research Plot Assessment

Location: The location of the farm is in Malaita, between East and Central region of the island

Topography: The topography of the Coffee farm is gentle slope less than 5 degrees

Soil: Fataolo land-system and is suitable

Altitude: The altitude of the farm site is 427 meters above sea level

Site Assessment: The farm site is close to a water source 20 meters away from the farm.

Number of seedlings: Original number of seedlings was 830 and the actual seedlings planted were 820 plants.

Shade: The assessment found that shade needs improvement

Weeding: Weeding to be carried out before January 2011. The farm was partially maintained from weeds.

The general growth: Plant growth was not uniform due to plantings were not done at the same time.

Spacing: Walkway: 2mx2m and between plants: 2mx 1m.



4.7.6 NATIONAL OIL PALM PROJECTS

The National Oil Palm Projects had shown slow progress during the year due to reduced allocation of funds, and the delay with release of funds in the first quarter. Funds allocated for Auluta Oil Palm Project was reduced from SBD2.0M in 2009 to SBD1.5M in 2010. The Waisisi Oil Palm Project with a budget of SBD0.50M was not enough to complete the cadastral survey after the acquisition process. However, one out of the nine lands acquired was completed with cadastral surveying. The reduced budget on GPPOL Out-growers from SBD1.00M in 2009 to SBD0.5M also affected the Out-grower's number of farmers receiving assistance. This year, there was no allocation for the Choiseul Oil Palm Project. Both projects were using the Vangunu Oil Palm Project funding for 2010. In the last quarter, virement could not be accepted to use part of the National Rice Development Project funding to assist with the Auluta, and Waisisi Oil Palm Project activities.

A. Strategic Objectives of Oil Palm Development Projects

The vision and mission of the Oil Palm Industry in Solomon Islands is to improve the National Economy in terms of foreign exchange from Oil Palm exports, as well as creating job opportunities for rural dwellers in the rural areas.

B. Specific objectives

- To complete acquisition of lands for Oil Palm development in Waisisi and Choiseul
- To complete surveying work, registration, and obtaining the Perpetual Estate Titles for resource owners of the Auluta Oil Palm Project
- To look for investors for Auluta, and Vangunu Oil Palm Projects
- Facilitate with negotiation processes between Investors and Resource Owners to start the development of Oil Palm Plantations on completed acquired, and registered lands
- Documentation, and implementation of the National Oil Palm Sector Policy

C. Financial Summary 2010

In 2010, development estimates for all the projects was SBD3.0M. The amount was not enough to effectively carry-out the needed and related activities (land mobilization program, surveying, and registration) that are linked with other Ministries. These activities however, should enable other Ministries to participate during the early stages of preparation and development. Since 2010 budget was reduced, activities that were linked to other line ministries could not be done. As a result, little progress was achieved on driving the projects towards any start.

D. Development Budget Allocation 2010

PROJECTS	2010 BUDGET ALLOCATION (SBD) IN MILLIONS	ACTUAL EXPENDED (SBD) IN MILLIONS	VARIANCE (SBD) IN MILLIONS
Auluta Oil Palm	1.5	1.5 + 0.4 = 1.9	-0.4
Vangunu & Choiseul Oil Palm	0.5	0.5	0.0
Waisisi Oil palm	0.5	0.5 + 0.2 = 0.7	-0.2
GPPOL-Outgrowers	0.5	0.5	0.5
TOTAL	3.0	-3.6	-0.60



E. Projects and Progress of Activities

I. Auluta Oil Palm Project

The Auluta Oil Palm Project budget allocation was not enough to carry-out any drastic work, and as such, much of the activities were not completed during the year's operation. Major activity for this project was surveying the acquired lands of East Kwara'ae, and East Fataleka land areas. The total land area surveyed is 6,700 hectares with cadastral surveying. The total area with topographical survey is 1,500 hectares (net value) on four lands in East kwara'ae.

➤ **The following are activities implemented in 2010:**

- Land mobilization-meetings with resource owners by project management in Auki
 - Cadastral, and topographical surveying in East Kwara'ae and East Fataleka
 - Field visits, and boundary demarcation with resource owners and communities
 - Project visit with the Malaysia Palm Oil Board Technical team in July 2010
 - General project coordination, and monitoring
- **Staff establishment:** 1 Project Manager and 5 Project Staff

A technical team from the Malaysia Palm Oil Board visited Auluta basin, and made the final assessment of the project site. Their visit has been very positive, and the Solomon Islands government is putting efforts to get the project started. In addition, a local firm, the Greenwood Ltd (SI) had their first meeting with MAL Executives on their interested to take over the project from the Solomon Islands Government. As planned, MAL will put on tender for Expressing of Interest (EOI) to interested investors by the first quarter of 2011. In the mean time, finalization of land for Perpetual Estate Title is still progressing with the Commissioner of Lands.

II. Vangunu Oil Palm Project

The task carried by the project management was the maintenance of the smallholder plantations by six communities on Vangunu Island. The Plantation Estate established by SIPPL was not efficiently maintained, and as such, an investor can take on the project to move it forward. Total area of the Vangunu smallholder plantation is 130 hectares and field maintenance during the year was completed by the six communities (land owners). The other 850 hectares is the plantation estate left abundant by SIPPL.

Staffing: A Project Manager was recruited in 2009 to manage the project.

Activities:

- General brushing, and ring weeding around palm trees in the older plantation
- Pruning of fronds and general sanitation, and rehabilitation of palms
- Supervision, and monitoring of the project tasks

III. Waisisi Oil Palm Project

There has been an overwhelming progress done on the project during the year (2010) by the Project Management and Resource Owners. During the year, Waisisi Oil Palm has secured an Investor to invest in the business. The Investor had visited the project site in July 2010. In spite of its fast progress, small budget allocation had hindered surveying and registration of the acquired lands for development. The cadastral survey work had started on Marapa land, and was completed with the cadastral survey, with a total area of 846.1 hectares. It is hoped that once all the acquired lands are completed, project will start at any time in 2011. The activities carried by the project management were:

- Complete acquisition of nine lands in West Are 'are
- Land mobilization meetings with land owners
- Landowners, and Chief's field visit to GPPOL on Guadalcanal for development awareness with the GOPPL Out-growers

- Cadastral surveying and registration to continue next year, 2011

Staffing: The Project currently consists of a Project Manager, and one Logistic Officer.

IV. GPPOL Out-growers Projects

This year, MAL had engaged SIDT in a monitoring and evaluation exercise of GPPOL Out-growers smallholder projects which were also supported by MAL over the last three years. Activities carried by both MAL and SIDT were as follows:

- Face to face interview with farmers (SIDT)
- Field assessment of the projects (SIDT & MAL Staff)
- Field Labeling of smallholder plantations with sign boards (MAL)
- Project field visits to out growers in Guadalcanal Plains (MAL staff)

In November 2010, a meeting was held between MAL, and GPPOL Management to discuss a special MOU to be signed later for the transfer of funds from MAL to GPPOL. The idea was for the support from MAL to Out-growers to go through GPPOL, and the company will supply farm inputs to the farmers.

GPPOL Exported Volume and Value (in SBD)

EXPORTED PRODUCTS	2009 MT	EXPORT VALUE (SBD)	2010 MT	EXPORT VALUE (SBD)	CURRENT PRICE USD/MT
Crude Palm oil	25,123	113,198,029	28,637	180,583,841	1,135
Palm Kernel oil	3,098	16,415,464	3,197	30,209,749	1,800
Expeller (residue)	3,6,32	1,269,967	3.802	1,123,678	95
TOTAL	31,853	177,986,629	35,636	211,917,268	

Source: CBSI, 2011

V. Choiseul Oil Palm Project

The Choiseul Oil Palm Project management has no budget allocation for 2010, and as such, it was to share with Vangunu Oil Palm Project budget. Despite of the budget constraints, some of the activities carried-out by the Project Manager in East Choiseul were through the assistance from RDP staff in Taro. The main activity carried-out was organizing meetings with landowners to secure six lands for the Oil Palm development. The following activities were implemented by the Project Manger with the Chiefs, and communities in East Choiseul.

- Development awareness meetings
- Recording of potential lands for the Oil Palm Project
- Preparation of physical identification of possible lands for acquisition, surveying, and registration by 2011

The project needs separate allocation as used to be in 2007, instead of sharing with Vangunu Oil Palm Project budget. Resource Owners are interested on the Oil Palm development to create job opportunities, and boost economic activities in Choiseul Province.

F. Conclusion

- The Oil Palm Industry is of the way forward to strengthen the economy of Solomon Islands
- The industry will create a lot of job opportunities for both skilled, and un-skilled citizens
- Minimal allocation of funds for these projects hinders the progress of the project to get it off the ground
- Seeking an investor is a priority for Auluta, Vangunu, and Waisisi Oil Palm Projects to start by 2011
- Choiseul Oil Palm will start with land acquisition, surveying, and registration in 2011

G. Recommendations

- Allocations of funds for all the projects should be increased in the 2011 development estimates
- Choiseul Oil Palm Project should have a separate allocation with a new Accounting Code
- Other linking Ministries should participate with MAL to get these projects started
- Auluta, Waisisi and Vangunu Oil Palm Projects should be getting an investor as soon as all formalities are finalized



5.0 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Accounts Division had played a central role in assisting the Ministry in delivering financial services in order for Departments to carry-out their activities to improve, and enhance the life of the people of Solomon Islands. MAL has been providing advices to all stakeholders on developing, and implementing economic sustainability, improved food security, and livelihood through the various activities they have been involved with.

The Division also raised the level of revenue by providing proper accounting management tools, and training of staff working at the various revenue collection offices within the Ministry. A number of key initiatives were achieved in 2010, and few others will require more than one year. The Division continues to benefit from the support provided by the Financial Management Services section in the Ministry of Finance and Treasury.

A. Overview and Mission Statement

The Finance Division is responsible for facilitating the provision of sound advice on budget and fiscal policy to the Ministry. These include monthly financial reporting, revenue collection, government payment preparation, and managing the Ministry's Annual budget.

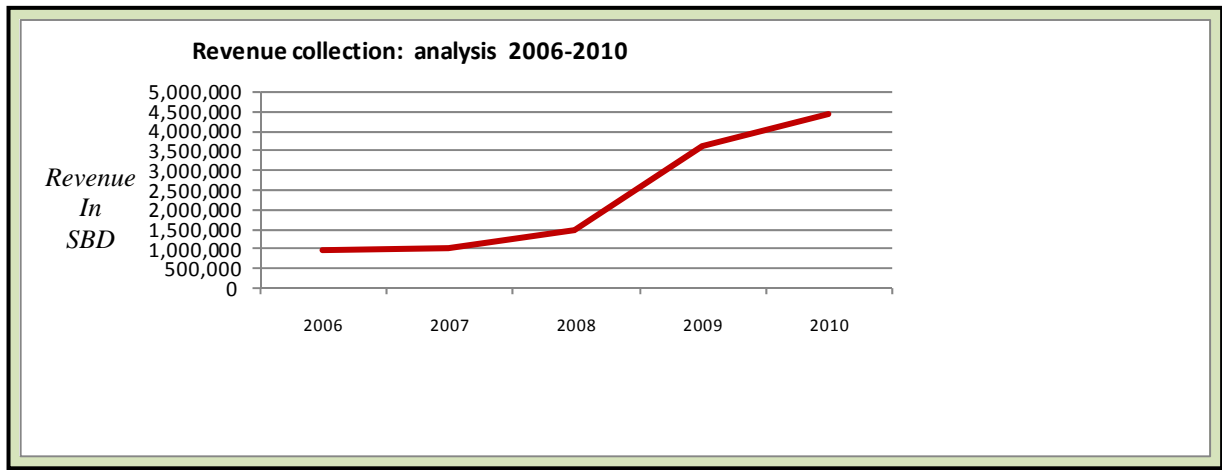
The Mission of the Accounts Division is to provide leadership in financial matters, and professional financial, and economic services to the rural populace, and the business community. To achieve the Mission, the Division had delivered services through its various departments, and followed strict measures on budget spending as they appear in the Sub-Heads of the Ministry's Budget.

B. Revenue Collection: Analysis 2006 - 2010

The Quarantine Department (SIAQS) is responsible for collecting the Ministry's main source of revenue through Quarantine, and Fumigation fees. Small amount of revenue was also collected by other Departments. The sharp increase in revenue collection in 2008/2009 followed a review carried out by the Department, through the imposed 10 per cent increase across all fees.

C. Enhanced revenue collection

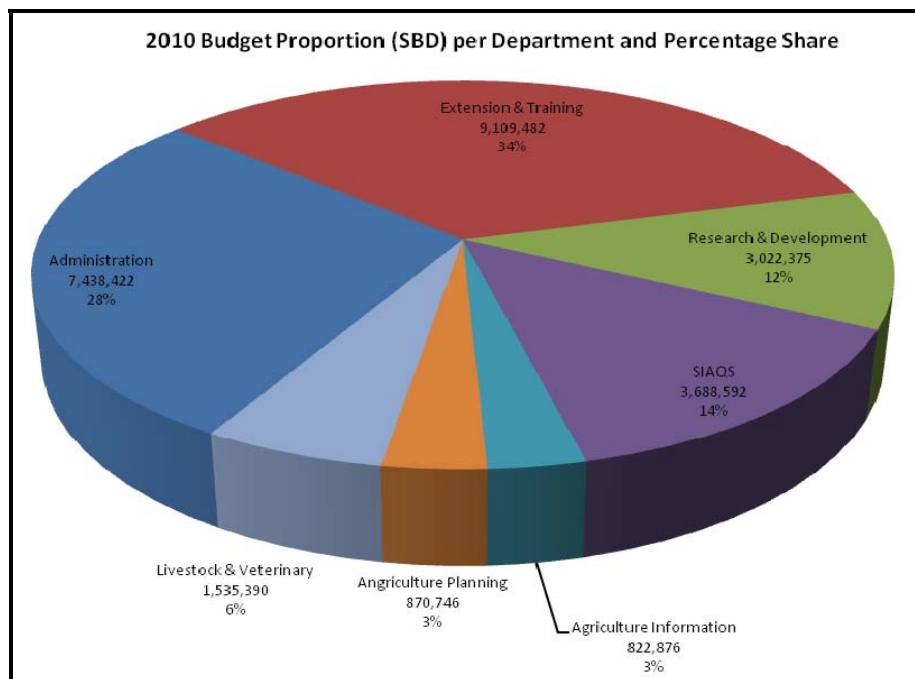
The collection of revenue continued to improve in 2010. A full time Revenue Collector (Cashier) was employed to work in the Ministry headquarter, and this has boosted the morale of the Department staff to collect the anticipated revenue target under the Ministry's annual budget. A total of SBD4.4M was collected during the year, 52 per cent more than anticipated. This represent an overwhelming increase in revenue collection, compared to the SBD3.6M collected in 2009, a 21per cent from the previous year.



D. Annual Budget Allocation According to Departments

I. Recurrent Budget

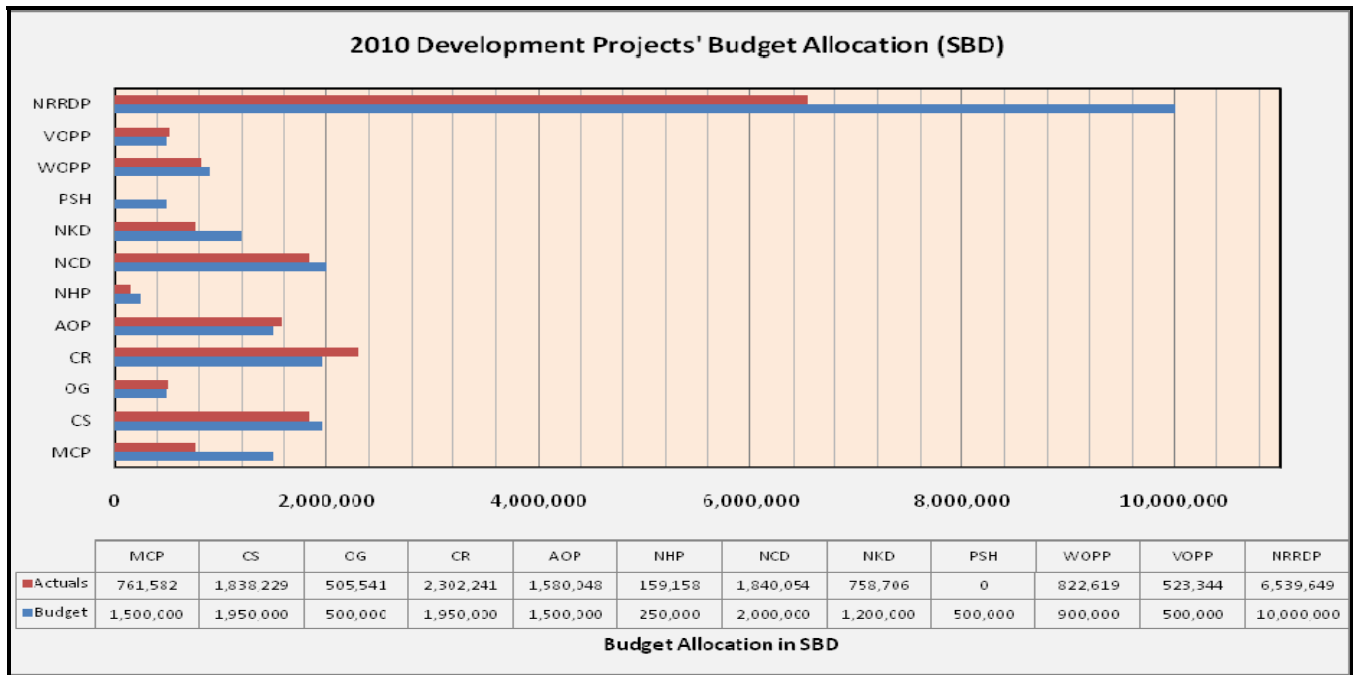
Despite the reservations imposed on the Annual Budget during the year, the level of expenditure remained the same, with the Extension Department with 34 per cent, followed by Administration/Headquarters with 28 per cent, Quarantine with 13 per cent, and the rest of departments with 25 per cent.



II. Development budget

The Rural Rice Development Project has the biggest share in the total development budget with 44 per cent, National Coffee Project with 8.8 per cent, Cocoa and Coconut Rehabilitation with 8.6 per cent respectively, and other small projects with 30 per cent.





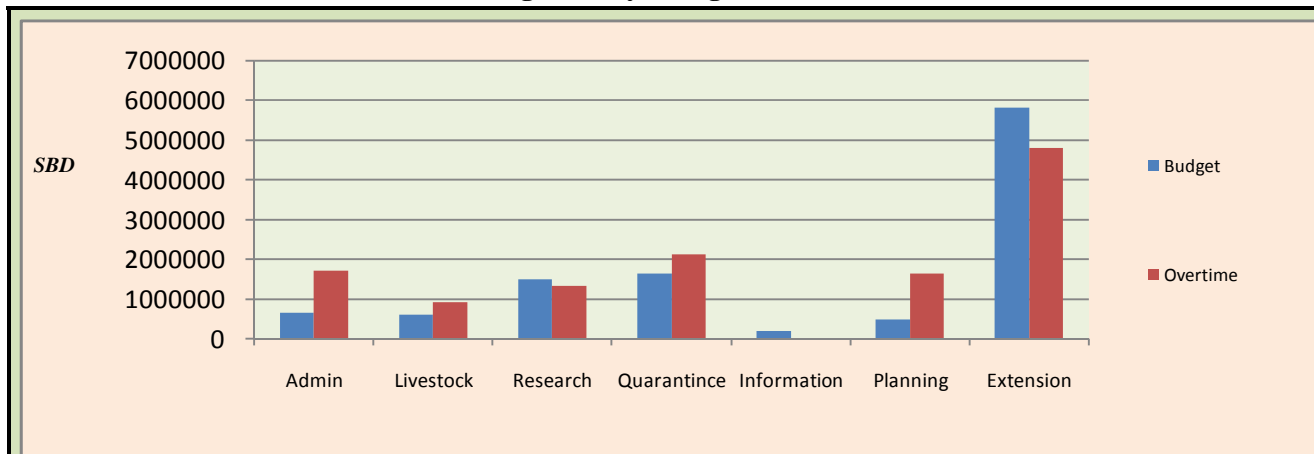
Keys: MCP- Malaita Commercial Piggery, CS- Cocoa Support, OG- Oil Palm Out-Growers (GPPOL), CR- Coconut Rehabilitation, AOP- Auluta Oil Palm, NHP- National Honey Project, NCD- National Coffee Development, NKP- National Kava Project, PSH- Provincial Slaughter House, WOPP- Waisisi Oil Palm Project, VOPP- Vangunu Oil Palm Project, NRRDP- National Rural Rice Development Program

III. Payroll

The Extension Department had the largest budget allocation under payroll with 53 per cent, followed by Agriculture Quarantine with 15 per cent, Agriculture Research with 13 per cent, Headquarters and Administration with 6 per cent, and the rest with 13 per cent. It is quite alarming to note that despite the reservations imposed by the Ministry of Finance on other charges, payroll continue to increase significantly, with overspent of budget by some Departments that is also beyond their budgeted provisions. Payment of overtime that was not budgeted for is one of the contributing factors leading to the budget overspending.

The Ministry had overspent its Annual payroll budget by SBD799,970 (7% increase)

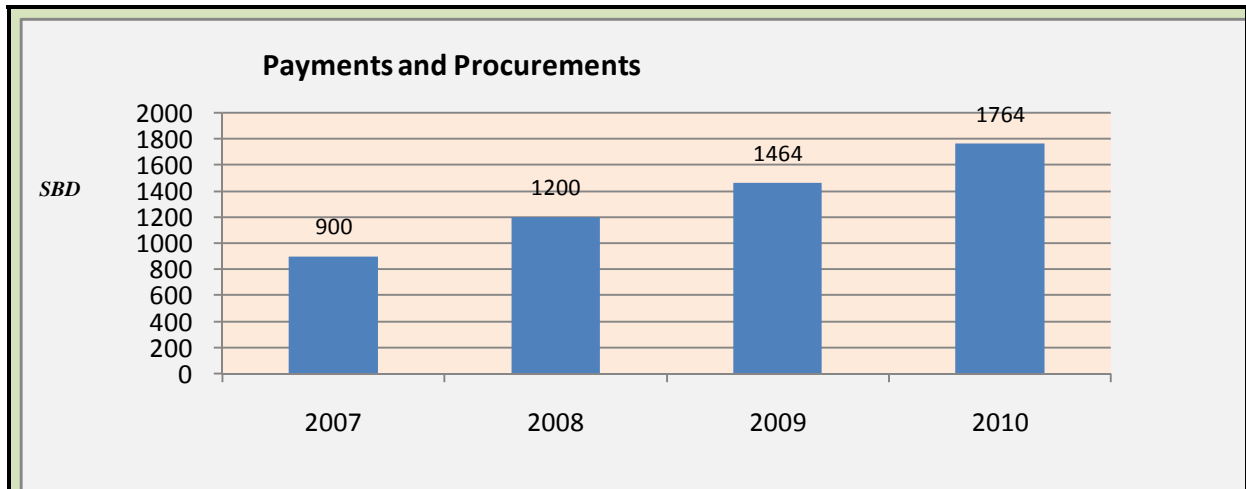
Budgeted Payroll against Overtime



E. Payments and Procurements

The number of payment transactions processed by the Accounts Division had increased from 900 in 2007 to 1,764 in 2010. The Division was able to manage this increased work load with two additional staff. Hopefully, the number will continue to improve in 2011 to meet the high demand for procurement, and payments, and to relief the technical staff who were involved in the processing of payments.

This increased in the number of Purchase Vouchers (PV) continued the upward trend in transaction volumes handled by the division since 2007.



F. Transfer of Funds (Virement)

The Ministry through its various Departments had compiled, and submitted twenty- one (21) virement applications, totaling up to SBD1.9M. Out of the total submitted, twenty (20) were approved, and accepted by the Ministry of Finance and Treasury.

The transfer of funds between budget allocations was necessary in the event that the reservation was not lifted before the end of the year, and the need to ensure continuation of services are available before the next budget. Staff travel allocations for holidays must not be used, and the 4th quarter house rentals will be settled with the landlords before the year ends.

House rentals had the highest portion of 47 per cent, whilst travelling, and transport with 21per cent of the SBD1.9M vired from other recurrent Sub-heads within the budget.

G. Special Imprest Account

A total of forty five (45) special imprests were issued to a number of officers with a total amount of SBD802,224. Thirty two (32) were fully retired during the year, whilst thirteen (13) are yet to be cleared at the close of the financial year. The Division had devised a system to remind officers to ensure all non-retired imprest holders, must retire their imprests before the due dates. The exercise has proved very successful, especially for those who have responded positively, to have their imprests retired on time.

H. House Rentals

In its effort in trying to alleviate the high demands by officers for decent accommodation in Honiara, and the Provinces, MAL had introduced a separate rental scheme, called “Internal Rental Arrangement”. The scheme was

established purposely to assist officers, on short-term basis, who may have problem finding accommodation in the open market.

Despite its success in helping more than fifty three (53) staff of the Ministry, some officers continued to abuse the privilege by overstaying more than the three month period allowed. The Public Service Rental Scheme, on the other hand, has assisted a further twenty two staff during the year. Above all, the Ministry had seventy five (75) staff that all were under either of the two rental schemes, at a total cost of SBD1.8M spend during the reporting period.

I. Fixed Asset Register

For the first time in many years, the Ministry had developed, and implemented an Asset Management Frame Work for effective and efficient management of its valuable asset, and properties.

The collection of data from the Local Purchase Orders (LPO) and Purchase Vouchers (PVS) for the last four years was completed earlier in the year, and that remains our bases for the register update.

Tours were conducted by the Senior Inventory Officer to four provinces, including Choiseul, Makira, Isabel, and Temotu to verify the various assets on ground that was being held under the responsibility of the respective Chief Field Officers. A report will be submitted to the Accounting Officer of the Ministry, and soon the rest of the Provinces will be visited, presumably before the end of 2011.

J. Staff Training

Officers of the Accounts Division had the privilege to attend the Public Service Induction Workshops held at the Institute of Public Administration and Management (IPAM) Center, in Honiara, during the year. This was the first time some of the officers had time to attend such training.

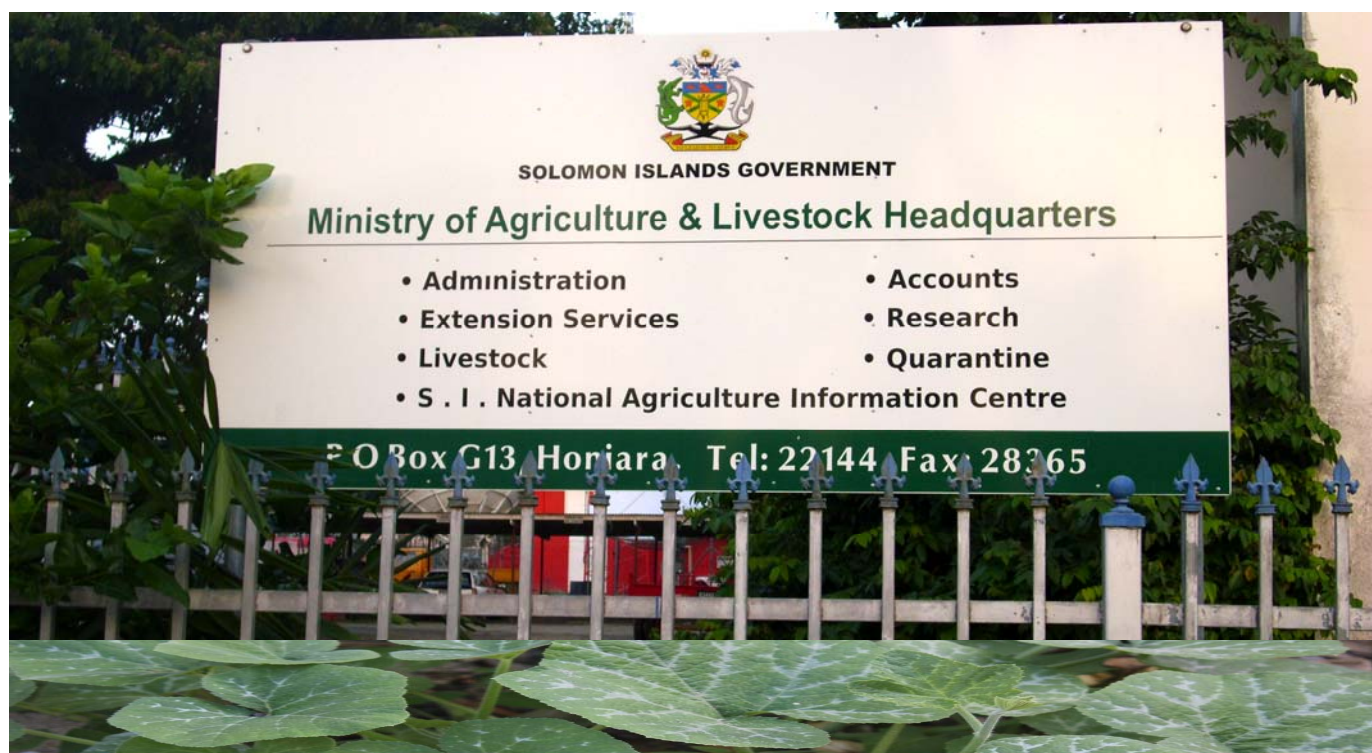
The Principal Accounting Officer attended training on Computer Management Skills, and Humans Resource Fundamentals at the Centre, in the same year, 2010. These trainings and workshops are vital for staff development in terms of skills and knowledge, and to build confidence, and competency in them whilst performing public official duties.

4.8.1 MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK 2010: FINANCIAL REPORT DEVELOPMENT BUDGET (UNAUDITED)

DESCRIPTION	FINAL BUDGET (SBD)	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE (SBD)	ACTUAL PERCENT
Malaita Commercial Piggery	1,500,000	761,582	50.8
Cocoa Subsidy	1,950,000	1,838,229	94.3
Oil Palm Out growers (GPPOL)	500,000	505,541	101.1
Coconut Rehabilitation	1,950,000	2,302,241	118.1
Auluta Oil Palm	1,500,000	1,580,048	105.3
National Honey Project	250,000	159,158	63.7
National Coffee development	2,000,000	1,840,054	92
National Kava development	1,200,000	758,706	63.2
Provincial Slaughter house	500,000	-	0
Waisisi Oil Palm Project	900,000	822,619	91.4
Vangunu Oil Palm Project	500,000	523,344	104.7
Rural Rice Project	10,000,000	6,539,649	65.4
GRAND TOTAL	30,750,000	17,631,171	57.3
	NET SURPLUS	13,118,829	

4.8.2 MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK 2010 FINANCIAL REPORT RECURRENT (UNAUDITED)

DEPARTMENTS ACCOUNT CODE	DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATES 2010 (SBD)	ACTUAL EXPENDITURES (SBD)	ACTUAL PERCENT SPEND (%)
Headquarter and Administration	Payroll	652,295	1,712,483	262.5
	Other Charges	5,951,858	5,749,777	96.6
	Sub-Total	6,604,153	7,462,260	113
Agriculture Veterinary & livestock	Payroll	599,125	918,899	153.4
	Other Charges	804,966	746,252	92.7
	Sub-Total	1,404,091	1,665,151	118.6
Agriculture Research	Payroll	1,492,676	1,318,006	88.3
	Other charge	780,230	671,221	86
	Sub -Total	2,272,906	1,989,227	87.5
Agriculture Quarantine	Payroll	1,652,212	2,134,024	129.2
	Other charges	1,557,422	1,479,613	95
	Sub-Total	3,209,634	3,613,637	112.6
Agriculture Information	Payroll	198,124	<i>Included in Admin. Department</i>	<i>Included in Admin. Department</i>
	Other charges	402,988	325,844	80.9
	Sub-Total	601,112	325,844	54.2
Agriculture Planning Land-Use Development	Payroll	489,194	1,652,212	337.7
	Other Charges	282,275	308,174	109.2
	Sub-Total	771,469	1,120,962	145.3
Agriculture Extension & Training	Payroll	5,826,518	4,813,914	82.6
	Other Charges	2,474,542	2,260,321	91.3
	Sub-Total	8,301,060	7,074,235	85.2
TOTAL PAYROLL		10,910,144	11,710,114	107.3
OTHER CHARGES		12,254,280	11,541,203	94.2
GRAND TOTAL		23,164,424	23,251,317	100.4
NET DEFICIT			(86,893)	



6.0 CONCLUDING REMARKS

MAL's Vision and Missions set the foundation to guide all the activities implemented in 2010. Each departmental roles and functions further guide each department to achieve MAL's goals. The departmental budget allocations, and additional donor funded projects have helped in achieving the work outputs, and the national agricultural productivity. It should be noted here that, analyzing the level of work done, and identifying constraints faced by each department should assist MAL in identifying areas for future improvements.

In 2010, major achievements were seen in the increase of production in certain commodities, which include:

- Cocoa production
- Kava production
- Honey production
- Oil Palm production, and
- Coconut Oil production

Despite the increase of few agricultural commodities, others continue to decrease compared to the previous years;

- Coffee production
- Vanilla production, and
- Copra production

With imports of agriculture commodities, the following continue to increase compared with 2009 data;

- Livestock products
- Rice and wheat, and
- Animal feeds

To increase the agricultural export level of the country, understanding Market Access, and the requirements of the international export standards are of great importance. Farmers' and the private sector can contribute significantly to the export market only if they are aware of such information, and as such, they can drive the agriculture sector forward. However, the effect of climate change, pests, and other related factors will affect the future of agriculture productivity for food security and economic benefits. These are added challenges that are facing MAL, and all stakeholders, and as such; strategies, and work plans were in place in 2010 to ensure food production and economic growth are sustainable.

Donor agencies and development partners of Solomon Islands have also contributed enormously to the country's agriculture sector, and its development. Most of the assistances were in the areas of research and development, extension and training, sustainable agricultural management, and rural development. As such, MAL looks forward to continue working together with donor partners in many years to come.

The number of short-term trainings have also increased in 2010, and more than half of all the officers have attended training more the once during the year. As such, it is envisaged that staff professional development and competency have improved as the result of such trainings. The overall staff performance was also seen effective during the year.

Lastly, MAL would once again like to relay its appreciation to all stakeholders for their support in implementing the planned activities together, despite the many unexpected constraints and challenges encountered during the year. Above all, what has been achieved during the year was a combined effort played by MAL, and all its stakeholders.



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The 2009 National Population Census Bulletin, 2011, Honiara, Solomon Islands, pp. vi, 1-3.

Commodities Export Marketing Authority (CEMA) Database, 2009 and 2010, Honiara, Solomon Islands (*Excel prints*)



Annex 1.0: List of Small-livestock approved projects as at 9th June 2010

No	Province	Project Name	Items requested	Amount requested (SBD)	Total Budget (SBD)	Remarks
					219,500	
1	Malaita	Tariapu Piggery	Wire mesh/materials	6,787.10	212,712.90	MOF
2	Central	Talamuria Piggery	Pig materials	6,780.20	205,932.70	MOF
3	Malaita	B/Anisi Piggery	Stock Feed	10,000	195,932.70	MOF
4	Isabel	Tasia Farm	New Stock	1,560	194,372	ANZ cheque
				New Budget	142,675	
5	Honiara	JP Poultry	DOC/feed	10,020	132,655	Requisitioned
6	Honiara	Apollonia VC Poultry	Pltry materials	8,278.50	124,376.50	Requisitioned
7	Honiara	KBC Women's Piggery	Stock/material	6,210	118,166.50	Requisitioned
8	Honiara	Illia Piggery	Feed	6,675	111,491.50	Requisitioned
9	Honiara	JKT Poultry	DOC /Feed	10,020	101,471.50	Requisitioned
10	Honiara	Inia Poultry	DOC/materials	8,000	93,471.50	Requisitioned
11	Central	Patteson Piggery	Pig materials	1,300	92,171.50	Requisitioned
12	Central	Viti family piggery	Stock feed	2,000	90,171.50	Requisitioned
13	Central	Tulagi United poultry	DOC/feed	2,880	87,291.50	Requisitioned
14	Central	Bravo Piggery	Pig materials	1,475.70	85,815.80	Requisitioned
15	Guadalcanal	Matanaso Poultry	Pltry materials	5,344	80,471.80	Requisitioned
16	Guadalcanal	Grassland Piggery	Pig materials	10,035	70,436.80	Requisitioned
17	Guadalcanal	Loki Piggery	Pig materials	7,099	63,337.80	Requisitioned
18	Western	Paradise community	Stock	5,000	58,337.80	Approved/file
19	Western	Philip Viuru	Pig materials	2,500	55,837.80	Approved/file
20	Western	Teirara VC Poultry	Stock VC	2,500	53,337.80	Approved/file
21	Western	Saisuli Family piggery	Stock	5,000	48,337.80	Approved/file
22	Western	Allan Miller Piggery	Stock	5,000	43,337.80	Approved/file
23	Western	Tisi Youth Poultry	Pltry Materials	5,000	38,337.80	Approved/file
24	Temotu	Green Hill Poultry	DOC/materials	13,780	19,557.80	Approved/file
25	Temotu	Nimia Poultry	DOC/materials	5,010	14,547.80	Approved/file
26	Malaita	DAVTUS Piggery	Pig materials	5,000	9,547.80	Approved/file
27	Malaita	Jeriel Iro Piggery	Stock feed	9,000	547.80	Approved/file

Abbreviations: DOC-Day Old Chicks; VC-Village Chicken; Pltry- Poultry



Annex 2.0 Cocoa and Coconut Funding Recipient List

COCOA & COCOUNT PROJECT SUPPORT 2010: Cocoa Support Scheme and Coconut Rehabilitation

COCOA SUPPORT SCHEME

NO	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT APPLICANT	TYPE OF APPLICANT	PROJECT LOCATION	CONSTITUENCY	WARD	PROVINCE	PROJECT PURPOSE	FUNDING TYPE (SBD)		AMOUNT APPROVED (SBD)	Cocoa Support (SBD)
									CAPITAL	MATERIALS		
1	Peter Buguni Family Cocoa	P .Buguni	Family	Rughu Village	S/W Guad	5	Guadalcanal	Expansion	6,000	26,298.55	32,298.55	32,298.55
2	Sigetia Family Cocoa	A Sigetia		Valeato	N/W Guad	1	Guadalcanal	Expansion	6,000	9,551.80	15,551.80	15,551.80
3	Paheed Family Cocoa project	A Lagura		Marasa	S/W Guad	5	Guadalcanal	Expansion	6,000	11,268.50	17,268.50	17,268.50
4	Matanababa Community Cocoa	U. Misi	Group	Hauvalisi	W/Guad	3	Guadalcanal	N/Expansion	9,000	11,862.60	20,862.60	20,862.60
5	Tovolea Cocoa Project	L. Lele	Family	Samaria	S/W Guad	5	Guadalcanal	Expansion	7,000	26,457.29	33,457.29	33,457.29
6	Lazarus Tave Cocoa project	L. Tave	Family	Leleona	W/ Guad	3	Guadalcanal	Expansion	16,000	4875.2	20,875.20	20,785.20
7	Managalevo Family Cocoa	Managalevo		Veuru	S/W Guad	5	Guadalcanal	Expansion	5,500	21,948.40	27,448.20	27,448.20
8	Emeriko Vosiqolona Cocoa	E. Visuqolona	Family	Labungasi	W/Guad	4	Guadalcanal	Expansion	8,000	0	8,000	8,000
9	Vosodato Cocoa Development	E.Tsauli		Vosodato	N/W Guad	1	Guadalcanal	Expansion	19,000	5,810.90	24,810.90	24,810.90
10	Wageriki Cocoa Replanting	E.Faga	Family	Namamaru	E/Makira	14	Makira	Replanting	21,673.60	6820.40	28,494	28,494.00
11	Tahura Family Enterprises		Family	Haurango	W/Makira	8	Makira	Drier Mat	21,983.00	14,255	36,238	36,238
12	Wairaha Cocoa Project		Family	Wairaha	C/Makira	9	Makira	Rehab. Tools	5,500	8,108	13,608	13,608
13	Bonobonu	E.Onorio	Family	Bonobonu	E/Guad		Guadalcanal	N/Expansion	22,916	21,083.40	43,999.40	43,999.40
14	Triple F Cocoa Project	F.Lidimani	Family	Dala	C/Kwaraáe		Malaita	Trading	42,502	0	42,502	42,502
15	WME Cocoa Project		Family	Suuri	N/E Choiseul		Choiseul	Rehab Tools	8,865.90	3,134.10	12,000	12,000
16	Torahara Cocoa	D.Dautaha	Family	Torarahara	W/ Makira		Makira	Drier Mat	20,435.60	23,564.40	44,000	
17	M. Hanikouna Cocoa	M. Hanikouna	Family	Toba	N/W Guad	1	Guadalcanal	Expansion	25,898	1,902.00	27,800	27,800
18	Pitumuri Cocoa	P. Manengelea	Family	Suaghi	N/Guad	20	Guadalcanal		14,654.10	10,945.90	25,600	25,600
19	Tabuhu Cocoa	C.Fox	Family	Tabuhu	W/Guad	3	Guadalcanal		10,510	2,689.70	13,200	13,200
20	Maroma Cocoa	Wakio	Family	Ubuna	W/Makira	7	Makira	Trading	36,000	0	36,000	36,000
21	Bolao Cocoa	F. Pero	Family	Bolao/Tamboko	N/W Guad	1	Guadalcanal	Cocoa Drier	24,925.63	13,074.37	38,000	38,000
22	Lunga Nursery Support	M.Llala	Family	Lunga	C/Guad		Guadalcanal	Nursery	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
23	DKFCA Cocoa	D.Kebu	Family	Komuvaolu	N/Guad	20	Guadalcanal	Drier/Rehab	23,862.70	26,637.30	50,000	50,000
24	Jojo Cocoa Development	J.Iloe	Family	Mataga	N/Guad	21	Guadalcanal	Trading	20,000	0	20,000	20,000
25	SNR/SICHE Support	Head of SNR	National	SNR Kukum	National		Guadalcanal	Drier/Trading	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
26	Tasega Cocoa	Derek Saesi	Family	Vuranimala	Ngella	3	Ngella	Trading	40,000	0	40,000	40,000
27	FT Cocoa Development	Frank Tumu	Family	Hanuvaivine	Ngella	7			6,063.60	13,936.40	20,000	20,000
28	Ellein Maepio Cocoa	E Maepio	Family	Gevala	Marovo	Vangu	Western	Rehab/Expan	6,000	39,000	45,000	45,000
29	Niumala Community Cocoa	Pr. J. Ben	Community	Nuimala	Vonavona	Vonav	Western	Expan/Trading	35,000	0	35,000	35,000
30	Jeffery Koha	J.Koha	Family		Gao/ Bugotu	10	Isabel	Drier/Rehab	20,263.90	23,736.10	44,000	44,000
31	Boko Cocoa Project	Mary Sam	Family	Boko	Gao/Bugotu	10	Isabel	Drier/Trading	47,123	2,877	50,000	50,000
32	TIT Cocoa Project	C.Fox	Family		Gao/Bugotu		Isabel	Drier/Trading	11,096.30	38,903.70	50,000	50,000
33	Mathahuta Cocoa	O Mono	Family	Nagolau	Gao/Bugotu	Sigana	Isabel	Drier	28,098.30	21,901.70	50,000	50,000
34	Faubore Cocoa Project	D.Dania	Family	Canan	W/Kwaraáe		Malaita	Drier	1,544.70	26,455.30	28,000	28,000
35	Alata Cocoa Project	Chairman	Group	Alata	S/Malaita	21		Drier/Tools	1,394.30	31,605.70	33,000	33,000
36	Besi Cocoa project	S Tatalu	Group	Besi	N/Malaita	7	Malaita	Rehab Tools	14,492.72	35,507028	50,000	50,000
37	Dausulia Cocoa Project	Coordinator	Group	Boboilani	W/Kwaraáe	4	Malaita	Drier	992	26,808	27,800	27,800
38	Toliarea Cocoa project	Suzi ifuimae	Family	Toliore	Fateleka	15	Malaita	Trading	25,000	0	25,000	25,000
39	Bola Cocoa project	All Alias	Family	Bola	C/Kwaraáe		Malaita	Expansion	12,178.97	24,821.03	37,000	37,000
40	BW & Sons Cocoa	R. Waneoroa	Family	Talimate	N/Malaita	9	Malaita	Drier/Tools	9,981	32,019	42,000	42,000

41	Kelesi Family Cocoa	Eddie Wasi	Family	Faufanea	N/Malaita		Malaita	Drier	7,953	16,747	24,700	24,700
42	Heraniesi Cocoa Project	Coordinator	Family	Heraniesi	S/Malaita	22	Malaita	Drier	24,736	17,264	42,000	42,000
43	ATA Cocoa Project	Chairman	Group		S/Malaita	22	Malaita	Drier	14,572	11,428	26,000	26,000
44	Weipine Cocoa Project	E.Rapumenu	Family	Weipine	S/Malaita	21	Malaita	Drier	10,064.40	25,935.60	36,000	36,000
45	Abana Agric Services	J.Abana	Group	Auki	Oke/langalang	30	Malaita	Trading	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
46	ASOA Cocoa project	Sam Ofatalu	Family	Magwaraisii	N/Malaita		Malaita	Drier mat	7,045.70	21,954.30	29,000	29,000
47	Laula Integrated Cocoa	Manager	Group	Lalaua	Oke/langalang	30	Malaita	Rahab/Tools	25,941.60	3,958.40	29,900	29,900
48	Busurata Cocoa Project	J.Maefiti	Family	Busurate	W/kwaraae		Malaita	Trading	30,000	0	30,000	30,000
49	Streamline Cocoa Project	Mathias Porai	Family	Oloha	S/Malaita	23	Malaita	Drier	12,720	27,279.60	40,000	40,000
50	Varei Cocoa project	Varei Community	Comm	Varei/Kaonasugu	C/Makira	9	Makira	Drier/Tools	11,755	19,245	31,000	31,000
	SUB-TOTAL								935,74372	711,670.92	1,647,463.64	1,647,413.64
51	Tanamavu Cocoa Trading	A .Lelea	Family	Tanamavu	N/W Guad	1	Guadalcanal	Trading	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
52	Sumate Cocoa	A.Mateseni	Family	Sumate	W/Guad	3	Guadalcanal	Trading	20,000	0	20,000	20,000
53	DTF Cocoa Project				N/W Guad		Choiseul	Expansion	23,340	5,660.50	29,000	29,000
54	VJP Cocoa Development	V.Tadaku	Family	Tamboko	N/W Guad	1	Guadalcanal	Expansion	7,958	23,042	31,000	31,000
55	J2RCocoa Farmers project	J.Alexander	Family	Omba	C/Guad		Guadalcanal	Trading	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
56	Kutua Family Cocoa	F. Lave	Family	Kutua	S/Guad	5	Guadalcanal	Trading	20,000	0	20,000	20,000
	SUB-TOTAL								171,297.50	78,702.50	200,000	200,000
	GROSS TOTAL –COCOA SUPPORT								1,107,041	790,373.42	1,847,413.64	1,847,413.64
	Monitoring Support											152,586.36
	TOTAL BUDGET											2,000,000

COCONUT /COPRA SUPPORT

NO	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT APPLICANT	TYPE OF APPLICANT	PROJECT LOCATION	CONSTITUENCY	WARD	PROVINCE	PROJECT PURPOSE	FUNDING TYPE		AMOUNT APPROVED	Cocoa Support
									CAPITAL	MATERIAL		
1	Lumete Family Copra	Lumete	Family	Maloku	N/W Choiseul	7	Choiseul	Trading	36,000	0	36,000	36,000
2	Lembu Coconut Rehabilitation	Lembu Comm.	Communtiy	Lembu	New George		Western	Trading	44,000	0	44,000	44,000
3	Blue Lake Copra Rehab		Community	Blue Lake	New George	16	Western	Trading	20,000	0	20,762.25	20,762.25
4	Fauro Island Copra	Fauro Com	Community	Toumoa	Short land	2	Western	Trading	50,000	5,003	55,003	55,003
5	Rowson Lukisi Copra Trading	R.Lukisi	Family	Madekoloko	Vonavona	13	Western	Trading	30,000	0	30,000	30,000
6	Donald Bato Copra Buying	D. Bato	Family	Buni	New Georgia	13	Western	Trading	40,000	0	40,000	40,000
7	Richard Copra Trading	Richard	Family	Varahue	W/Guad	3	Guadalcanal	Trading	20,000	0	20,000	20,000
8	VTC Copra Buying	John Wale	Family	Vuiranimala	Ngella	3	Central	Trading	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
9	PPJJ Farmers Association	Solo	Group	Aola	E/Guad	5	Guadalcanal	Trading	40,000	0.00	50,000	50,000
10	Donation Warren	D .Warren	Family	Lruiru	S/Guad	5			20,000	0	20,000	20,000
11	Lonapolo Copra	P Bulu Wale	Family	Varanimala	Ngella	3	Central	Trading	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
12	Alphnsus Titike Copra	A.Titike	Family	Tulagi	Ngella	3	Central	Trading	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
13	Felix Sedena Trading	F.Sedena	Family	Auki	Aoke	30	Malaita	Trading	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
14	Valentino Aqe	V.Aqe	Family	Gove	W/Guad	4	Guadalcanal	Trading	20,000	0	20,000	20,000
15	Hauvalisi Copra Trading	G.Rosana	Group	Hauvalisi	S/W Guad	5	Guadalcanal	Trading	20,000	0	20,000	20,000
16	Agita Virgin Coconut		Family		W/Kwaraae		Malaita	Trading	0	86,263.90	86,263.90	86,263.90
17	Mike Roma	M.Ramo	Family	Auki	Langalanga	30	Malaita	Trading	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
18	Lokavara Copra Byuing	F.Kojomana	Family	Pachuava	N/W Choi		Choiseul	Drier/Trading	37,375	12,625	50,000	50,000
19	EP Copra Marketing	E.Poloso	Family	Otopanda	N/W Choi		Choiseul	Trading	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
20	Vitolio Ganingutu	V Ganingutu	Family	Suva	W/Guad	4	Guad	Trading	10,000	0	10,000	10,000
21	Ruga Traders	Dickson Ruga	Family	Balo	E/Guad		Guad	Trading	10,000	0	10,000	10,000

22	Alevia Copra	A.Soga	Family	Masuru	Simbo	3	Western	Drier/Capital	38,200	0	38,200	38,200
23	P.Kwatega	P.Kwatega	Family	Boboilingi	W/Kwaraáe	4	Malaita	Drier/Capital	25,000	10,000	35,000	35,000
24	Rao Oku Copra Farmers	A.Diau/MP	Const	New Rove	Baegu/Asifola	11	Malaita	Tools/Labour	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
25	NMC Cocount Farmers	Suifalu/CDO/M	Const	N/Malaita	N/Malaita	7,8,9	Malaita	Tools/Labour	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
26	Sifole Enterprises Association	MP/Joel	Group	Sifole	Mbaelelea	10,12	Malaita	Tools/Mat	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
27	Segeo Primary Products	P.Arish	Group	Hograno	Hograno		Isabel	O/Mill	80,000	0	80,000	80,000
28	Niumanilu Cocoa/Coconut	S.Kukiti	Family	Nuimaliu	N/Guad	21	Guad	Drier/Trading	20,000	0	20,000	20,000
29	CKC Farmers Co-operative	Fono	Group		C/Kwaraáe	29	Malaita	Drier/Mat	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
30	Paitomu Copra Drier		Family	Sepa	S/Choiseul	4	Choiseul	Drier/Mat	26,990.85	23,099.15	50,000	50,000
31	Makoni Cocount Replanting		Family	Ogho	N/W Choiseul	9	Choiseul	Tools/Mat	8,568.60	19,612.40	28,190	28,190
32	Kwaikoa Copra Buying	A.Tefenoli	Family	Kwaikoa	Gizo/Kolob.	12	Western	Trading	33,000	0	33,000	33,000
33	Holokama Plantation	L.Kikolo	Group	Hoviloko	Maringe	Hoviloko	Isabel	Tools/Drier Mat	27,485.85	22,514.15	50,000	50,000
34	Siolo Copra	H.Havimana	Family	Siolo	Kia/Hograno	14	Isabel	Tools/Trading	44,000	0	44,000	44,000
35	Philip Vuria	P.Vuria	Family	Toa	Ngella	4	Central	Trading	30,000	0	30,000	30,000
36	George Manegela	G.Manegela	Family	Toa	Ngella	6	Central	Trading	35,000	0	35,000	35,000
37	Tubuloki Coconut Rehab	Felix Gua	Family	Tubuloki	W/Guad	4	Guad	Tools/Labour	6,635	8,365	15,000	15,000
38	Tasmania Project		Family	Kuila	Savo		Savo/Russel	Tools/Mat	6,791	2,109.00	8,900	8,900
39	Putu Copra	K.Tanimana	Family	Koviloko	Maringe		Isabel	Materials	18,815.60	26,000.40	44,852	44,852
40	Mbitaáma Coconut Mill	M.Saeni	Group	Mbitaáma	N/Malaita		Malaita	Capital	35,500	0	36,500	36,500
41	S/Malaita Cocoa & Coconut	MP/CDO	Const	Constituency	S/Malaita		Malaita	Material	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
42	MOI Cocount Project	MP/CDO	Const	Const	MOI		Malaita	Capital	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
43	Ngada Toóna Trading	E.Freeman	Family	Ekwe	N/Malaita	6	Malaita	Capital	20,000	0	20,000	20,000
44	South Vella Constituency	MP/CDO	Const	Constituency	S/Vella		Western	Capital	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
45	Nikoraoi Copra	Dominic Taáru	Family	Cookson	S/Choiseul	12	Choiseul	Capital	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
46	Tafam Copra Trading		Family		Savo		Central	Capital	5,673	9,327	15,000	15,000
47	Sala Enterprises	K.Sala	Family	Konga	N/Guad	19	Guad	Capital	15,000	0	15,000	15,000
	TOTAL								1,575,833015	2,248.38	1,850,761.15	1,850,671.15
	Monitoring										149,328.85	
	Gross Total										2,000,000	
	Total Budget										2,000,000	
	Variance										0.00	



Annex 3.0 Oil Palm Land Surveys: Cadastral Survey Up-dates Record

AQUIRED LANDS FOR OIL PALM DEVELOPMENT

A: AULUTA BASIN (EAST KWARA'AE): Completed Cadastral Survey
Plantation Estate 2: Upper Auluta (Altitude: 100-200 m A.S.L)

GROUP 1: Current Topographical Survey Process

Registered Lands	Registered Title No.	Total Area (Ha)	Forest Status
1.Fera'abu	LR1050	990.10	Partly logged-50%
2.Kakarafua	LR1049	546.10	Partly logged-50%
3.Kwarifau	LR1052	520.0	Partly logged-50%
4.Gwaidingale	LR1047	44.64	Partly logged-50%
5.Ila	LR1048	33.21	Partly logged-50%
Total Area		2,132.05 Ha	

GROUP 2: Awaiting Perpetual Estate Title Release

Registered Lands	Registered Title No.	Total Area (Ha)	Forest status
6.Anosasu	LR1051	1,408.0	Virgin Forest
7.Aekafo	LR1053	404.70	Partly logged-50% (0-25°)
8.Taranadi	LR1074	180.0	Partly logged-50% (0-25°)
9.Gwaibaula	LR1073	181.30	Partly logged-50% (0-25°)
10.Bakwaiano	LR1072	667.50	Virgin Forest(0-30°)
11. Gereia land	Not acquired & Surveyed	500.0 (Est.)	Virgin Forest(0-30°)
Total Area		3,341.50	

PLANTATION ESTATE 1

GROUP 3: Awaiting Cadastral Survey (LOWER AULUTA- 0-100 M - A.S.L)

Registered Lands	Estimated area	Remarks	Forest Status
12. Adesaulu land	150 ha	NOT YET SURVEYED	Partly logged-50% (0-25°)
13. Gwaifai land	900 ha	NOT YET SURVEYED	Partly logged-50% (0-25°)
14.Malagwasu land	300 ha	NOT YET SURVEYED	Partly logged-50% (0-25°)
15.Kulakwai	300 ha	NOT YET SURVEYED	Partly logged-50% (0- 25°)
Total Area	1,650 hectares		

B: EAST FATALEKA

PLANTATION ESTATE 1

GROUP 1: Registered lands and lands waiting Perpetual Estate Title Release

Registered Lands	Registered Title No.	Total Area (Ha)	Forest Status
1. Rofebaule	LR 2055	8.65	100% Fully logged-(0-10°)
2. Intafau	LR 1054	202.33	Virgin Forest(0-25°)
3. Maloilalo	LR 1056	320.80	100 % Fully logged-(0-10°)
4. Raenauta	LR 1057	323.80	Virgin Forest (0-25°)
5. Fotana	LR 1058	666.60	100 % Fully logged-(0-8°)
6. Faugwalafu	LR 1059	238.80	Virgin Forest (0-25°)
TOTAL		1,760.98	



PLANTATION ESTATE 2: Awaiting Cadastral Survey

Acquired Lands	Registered Title No.	Total Area (Ha)	Forest Status
7. Gwaunamanu	Awaiting survey	Not Known yet	40% partly logged -(0-10°)
8. Binagwelabu	Awaiting survey	Not Known yet	85 % fully logged (0-10°)
9. Fulaiano	Awaiting survey	Not Known yet	90% fully logged-(0-10°)
10. Kanole	Awaiting survey	Not Known yet	Not known yet (0-30°)
11. Umafau	Awaiting survey	Not Known yet	Not known yet (0-30°)
TOTAL			

TOTAL AREA SURVEYED & REGISTERED SUMMARY

1. AULUTA BASIN(EAST KWARAEA : 5,423.05 Hectares
2. EAST FATALEKA : 1,760.05 Hectares

Overall Total: 7,183.1 (Surveyed & Registered)

(a) Total hectares under Dispute: 483.1 hectares

(b) Total Hectres ready for Development: 6,700 hectares

