



CIDP

COCONUT INDUSTRY
DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PACIFIC



Coconut Industry Development for the Pacific (CIDP) is a joint initiative of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the European Union (EU). The aim of CIDP is to bolster the coconut sector in the region through improving the competitiveness of small producers engaged in the coconut value chains and strengthening regional integration of related markets and the intensification of production.

Timeframe: **2016 – 2018**

Value: **EUR 3.5 million**

Countries of implementation: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

The project is being supported as part of a broader economic partnership between the **EU** and the **African Caribbean Pacific (ACP)** states.

WHY COCONUTS?



Across the Pacific Islands, coconut is considered the **tree of life**. It plays a central role in the diets of our people and is vital in contributing to food security, health promotion and sustainable livelihoods. As a versatile raw material that supports both household and wider societal needs — from housing, to transport, to cultural production — coconut is a valuable resource woven into the very fabric of Pacific society and daily life.

While coconut is by far the most important agriculture crop in the Pacific Islands, the industry is far from reaching its full potential. This shortcoming has deep historical roots, but is commonly associated with the decline of prices offered in the global market — and resulting reduction in interest — in the global market, for copra, the crop's main by-product. Other constraints to the industry's development include, the age and productivity of coconut plantations, access to appropriate technology for value-adding, access to information and financing services for smallholders, the need for improved risk management, and a more supportive and coordinated regional policy environment.



New market opportunities have emerged in high-value products such as virgin coconut oil (VCO), coconut water and coconut sugar, which are becoming increasingly popular due to newly identified health benefits. A greater demand for these products, along with actions to address industry constraints, could pave the way for local economies and producer groups to benefit directly from higher whole-nut prices at lower production costs (when compared to copra sales). Using the most appropriate technology and approach will enable producers — women's groups in particular — to have a more integral role in coconut-related value chains, or even to sell to the final consumer market directly.



DEVELOPING THE COCONUT SECTOR

The Coconut Industry Development for the Pacific (CIDP) project consists of three basic pillars: intensification of on-farm coconut production; market driven technological diversification; and the increase of regional synergies and collaboration reflected in more coherent national strategies on how the coconut sector should move forward.

The goal of CIDP is to support small farmers, plantation operators, owners and workers, coconut-processing communities and enterprises, young people and women involved in coconut production, processing and marketing, coconut traders, and exporters. To achieve its aims, the project will involve a diverse range of coconut industry players, including policy makers, producer organizations, dealers, private enterprises, government agencies, agriculture extension services, and research and development services.

The project's two-year rollout will include the following activities and deliverables:

- the creation of a comprehensive database of enterprises/projects/farmers groups/NGOs developing activities in coconut production/processing diversification within the 15 PICs;
- short training/awareness courses and programmes for farmers, processors and others in the value chain will be developed and implemented;
- a manual entitled, Coconut Risks Management and Mitigation for the Pacific Region will be produced, and a regional training program implemented;
- road maps will be created addressing different value chain analyses on coconut production intensification and processing diversification;
- The Coconut Policy Advisory Document for the Pacific Region (CPADPR) will be produced and a plan to harmonize national coconut production strategies will be drafted;
- at least eight government representatives from the PICs will be assisted in upgrading and harmonizing their national strategies in line with the CPADPR;
- at least two pilot projects will be directly supported and implemented in Samoa and Vanuatu with lessons learned shared with other PICs.

THERE ARE FOUR EXPECTED RESULTS FOR THE CIDP PROJECT:

Result 1: Sector competitiveness and sustainability are enhanced by the wide dissemination of production intensification methods and by strengthening synergies between various actors involved in the value chains.

Result 2: Access to information and financing services are facilitated for smallholders and other sector stakeholders.

Result 3: Small producers have better access to risk management tools, especially concerning climate and market risks.

Result 4: Existing regional and national strategies are harmonized and made consistent in order to realize synergies and to strengthen the regional integration of corresponding markets.

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