

ACIAR Inception Workshop FST/2009/062



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AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH



ACIAR's Forestry Program

Overall Aims:

- Enhance the role of tree growing and forest management in improving subsistence lifestyles, livelihoods and sustainable land management
 - Enhance the contribution of legal, sustainable and value-adding forest industries to economic development
- All ACIAR forestry projects are undertaken as collaborative partnerships with local research providers and in many cases involve participation of smallholders**

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Country Focus for Forestry

Country	% of Program
Indonesia	25
Vietnam	20
Laos	10
Papua New Guinea	20
Pacific –Vanuatu, Solomon Is, Fiji	25





Research Theme 1

Tree Growing:

- Germplasm Improvement and Distribution
- Plantation Productivity and Management
- Agroforestry and Smallholder Livelihoods

Research Theme 2

Sustainable Forest Management:

- Community forestry
- Sustainable Forest Management Systems:
 - ▶ Forest Inventory and Yield Regulation
 - ▶ Forest Certification
- Environmental Services

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Research Theme 3

Efficient and Sustainable Forest Industries:

- Value Chains for Wood & Non Timber Forest Products
- Chain of Custody Systems
- Value-Adding Processing and Product Manufacturing

Research Theme 4

Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption:

- Reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+)
- Resilience of Trees and Forest Systems
- Management of Fires
- Wood-based Bioenergy

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Case Study 2: Improving value of coconut wood

- Large areas of senile coconut plantations in Pacific
- Project in Fiji & Samoa, developed technical information (User Manual) and systems to produce sawn and engineered “cocowood” flooring products
- Triple helix structure requires specific grading and drying techniques to maximise recovery of high density material
- Softer core material can be chipped and used to enhance organic content of poor soils
- New project looking at veneer production from senile coconut palms – markets are available.

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Some messages from ACIAR

- New cocowood veneer project is the logical progression from previous ACIAR research in Fiji
- Project aligns well with priorities to enhance farmer's incomes and enhance wood industries
- Project is well designed with important research activities on processing, manufacturing, and the value chain – we need to extend the reach and impact
- Opportunities for capacity building including postgraduate studies
- Very important that strong links exist with industry partners within project

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