

Briefs

- A two days Financial Literacy Rollout training was conducted by Vfc trainers for Usnang community on the 4th to 5th April 2017.
- A meeting was conducted for selected VCEs to form a team of trainers for service providers scheme under the WEEP on the 10th of April 2017.
- On the 11th of April 2017, Vfc was invited to display its work during the Health Expo conducted by Jiwaka Provincial Health Department at Provincial Headquarter in Kurumul.



*Watch out for the next Issue and more stories of change.



IWDA-WAVE Asia Pacific Partners Workshop in Myanmar

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3 Kings Mission, Horizon 3000

Oxfam PNG

Jiwaka Provincial Government

"EMPOWERING RURAL WOMEN"

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MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR'S DESK



Welcome to Voice for Change (VfC) second quarter edition of its newsletter for 2017.

In this edition, VfC is pleased to share with its partners and the people of Jiwaka updates about various activities it has carried out in the second quarter of the year.

Enjoy Reading and God Bless!

Lilly Be'Soer



Capacity Building on Livelihood Skills

Under the Women Economic Empowerment Program (WEPP), **154** participants (96 females and 58 males) benefited from the following trainings; Piggery, Fish, Cooking & Nutrition, Kaukau (Sweet potato) and Soil Compost trainings on the months of April and May 2017.



Baning community that received Pig training

The communities benefited were from Baning, Tombil and Taimil communities from South Waghi and Warawau community from Anglimp. Among the participants were Police personnel and VfC staff.

VfC continues to provide integrated trainings to rural communities to improve their livelihoods.

MiBank Agent awareness

VfC MiBank Agent Officer Mr Gideon Bare conducted awareness on MiBank banking services in Baning and Warawau communities.

The awareness focused on communities to learn about the services provided by the bank through its agents that allows for rural communities to have access to banking services through mobile phones.



Mr Gideon, middle, demonstrating how to use mobile phone for MiCash account

DreiKoningAktion (DKA) Officer's visit

The program support officer, Mr Waibo Bosia, from DKA visited VfC from the 11th to 14th of April 2017 as part of monitoring and evaluation process for livelihood skills trainings.



Mr Waibo (left) and Sina Joe from VfC

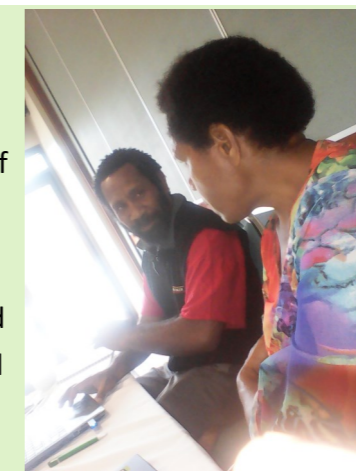
It was to assess how the beneficiaries are putting to use new information and skills acquired from the trainings. He also visited the communities and witnessed the progress of the trainings.

Oxfam team visit

A team from Oxfam-Goroka made a quarterly visit to VfC on the 6th to 7th of April 2017.

This was part of its ongoing monitoring visits to check on the progress of funded activities as well as checking on financial reports.

The team also visited and assessed contact farmers and their farms to assist where possible.



Vincent (left) from Oxfam and Sina (VfC) briefing the activities

Visit by the ACIAR Project team

Ms Elizabeth Owa and Mr John Tom from PNG University of Technology visited VfC and conducted an END - LINE - SURVEY with VCEs on the 6th to 16th of June 2017.

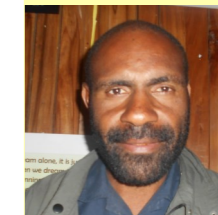
The visit was to monitor the progress and the impact the ACIAR Project have on the farmers and communities.

The survey was basically collecting of information from farmers who will be engaged in the project and this information will be used in the final evaluation of the project to measure its result.



Ms Elizabeth (second right) and Ms Sina (left) interviewing two VCEs

MESSAGE FROM EDITOR'S DESK



"A society free of all forms of violence against women/girls is the way forward for Jiwaka"

The Editor wish to thank those who have contributed towards the publication of this second Issue 2017.

Hope you enjoyed reading this newsletter.

Gideon Bare



ACRONYMS

- EVAW - Ending Violence Against Women*
- FSVAC - Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee*
- FSVU - Family and Sexual Violence Unit*
- GBV - Gender Based Violence*
- HR - Human Rights*
- WAVE - Women's Action for Voice and Empowerment*
- WEPP - Women Economic Empowerment Program*
- WHRD - Women Human Right Defender*
- VAW - Violence Against Women*
- VCE - Village Community Educators*

First Jiwaka Women Forum to be staged

On the 12th of April 2017, a preparation meeting on First Jiwaka Women Forum that will be hosted this year for the women leaders from Jiwaka.

The focus was to:

- Form a Forum Working Committee
- To find a THEME for the forum
- To identify number of women to attend and
- What issues to discuss during the forum

The theme “Jiwaka Women Uniting for Change” was derived at the end of the meeting. Many issues emerged, however, the committee decided for forum



The women participants at the meeting

to look at:

1. Marijuana and Alcohol
2. Violence against Women & Girls
3. Polygamy
4. Sorcery related Violence
5. Market for Farmers

Young Girls Leadership & Mentoring Project

The Vfc Young Girls Leadership and Mentoring Pilot Project conducted its first meeting on the 13th of April 2017 with the aim to identify and recruit young women and girls within Jiwaka.

The church Pastors were engage to help identify the participants.



Project Coordinator Ms Clara Opur (standing second left), with the Pastors and church leaders

Buka trip Reflective meeting

A Reflective meeting was conducted by Vfc on the 25th of April 2017 to:

1. Revisit Buka trip tour Terms of Reference and report the progress update
2. Set up a Support Group Committee in the South Waghi District to attend to cases on violence against women.

The participants were Vfc GBV Response Desk, Minj



Ms Sophie (Vfc) speaking during the meeting

Magisterial Service, FSVU Minj and Minj District Health Services.

JWHRDs Reflection workshop



Mr Mark Pokil (left) speaking to JWHRDs during the workshop

On the 14th to 15th of June 2017, Vfc conducted a Reflection Workshop Women Human Rights Defenders (JWHRDs) from Jiwaka. This is a quarterly event in which the WHRDs come together to reflect on the human rights network update

and progress in Jiwaka. At this meeting each were urged to advocate and uphold the Human and Democratic Rights for every individual during this time of National General Election for PNG. They have a role to advocate for a free and fair voting.

Training on Gender Based Violence and Human Rights

A one week training on Gender Based Violence and Human Rights was conducted by Vfc for Kilbang community of Minj, South Waghi District on the 8th to 12th of May 2017.

A total of 23 participants including 3 women and 20 men received the training on the topics: gender & gender roles, discrimination and stereotypes, gender base violence and the Laws.

The participants expressed their understanding and appreciation and developed an action plan and made commitments to change their attitudes and behaviours to promote equality



The participants with their Certificates during the graduation

and stop violence against women and girls.

At the end of the training participants received Certificates.

Young Women Leadership and Empowerment Program

From the 15th to 19th of May 2017, Vfc conducted its first Gender Based Violence and Human Rights (GBV/HR) training for 28 women and girls under the Young Women Leadership and Empowerment Program.

The participants from across Jiwaka were registered into the program for 2 years that is funded by International Women’s Development Agency (IWDA) under its Women’s Action for Voice and Empowerment (WAVE) Program.



Vfc trainer Mr Mark Pokil and the participants

Training on Family Teams and Family Goals

In this quarter under the ACIAR Project, two trainings on Family Teams and Family Goals were conducted by Vfc for 57 participants (33 female and 24 male).

The beneficiaries were from Kilbang community from Minj, Vfc Extension Workers and Vfc staff.



Ms Rose conducting training for Kilbang community

VfC team attendance at the Pacific Women Conference in New Zealand

Ms Brenda and Ms Sina attended a Pacific Women Conference hosted by the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) in New Zealand from the 26th of April to 5th of May 2017.

The conference focused on advancing the work of women through the South Pacific.

VfC team was given the opportunity to speak and showcase its work. VfC is a society member of ACWW.



Ms Brenda speaking during the conference while Ms Sina looks on

Highlands Women Human Rights Defenders Movement Workshop in Goroka

Ms Lilly BeSoer represented VfC and participated at the Highlands Women Human Rights Defenders Movement (HWHRDM) Workshop in Goroka on the 3rd to 7th of April 2017.

The workshop funded by Oxfam under its Gender Justice Program was to:

1. Finalise documents to register the organisation under the HWHRDM name and
2. Finalise the plan of the organisation

Other representatives were from:

- ◆ Simbu Human Rights Defenders Network
- ◆ Kup Women for Peace
- ◆ Eastern Highlands Family Voice



Ms Lilly, left, with other representatives at the workshop

- ◆ Kafe Urban Settlers Women's Association
- ◆ Mercy Works of WHP (Catholic)

The workshop also gave opportunity for each organisation to update each other of their work.

Partners Workshop in Myanmar

On the 1st to 19th of June 2017, VfC team Ms Lilly BeSoer and Ms Sophie Kilipi attended a Partners Workshop in Burma, Myanmar.

The IWDA WAVE delegation from 16 countries in Asia Pacific attended the workshop sharing and learning of what each partners organisation are doing for women advancement in the region.

Each partners had the opportunity to share their work to others.



VfC team and IWDA PNG Country Manager Ms Elena Leddra

Women Economic Empowerment Program

VfC Women's Economic Empowerment Program (WEEP) empowers women to improve their livelihoods. This provides economic opportunities to advance in life from the cycle of violence.



Warawau communities with Certificates after receiving one week Cooking and Nutrition, Kaukau and Soil Compost, and Fish training

VfC, through WEEP, have been engaged with international partners like:

- Oxfam International
- DreiKonigAktion (DKA), an Austrian Donor
- Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)

These partners fund livelihood skills trainings on:

- Vegetable Production
- Soil Compost
- Livestock Raising (Pig, Chicken, Fish, Duck and Honey Bee)
- Cooking and Nutrition
- Sewing
- Family Team Goal
- Financial Literacy

This year, WEEP is funded by Oxfam International

and DKA under the Harvest and Livelihoods programs respectively.

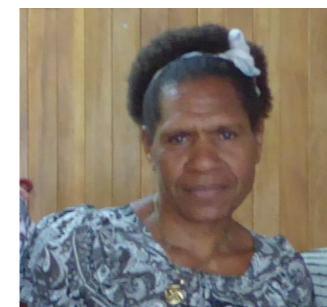
The WEEP team consist of 3 staff, two support staff and one coordinator, overseeing the program.

There are networks of Extension Workers and Village Community Educators who have formed a service providers scheme and contact farmers that are engaged under the program.

This year 2017, VfC has engaged new communities that are interested apart from the existing ones.

Communities across Jiwaka have benefited from these programs through various trainings and support. The new knowledge and skills were acquired on improved farming and making alternate income to sustain themselves.

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM TEAM



Ms Sina Joe - Program Coordinator



Ms Haitha Alex - Support Staff Under DKA



Ms Marylou Bernard - Support Staff Under Oxfam International