



TRAINING FOR BARAKAU ITTO PROJECT IMPACT COMMUNITY



SIYB PROGRAM TRAINING REPORT

“Kirapim Bisnis - Strongim Sindaun”



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“Growing MSMEs is Growing PNG”

Barakau village is situated in the east of the nation's capital about 40 minutes drive from Port Moresby city. It is one of the three communities identified under the ITTO Teak Project catchment area. The three ITTO Teak Project catchment areas are: Gomore and Girabu in Rigo District and Barakau in Hiri-Koiari LLG in Hiri District, Central Province. The main focus of ITTO Teak Project is to reforest the Central's low grassland areas with high value trees.

Stories covering SYB training Report Date: 27th April, 2022

Start Your Business (SYB) Training Targeting Barakau ITTO Teak Project Impact Community, Hiri-Koiari, Central Prov.

Background: The SYB training conducted recently in Barakau, Central Province is an initiative of ITTO Teak Project who funded the training under the auspicious of PNGFA.

SMEC as an entrepreneurship training provider and promoter of MSME creation in the country is the partner to this project assisting PNGFA in the rollout of the program.

The aim of the ITTO Teak Project is to reforest the low grassland areas of Central Province with high value trees.

Hence, Barakau is one of the project catchment communities

within Hiri, Central Province. Under the PNGFA/SMEC partnership platform, SMEC is engaged to train the landowners of the impact communities on the commercial values of trees and how they can make and manage money from trees. This is the long-term focus. The short-term being to expose the landowners to view tree planting as commercial activities, as long-term investment.

The second reason is for landowners to use inter-cropping method to plant food crops in between the trees to sell and generate income to sustain their livelihood while waiting

for the trees to get mature and ready for harvest.

SMEC has conducted similar trainings for Gomore and Girabu in Rigo District fully funded by the same project.

This partnership program initially started in 2012 with PNGFA being the host, whilst NARI and SMEC being the strategic partners. Department of Education came on board to include schools both Primary and Secondary into the program. The Pacific Island Project or PIP in short came into the scene later on and complimented the partnership linking the schools.

More stories inside

Barakau SYB Training participants & quests photos taken after the closing program



Report # 03/22

Background:
The partnership and the MSME program as a landowner benefit package.

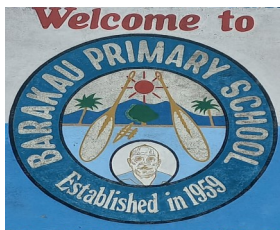
Introduction
The aim and benefits of the partnership

Activity Highlights and Accomplishments

Issues, Constraints & Challenges

Conclusion & Suggestions

Recommendation & Way Forward



Barakau - Central Province

Developing community mitigation strategies through entrepreneurial mindset development training in partnership with PNGFA through ITTO Teak Project.

Photo on the far right is the classroom where the training took place

The picture on the right is the capture of the group work and presentation of their work.

Introduction

SMEC partnered PNGFA under ITTO Teak Project in 2012. SME Corporation's role under the partnership arrangement was to create awareness and advocate on MSME creation concepts through entrepreneurial skills training programs in the project impact communities.

The entrepreneurship training program aims at upskilling the landowners within the project catch-

ment areas on basic bookkeeping, business planning, starting and managing businesses.

The participants of these training workshops were selected by the community reps with the assistance of the SME Corporation guided by a Training Need Analysis (TNA) process. This is to ensure that the program content is relevant for the target audience as well as the value and relevance of the program is maintained.

The contents taught are both theory and practical. Theory comes in the awareness segment and practical in the design of the sample business plan that reflects real business experience.

Training for Barakau was no exception. A total of 37 participants participated in the training workshop. The participants were made up of youths, few elderly and a balanced number of males and females. Local teachers took part too.

Highlights of the workshop

The Start Your Business (SYB) Training workshop for Barakau landowners commenced on the 11th and concluded with a certification program on the 22nd April, 2022.

There were a total of 37 participants, 22 females and 15 males. From the 37 trained, 18 are owners of the existing micro and small businesses based in the village. Few others were once owners and operators of small businesses but failed due to mismanagement. This training became very useful to the

Training facilitation venue



participants to know why their businesses failed. Most were new but were really encouraged by the training to start their own businesses at the micro level immediately after the training.

Among many challenges identified, there were two significant issues that topped the list:

1. Credit - giving things without paying on the spot.
2. Customary obligation - demand and expectations from wantoks and relatives.

Concerns, issues and challenges

Among the few concerns, issues and challenges raised the session presentations flowed smoothly with greater participation from participants.

Group work, discussions and presentations were the main strategies used to deliver the sessions. Power point presentation was done to elaborate the key points of each session.

Most issues raised by the participants were mainly challenges they encountered to start and run businesses in their locality. To

name a few are:

- Challenges put up by custom obligations.
- Lack of training and awareness focused on MSME creation initiatives.
- Lack or no support from Provincial Commerce Division.
- Lack of vision and empowerment programs at the district and provincial level.

Participants working on group project



MD SMEC, speaking at the occasion



- Lack of information and awareness on the National Government sanctioned SME loan facility.
- Information gap on business formalization process, business name registration, IRC TIN lodgment and bank account opening, etc.

To many, this training was really an eye opener that unlocked the door to the information they were lacking. The session flow revealed the secrecy to starting and running a business. The training exposed their weaknesses and also revealed their strengths in doing business. Some even admitted why their businesses failed after going through this workshop. They admitted that, they are confident to start all over again. Those in business and those planning to start said, the timing is right for them to be exposed to such a training that opened opportunity doors.

Recommendation and way forward

To further continue our network and partnership initiative with PNGFA:

- The report highly recommends SMEC to maintain effective partnership with PNGFA in the forest service programs that require SMEC's expertise by way of

MOU.

- SMEC with the assistance of PNFA continue to assist and monitor landowners in the start and management of their businesses through M&E process.
- SMEC to ensure that a success-case is created in three impact communities in terms of MSME creation.

MD, presenting certificates

