



# Indonesia *Newsletter*

## Australian PM and Aceh Governor Open New Facilities at Ujung Batee Aquaculture Center



*PM Rudd inspected the field work at the Brackishwater Development Centre at Ujung Batee*

On 14 June, the rebuilt facilities at the Brackishwater Aquaculture Development Center (Balai Budidaya Air Payau Ujung Batee) were opened by the Prime Minister of Australia, the Hon. Kevin Rudd, MP, and the Governor of Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam, Dr Irwandi Yusuf.

The Ujung Batee centre was severely affected by the December 2004 tsunami.

The laboratory, staff housing and hatchery facilities were badly damaged or destroyed.

The centre has been rebuilt over the past two years by funding under the Australia Indonesia Partnership for Reconstruction and Development. Although the reconstruction of the physical facilities has been managed by AusAID, ACIAR is managing a linked component to build capacity among the staff of the centre. This project (FIS/2006/002) is implemented by James Cook University (Australian partner) and the Directorate General of Aquaculture (Indonesian partner) in the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries.

BADC Ujung Batee staff are being trained to use better management practices for shrimp farming, in fish health management and diagnostics, and in hatchery practices to produce high-quality, healthy shrimp and finfish seedstock.

At the opening, Mr Rudd met several Acehnese fish farmers who are involved in collaborative work with BADC Ujung Batee. The farmers expressed their appreciation for the assistance for post-tsunami rehabilitation and development in Aceh that had been provided by the Australian Government.

### Did You Know???

Staff at Balai Budidaya Air Payau Ujung Batee, Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam, have come up with some innovative ways to improve their English language skills. BBAP Ujung Batee is the site of an ACIAR project (funded through the Australia Indonesia Partnership for Reconstruction and Development) to build capacity to support post-tsunami reconstruction and development of the aquaculture sector in



*Bakhtiar holds an ACIAR Partners magazine*

Aceh—the Aceh Aquaculture Rehabilitation Project. This project has included training in English language. One of the laboratory staff, Bakhtiar Syah Putra, has subscribed to ACIAR's Partners magazine so that he can practise his English and learn more about ACIAR's agricultural R&D.

Some of the staff have attempted to institute the 'Rule of English learning' in the staff accommodation at BBAP Ujung Batee. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday everyone must speak English. Anyone who speaks in Bahasa Indonesia must clean the house and wash all the dishes. Not only are the English language skills of the staff improving, but they also have the cleanest house at Ujung Batee!

## SUMMARY

[Australian PM and Aceh Governor Open New Facilities at Ujung Batee Aquaculture Centre](#)

[Did You Know???](#)

[National Potato Week - Lembang \(20-21 August 2008\)](#)

[Photo Gallery PM Rudd's to Indonesia](#)

[Peanut Kick Off Workshop Mataram](#)

[New Projects](#)

[Personnel Changes](#)

[Upcoming Event](#)

## National Potato Week - Lembang (20-21 August 2008)

The United Nations (UN) declared 2008 as the International Year of the Potato. The UN has been sponsoring potato events in several countries from May to August 2008, including for example the 'First National Potato Congress' in Peru and the 'Maine Potato Blossom Festival' in Fort Fairfield, Maine, USA.

Indonesia is one of Asia's middle-ranking potato producers, with a 2006 harvest of just over one million tonnes. To celebrate the International Year of the Potato, the Indonesian Vegetable Research Institute organised a National Potato Week at the Indonesian Vegetable Research Institute (IVEGRI) in Lembang, western Java. Lembang is famous for its fruits and vegetables.

A delegation from the ACIAR office (Julien, Mirah and P a r d i ) accompanied David Shearer and Pak Luthfi Fatah to Lembang. The Agriculture Minister of the Republic of Indonesia, Pak Anton Apriantono, attended on the day. The project team for the ACIAR project 'Optimising the productivity of the potato/brassica cropping system in Central and West Java' was present and hosted a very successful and informative stand. The Australian



Indonesian Minister of Agriculture (in batik) talks to the potato farmers at the National Potato Week in Lembang

Project leader gave a presentation at the seminar organised during the event.

## Photo Gallery PM Rudd's Visit to Indonesia



## Peanut Kick Off Workshop Mataram



Governor of NTB, Mr. H. Lalu Serinata attended the peanut project launch (4<sup>th</sup> from left in black uniform).

The project 'Productivity and profitability enhancement of tropical pulses in Indonesia and Australia' was officially launched in Mataram in May and is expected to increase farmers' incomes by giving them the opportunity to reduce operating costs and improve the quality and quantity of their production.

Peanut is an important crop in Indonesia; its annual national consumption was estimated to be over 700 000 tons or 3.20 kg per capita in 2002. Under the Smallholder Agribusiness Development Initiative (SADI), leading peanut-based food manufacturer PT Garuda Food Putra Putri Jaya (GarudaFood) works with peanut farmers to increase the supply of fresh raw peanuts in NTB. GarudaFood will provide peanut seeds, technical assistance and market guarantees to 18 000 peanut farmers in NTB.

The interesting part of this project is the close links between the public and the private sector and the participation (through SADI) of the International

Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group.

The launch was very successful and was attended by the Governor of NTB (HE H Lalu Serinata) and Mr Blair Exell

(AusAID Senior Representative). Dr Peter Horne, SADI sub-program leader, gave a very interesting talk about the peanut project.



Peter Horne is being interviewed for a TV programme regarding the peanut project launch.

## New Projects

### SMAR/2007/196

- Market development for citrus from eastern Indonesia (AGB)

Project duration : 29/02/2008-  
28/02/2011  
Budget allocated : \$582,066

An earlier ACIAR-funded analysis of the Indonesian citrus market and eastern Indonesian supply chain identified a highly competitive market with opportunities to improve supply chain management and market penetration on products with identified comparative advantage, particularly keprok (mandarins) from specific regional locations. The general aim of this project is at increasing returns to growers by improving production and postharvesting techniques and by increasing understanding and cooperation among the different links of the citrus supply chain. The objective is to use keprok production as a model to develop awareness of 'quality' parameters, product differentiation and the importance of careful handling postharvest. A related objective is to introduce and encourage market-driven business practices in the keprok supply chain, thus forging stronger links between farmers and their markets.

#### Project collaborators :

- South Australian Research and Development Institute, Australia
- Rural Solutions SA, Australia
- Indonesian Citrus and Subtropical Fruits Research Institute, Indonesia
- South Australian Citrus Industry Development Board, Australia
- Assessment Institute for Agricultural Technology, NTT, Indonesia
- Assessment Institute for Agricultural Technology, South Sulawesi, Indonesia
- Assessment Institute for Agricultural Technology, Southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia
- Assessment Institute for Agricultural Technology, East Java, Indonesia



- Food Crop and Horticulture Services, Indonesia

### SMAR/2007/216

- Improving rice productivity in South and Southeast Sulawesi

Project duration : 29/02/2008-  
28/02/2011  
Budget allocated : \$622,695

With international rice prices at a 10-year high, there is strong pressure on rice-importing countries like Indonesia to lift domestic production. This project focuses on generating sustainable, profitable productivity improvements in the irrigated rice farming systems of South and Southeast Sulawesi. Project teams will work with smallholder farmers in four target villages with the intention of increasing rice production by 10 per cent or more. The teams will conduct an agronomic benchmarking to identify crop management practices that have the potential to remove or reduce the main limitations to productivity in each village. Then smallholder farmers, chosen for their active engagement in the market and their potential to improve rice productivity, will test and adapt locally the selected management practices.

#### Project collaborators :

- International Rice Research Institute, Philippines
- Assessment Institute for Agricultural Technology, Makassar, Indonesia
- Assessment Institute for Agricultural Technology, Southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia
- Indonesian Center for Rice Research, Indonesia



## SMAR/2007/063

### Enhancing farmer engagement with speciality coffee chains in eastern Indonesia (AGB)

Project duration : 31/05/2008-  
31/05/2011  
Budget allocated : \$332,862

The rapid growth in the international speciality coffee market is an opportunity for smallholders in a number of developing countries, including Indonesia to improve economic returns. Global consumers and speciality coffee buyers are demanding greater product quality, traceability and compliance with environmental and social standards. However smallholder producers are unable to meet these requirements and government agencies do not have the capability to help such producers meet these greater demands. This project will improve the capacity of the smallholder-based coffee industry in South Sulawesi and West Timor (NTT) to participate successfully in the international speciality coffee market and to improve the capability of Indonesian agencies to support this engagement. Through this improved engagement, the livelihood of smallholder coffee farmers in eastern Indonesia will be improved.

#### Project collaborators :

- University of Sydney, School of Geosciences, Australia
- Assessment Institute for Agricultural Technology, NTT, Indonesia
- Indonesian Coffee and Cocoa Research Institute, Indonesia
- Assessment Institute for Agricultural Technology, South Sulawesi, Indonesia

## SMAR/2007/203

### Integrated tropical passionfruit production systems in South Sulawesi (AGB)

Project duration : 31/03/2008-  
31/03/2011  
Budget allocated : \$259,225

The excellent market for passionfruit in South Sulawesi is being eroded, primarily because of a fall in production and supply. Production is currently

limited to the highland areas, and in this region is under intense land-use pressure, with plantings being replaced by higher-value temperate-vegetable crops. Passionfruit vine life is often limited, the probable cause being root disease. This project will address these major constraints on the development of the industry in South Sulawesi by:

- improving passionfruit vine longevity, through the introduction and uptake of root disease management strategies in highland production areas;
- introducing new elite lines of passionfruit germplasm (scion varieties and rootstocks) that meet market demands at lowland and at highland sites; and
- establishing schemes to manage passionfruit supply to meet long-term market demand and opportunities, thus allowing the industry to remain focused on the demands of the market.



*Piles of passion fruits sold at a traditional market in Eastern Indonesia*

#### Project collaborators :

- Department of Primary Industries, Fisheries and Mines, Australia
- Indonesian Fruit Juice Producers Association, Indonesia
- Agency for Food Crops and Horticulture, Indonesia
- Hasanuddin University, Indonesia
- Assessment Institute for Agricultural Technology, Makassar, Indonesia

## SMAR/2007/068

### Productivity and profitability enhancement of tropical pulses in Indonesia and Australia (AGB)

Project duration : 31/05/2008-  
31/05/2010  
Allocated budget : \$523,500

Peanuts and mungbeans are important food and cash crops in the eastern Indonesian provinces of Nusa Tenggara Barat (NTB) and Nusa Tenggara Timur (NTT) but average productivity and profitability are low. Productivity and profitability improvements are possible from adaptive research addressing:

- new varieties and cost-effective management practices using farmer-participatory adaptive research;
- efficient and sustainable seed system strategies; and
- functional partnerships between the national and provincial government agencies and industry stakeholders in NTB and NTT.

In Australia, the project will conduct on-farm research and extension on effectiveness of rhizobium inoculants and delivery systems in soybeans and peanuts and on developing management practices, especially optimum row configurations and irrigation strategies, to maximise yields in mungbean crops. The outputs of the research in Australia are expected to have an effect on the on-farm adaptive research conducted in Indonesia, especially through the supply chains linked to Garuda Foods.

#### Project collaborators :

- Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, Australia
- Indonesia Legumes and Tuber Roots Institute, Indonesia
- Assessment Institute for Agricultural Technology, NTB, Indonesia
- Assessment Institute for Agricultural Technology, NTT, Indonesia
- University of Mataram, Indonesia
- University of Nusa Cendana, Indonesia

## Personnel Changes

There were several staff changes in ACIAR as well as in some key positions at the Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Forestry and Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries.

### ACIAR

- **Dr TK Lim** will retire from ACIAR in late September 2008. His deep technical knowledge in crop protection areas has been of tremendous help to ACIAR and we are grateful that TK has said that he is happy to continue to provide technical comment on project proposals after his retirement.
- **Dr Richard Markham** has been selected to succeed Dr Lim as the Research Program Manager for Crop Protection. For a number of reasons, ACIAR intends to base TK's successor in Suva with broader responsibility for 'Pacific Crops', that is, responsibility for horticultural, root and tree crops research in production, protection, postharvest handling and marketing.

Before joining ACIAR, Dr Markham worked for the previous five years as a Program Director for the CGIAR centre, Bioversity International. Although his main research training and experience is in crop protection, his research management responsibilities now cover germplasm conservation, crop protection, production, postharvest and marketing issues. Richard will start at ACIAR Canberra in mid-November and will move to Suva in early December 2008.

- **Dr Peter Horne** has been assigned to be the Research Program Manager for ACIAR's Livestock Production Systems later in the year. He has an extensive knowledge and background in forages R&D in Asia with most

experience in Indochina and Indonesia. He will be taking over the LPS RPM role part-time until someone is recruited to manage the works on 'Support for Market-driven Adaptive Research – (SMAR)'—a program in eastern Indonesia involving cross-sectoral research support for agribusiness development.

### Ministry of Agriculture

- **Prof Dr Achmad Suryana** was promoted to lead the Food Security Agency to succeed Dr Kaman Nainggolan.
- **Dr Sumarjo Gatot Irianto** was appointed to be the new Director General of IAARD to succeed Prof Dr Achmad Suryana.
- **Dr Ir Muhammad Syakir, MS** (A/g Director, Centre Research for Estate Crops).
- **Dr Drh Syafril Daulay, MM** (A/g Director of Animal Quarantine)
- **Dr Ir Suryadi AM, MSc** (A/g Director, Agric Product Processing & Marketing - International Market).

### Ministry of Forestry

- **Dr Tigor Butar-Butar** was appointed to a new position at the Research Centre for Forest Socio Economic in Bogor. Meanwhile, Dr Sumarno was named as the new Head of the Forest Research Station in Kupang.

### Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries

- **Prof Dr Indroyono Soesilo** has been appointed to be the Secretary of the Coordinating Minister for People's Welfare. Mr Gellwyn Yusuf will be acting as the Chairman of the

Agency for Marine and Fisheries Research (AMFR).

- **Dr Ketut Sugama** was appointed the Director of Seed Farming at the Directorate General of Aquaculture.
- **Dr Endhay Kusnendar** was appointed the Director of the Research Centre of Aquaculture at the Agency of Marine and Fisheries Research.

## Upcoming Event

### Policy Advisory Council meeting (September 2008)

The upcoming Policy Advisory Council Meeting for ACIAR will be held from 1 to 6 September 2008. Dr Haryono, Secretary of the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development (IAARD), will represent Indonesia this year. In his observer status, Dr Haryono will still have the opportunity to participate fully during the meeting.

A number of meetings and activities have been lined up. The PAC members and representatives will have the opportunity to attend the Crawford Fund Annual Conference as well as visiting research facilities and agricultural development in North Queensland (Cairns).