

A NEW LOOK FOR PARTNERS MAGAZINE

Welcome to a new-look *Partners in Research for Development* magazine, a combination of the best of the old-style *Partners* and our Corporate Newsletter.

As always, *Partners* will report on ACIAR activities, with an increased focus on the people who help us achieve our goals and those who benefit from better policies, increased productivity and more sustainable agriculture.

Agricultural research for development has a critical role to play in helping feed the nearly 800 million chronically undernourished people worldwide.

In our own Asia-Pacific region, the focus of the majority of ACIAR's activities, 1.8 billion people live in rural areas. For many of these people even a small improvement in agricultural productivity can translate to large improvements in their livelihood.

This is the challenge for ACIAR and our partners, to deliver agricultural research that makes a difference.

Partners reports on just a small number of our projects that are meeting these challenges throughout the region, such as a partnership with World Vision to deliver research benefits to farmers in several countries.

Each edition will also spotlight activities in a country or region, and present stories grouped thematically around specific agricultural issues. This edition highlights our program in Vietnam, and work under the themes of improving cropping productivity, including in East Timor and Afghanistan, and agricultural simulation modelling, where ACIAR-supported research has delivered benefits overseas and to Australia.

Peter Core
Director, ACIAR

PARTNERS IN RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT

Partners in Research for Development

presents articles that summarise results from ACIAR-sponsored research projects, and puts ACIAR research initiatives into perspective. Technical enquiries will be passed on to the appropriate researchers for reply. Reprinting of articles, either whole or in part, is welcomed provided that the source is acknowledged. This publication is freely available from ACIAR's website at www.aciar.gov.au. It is also freely available on request from ACIAR. The use of any trade names does not constitute any endorsement of, or discrimination against, any product by ACIAR.

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Cover Photo: East Timor turns its face to the future. Photo: **Brad Collis**



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