

Policy drivers for public private partnerships in pacific organics: improving extension policy through an evidence-based approach



Key details

Location

Fiji, Vanuatu

Duration

Start Aug 2020

End Feb 2021

Budget

AUD 139,335

Commissioned organisation

University of the Sunshine Coast

Partners

Pacific Community (SPC) Fiji; C-King Community Consultancy, Australia; University of Adelaide, Australia

Project Leader

Dr Christine Jacobson, University of the Sunshine Coast

Program

Agribusiness

Project code

ADP/2018/131

value by 345% (2000-2014), with demand outstripping supply by up to 40% for some produce types. Fiji and Vanuatu have since embarked on organic policy development, with significant growth potential, for example from the recent lifting of restrictions such as Australia's previous restriction on ginger imports.

However, only 2.8% of land in Pacific Islands is under organic production. There is therefore significant potential for future market development in this region. The project will focus on high value established markets of coffee, ginger, cocoa and coconut producers in Fiji and Vanuatu.

The project employed an overarching participatory action research methodology consisting of planning (design), action (implementation), observations (monitor), and reflection (evaluate and adapt).

Project outcomes

- Reviewing current policies and programs, and policy drivers, that influence partnership approaches for extension in the organics sector.
- Conducting evidence-based case studies to understand policy drivers for effective public-private partnerships in the organic sector.
- Validating findings for relevance to other sectors, markets and supply chains.

Overview

This project aimed to understand how government and non-government actors can best work together to deliver public-private partnerships in extension so the organic sector can capitalize on export demand.

Globally, commercial organics increased in production