



Capacity Building
Digital Financial Literacy and AgriTech Training for East Sepik
04-05 August 2021, Wewak



BACKGROUND

East and West Sepik are largely agriculture-based provinces. However lack of access to credible and timely information is one of the setbacks of agricultural advancement in the region. Farmers and agripreneurs require new and improved knowledge and skills so as to better address critical challenges such as pest and disease control, access to quality planting materials, poor access to finance and markets, appropriate technologies and the impact of climate change; in the face of declining extension services, as well as poor resourcing and geographical remoteness. However interventions by the new EU STREIT PNG Programme aim to achieve sustainable and inclusive economic development of rural areas in the region through value chain development with the primary focus on cocoa, vanilla and fisheries. The programme is integrated with a number of enablers, including information and communication technologies (ICT) and financial inclusion.

ICTs offer huge opportunities for enhanced agricultural innovation for food security, income and economic growth. The emerging ICT developments such as widespread mobile adoption and increasing use of broadband internet will address some of the agriculture setbacks in this information age. These include improved access and use of digital financial solutions to support communities for improved financial transactions and savings. Digital agriculture or E-agriculture is therefore strongly perceived under the EU STREIT framework as a key mechanism for enhanced agriculture production, entrepreneurship and improved livelihood in the Sepiks.

In this connection, EU STREIT PNG partners under E-agriculture and Financial Inclusion will conduct the first round of capacity development for agriculture stakeholders in East Sepik. This “Digital Financial Literacy and AgriTech Training” is aimed at strengthening the capacities of selected stakeholders including government officials, small agri-businesses, NGOs, trainers and lead farmers as future Trainers or “coaches”. The East Sepik training will be conducted in Wewak during August 04-05, 2021, and will be delivered jointly by the International Telecommunication Union, Digital Transformation Centre (PNG University of Technology), Food and Agriculture Organisation, Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development (APCICT/ESCAP), United Nations Capital Development Fund, PNG Digital ICT Cluster, National Information and Communications Technology Authority and East Sepik Provincial Administration.

OBJECTIVES

Enhanced capacity development of local farmers and Micro, Small and Medium Size Entreprises (MSMEs) on the use of relevant ICT applications to improve agriculture productivity, financial services and marketing of their produce in a cost-effective, efficient and sustainable manner.

The Specific objectives of the training are to:

- Increase understanding and appreciate the enabling role of digital technologies, the gaps and barriers that constrain farmers and MSMEs from using ICTs in their agri-businesses, and how to overcome them using relevant and available tools, processes and systems;
- Deepen understanding of how ICTs can accelerate farmers economic empowerment and, more specifically, help address the challenges that agri-preneurs face, increase knowledge of the various opportunities that digital technologies can offer in catalyzing farm entrepreneurship; and
- Develop and expand the pool of resource persons, especially youths, who can support ICT capacity development of farmers and MSMEs for sustainable digital agriculture in the province.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

By the end of the training, the participants should to be able to:

- grasp a better overview of how ICTs can support and enhance efficiency in the agriculture eco-system including e-marketing,
- understand better on how to develop and manage simple and user-friendly platforms,
- know how to deploy relevant ICTs in capturing relevant data, sharing information and engaging in online marketing,
- facilitate financial transactions and access suitable financial products using ICTs, and
- become champions/coaches of digital agriculture and enhance knowledge transfer in the communities.

FACILITATORS

PNG-DTC, ITU, UNCDF, FAO, NICTA, GC-Connect Asia-Pacific, PDAL and PNG ICT Digital Cluster

MODALITY

This will be a hybrid training, incorporating a mix of physical and virtual modes of delivery by resource personnel. The training will consist of presentations and interactive sessions. The participants will be engaged in hands-on exercises.

PARTICIPANTS

The training will be attended by representative from provincial administration, district administrations, agri-based SMEs, NGOs, women and youth enterprices/associations, civil service training organizations, farmer groups and lead farmers.

SELECTION

Participants will be identified and selected by PDAL, East Sepik Provincial Administration, GMTWG, PNG ICT Cluster. Between 25-30 participants will be trained.

REQUIREMENTS

Participants will be expected to bring along their own laptops and smart phones. They will also arrange their own transportation to the venue. Everyone at the workshop is required to observe COVID-19 measures recommended by health authorities, including face masking and social distancing.

VENUE

Sepik Center of Hope, Conference Room, Wewak

CERTIFICATE

A certificate of completion can be issued to participants after undertaking an evaluation during the training.

CONTACTS

- Coordinator, Mr Seniorl Anzu, ITU-STREIT Wewak, email: senanzu@gmail.com Mobile: 72320854 / 78306689
- FAO Rep
- UNCDF Rep
- East Sepik Provincial Administration Rep

Program (Tentative)

Time	Agenda	Facilitator
DAY 1: Wednesday – 04/08/21		
08:30-9:00	Registration	FAO/ITU
	Introduction/Moderating by ITU	
	Welcome Statement by PDAL	PDAL Director
	Context and Statement on STREIT Project	FAO Rep
	Statement by UNCDF	UNCDF Rep
	Statement PNG ICT Cluster	ICT Cluster Rep
	Statement by PNG-DTC	PNG-DTC Rep
	Statement by NICTA	NICTA Rep
	Statement by APCICT	APCICT Director
	Statement by ITU	ITU Rep
	Opening Statement	Provincial Administrator
09:45-10:00	Photo/coffee break	
10:00-11:00	Overview on ICT Application: - ICT and Development	ITU
11:00-12:00	- ICT for Business Development - Digital Financial Literacy (online lecture)	APCICT / Unitech
12:00-13:00	Lunch break	
13:00-15:00	ICT for Business Development (online lecture)	APCICT / Unitech
15:00-15:15	Coffee/Tea Break	
15:15-17:00	ICT for Business Development (hand-on session)	APCICT / Unitech
DAY 2: Thursday – 05/08/21		
08:30-09:30	- ICT development landscape in PNG - Connectivity and broadband- access and use	NICTA
09:30-10:30	- Empowerment of women and youth entrepreneurship using ICT	FAO
10:30-10:45	Coffee/Tea Break	
10:45-12:00	- Agritech in PNG context: Situation today and practical applications in PNG context	ITU
12:00-13:00	Lunch break	
13:00-14:00	- Smart Phones for e-marketing of agri-products and story-telling (international youth stories)	ITU Youth Group
14:00-15:00	- Online marketing opportunities in PNG	PNG Digital ICT Cluster
15:00-15:20	Coffee/Tea Break	
15:20-16:45	- Generating QR codes - Photography using smart phones - Web 2.0, Applications and Social Media marketing for agriculture in East Sepik	PNG Digital ICT Cluster
16:45-17:00	- Evaluation	Unitech/ITU