

TACKLE RURAL POVERTY & EMPOWER WOMEN

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

HELP FARMERS GENERATE A DECENT INCOME



THE CHALLENGE

Papua New Guinea (PNG) is a fragile state in the midst of a major natural resources boom and bust cycle. It is the largest, most populated country in the Pacific with 36% of its 7.5 million people living below the poverty line.

Amongst the country's towering mountains, deep valleys and tropical forests lie a multitude of communities all with their own languages, cultures and histories.

Rural PNG is home to 80% of the population live in rural areas where families have seen few benefits from the country's thriving gas and oil industry due to corruption across political, legal and state institutions.

These forces combined with challenging physical geography and poor infrastructure, such as roading, have stunted economic development in these areas.

This makes it hard for locals to sustainably engage in anything more than subsistence farming as transporting their crops to the larger, lucrative markets in the cities is unaffordable.

Unsurprisingly, income inequality in PNG is the highest in the Asia Pacific region and growth-fuelled inflation is causing further imbalances, as once affordable basic items are now out of reach for rural farmers.

THE PROGRAMME

Oxfam's HARVEST programme works with local partners to improve the income and lives of over 11,400 people so they can send their kids to school, access decent healthcare and reliably put nutritious food on the table.

To do this, we're helping farming families boost the quality and quantity of their vegetable yields by improving planting and pest-control techniques, so they can shift from subsistence to market-oriented farming. With market knowledge and your support, these farmers can then access larger, more profitable markets.

We're also partnering with two local honey businesses to train and support beekeepers. On-site experts provide and replenish low-cost supplies, create market connections, and give advice through the 'Honey Hotline.' So far, this has doubled the incomes of many families.

As their incomes grow, we help women and develop financial management skills to jointly plan, budget, and save for their financial goals. To improve the security of their savings, we then link them with community-savings providers.

YOUR SUPPORT WILL

- Help farmers to grow, harvest, process and market their crops to attain a better income.
- Equip families with harvesting and preservation skills so they can grow nutritious foods to sustain their families.
- Support women and men to work together with their families to set and achieve financial goals.
- Increase the skills and knowledge of local beekeepers and vegetable farmers to maximise their yields.
- Empower women by ensuring they have an equal say in their families' financial decisions and can access financial services without threats to their safety.
- Help over 2,000 families live happier and healthier lives.



OXFAM
New Zealand

PROJECT TIMELINE

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

HOW CAN I HELP?

\$30

Can train a husband & wife to set financial goals, budget and save together for their family's future

\$50

Can provide a year of support visits for a beekeeper

TOTAL FUNDING NEEDED: \$699,000

Discover more at oxfam.org.nz/papua-new-guinea