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**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**



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Word from Gavin Wall



FAO supports countries and partners to prepare for and respond to food and agricultural threats and emergencies.

In this edition we highlight the efforts of around 1000 women market vendors recovering four months after Tropical Cyclone Winston struck Fiji. We share the story of Namu Robby from Vanuatu who is still rebuilding from TC Pam 16 months on. We cover the launching of a Biodiversity Teaching Kit aimed at primary school students in Niue, and see how Fiji is embracing E-Agriculture Development Strategy.

Enjoy the read

Mr. Gavin Wall

FAO Sub-Regional Coordinator for the Pacific Islands

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Helping market vendors get back on their feet

Around 1,000 women market vendors - farmers who were adversely affected by Tropical Cyclone Winston have received agriculture supplies that will help in their efforts to replant their crops. The produce will eventually be sold to market.

For market vendor-farmer Adi Menani Tabua from Naqoro Village the supplies could not have come at a better time.



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Niue Biodiversity Teaching Kit for primary school students

Primary school students in Niue will soon be learning the biodiversity which exists in their island country. FAO has partnered with Landcare Research NZ to produce the biodiversity teaching kit for the primary schools of Niue.

“This is one of the core results of creating awareness for biodiversity conservation among the people of Niue”, said Rudolf Hahn, Chief Technical Officer for FAO’s Forest Protection and Management Project.



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Namu Robby – Building resilience after natural disasters

Namu Robby lives with his family in the Anabrou settlement area of Port Vila. His family has a small business, making furniture out of local timber, with a few family members working in town.

Tropical Cyclone Pam struck Vanuatu on March 13 2015, causing widespread damage and destruction throughout the country. Namua was one of many affected.



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Students foster positive attitude to agriculture

Students studying agriculture at Leififi College in Apia, Samoa have embraced their subject as a possible future pathway. “The students look forward to these classes”, said Leififi College principle, Malae Sefuiva Lauano. “ We have vocational subjects at Leififi college like arts, woodwork, and agriculture”.



The competition provided an opportunity for the students to showcase projects and to provide an incentive to continue with agriculture in their studies and possibly as a career.

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Fiji Embarcing E-Agriculture Development Strategy

Fiji is among the few countries in the world that is developing its national E-agriculture Strategy with technical assistance from FAO and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).



The Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development and National Disaster Management, Inia Seruiratu, while opening the Stakeholders meeting in developing Fiji's first E-agriculture strategy yesterday said there are many challenges that impede deployment of appropriate Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) for agriculture development on a large scale.

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