



Aid through trade...since 1977

Tradewinds newsletter

Tradewinds supporting training and job creation in East Timor

We are delighted to give you an update on some of the projects we are involved in in East Timor. These projects support more jobs in East Timor by developing the local capacity to add value to coffee. Value adding increases the amount of money that stays in the country by three fold—and importantly it creates jobs and an industry in a country with high unemployment and little infrastructure.

In this issue you can read about:

- First graduates of the East Timor Coffee Academy (ETICA) - and they all have jobs!
- Tradewinds supports propagation of 40,000 new plants by funding shadehouses—with 120,000 to come next year.

First coffee graduates in East Timor

Tradewinds, The Coffee Cooperative Timor and Southern Cross University are playing a leading role in many exciting projects supporting the fledgling East Timor agro-forestry industry. 'We are especially proud that the East Timor Coffee Academy (ETICA) have had their first group of graduates receiving their diplomas in January this year, a ceremony Tradewinds Director Michael Finnane and I were proud to attend,' says new Tradewinds Director Dr David Lloyd, who has recently returned from a visit to East Timor.



Graduands await their graduation at the East Timor Coffee Academy, Gleno, Ermera District, East Timor.

June 2009

About Tradewinds

Tradewinds sells high quality fair trade and mostly organic coffee and tea from producer cooperatives and ethical suppliers in Sri Lanka, East Timor and PNG.

The organisation imports mostly fully processed products that are packed in the country where they are grown (they are value added products). This delivers greater benefits to the producers and other workers in the countries where they are grown.

Tradewinds gives all surplus profits back to community projects in producer communities. Tradewinds supports producer communities to develop their capacity to process and pack their products so they can make a higher return.

Tradewinds Coffee and Tea Pty Ltd was the first supplier of FAIR TRADE COFFEE AND TEA in Australia. As a leader in fair trade, Tradewinds would like to see the fair trade certification expanded to include value adding.

You can find out more about us and our products by visiting our website:

www.tradewinds.org.au

‘At present there are 11 tertiary institutes in East Timor. Until recently, ETICA ranked number 11. Over the last year the Ministry of Education has been undertaking a process of national and international accreditation to raise the standards of the sector. We have recently heard that, as a result of the work undertaken by Southern Cross University staff with support from Tradewinds, ETICA is one of only four organisations to receive accreditation and is now ranked number two. This is a great result and means that the first 49 graduates coming out this year will have an internationally recognised diploma and the best news is they all found jobs based on the skills acquired in the course.’

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The assembled ETICA graduates 2009

New plantings possible with Tradewinds support

The teaching program has included looking at many aspects of agro-forestry, agriculture, soil and wood science, bamboo propagation, planting and managing plantation timbers, environmental mapping, computer and teaching training, entomology and pathology, and, of course, coffee production - from selecting a site and testing the soil, to roasting and marketing the beans and managing diseases and pests. SCU is also working with “permaculture” specialists to improve ETICA’s agricultural program.

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What is the East Timor Coffee Academy?

The East Timor Coffee Academy (ETICA) was established in the Township of Gleno, in the Ermera district of East Timor. The region was one of the hardest hit by the Indonesian withdrawal and the college was set up to improve capacity of the local community to become self sufficient and increase incomes from a variety of cash crops (initially coffee but now vegetables, vanilla and fruit). The 400 students study a variety of subjects related to agriculture and forestry and receive internationally recognised diplomas in Agriculture, Forestry or agricultural business. In 2006 ten members of the forestry staff attended Southern Cross University to work with SCU staff to develop the forestry curriculum, with an emphasis on sustainable forestry. Currently Rosemary Morrow, author of the earth Users guide to Permaculture, is at ETICA helping to redevelop the agriculture curriculum with a permaculture focus.



New Tradewinds Board member David Lloyd looks at fresh coffee beans with Lucio Gomes, Director of East Timor Coffee Academy. (ETICA).

A corner stone is the shade house **developed with funding support from Tradewinds (and their friends)** to supply the water during the dry so seedlings can be distributed in the wet (the reverse of what occurred previously). This year over 40,000 plants were propagated and distributed and next year, with the expansion of the shade houses, over 120,000. 'The shade house is built from bamboo we taught the staff to propagate three years ago and we also use palm fronds on the roof for shade', David says. 'This is in order to use locally produced materials which can be sustainably produced. Also supported by Tradewinds and its friends we have relined the bore and installed an initial electric pump to water the plants during the dry season.'



SCU Chancellor John Dowd AO, QC and Dr David Lloyd officiate at the ETICA graduation.

Currently David is working with Tradewinds and People for Fair trade to organize further value adding of the East Timorese coffee crop in rural areas with high unemployment. 'This will increase the value of that coffee to the East Timorese community three fold as well as putting cash into the pockets of the countries most financially disadvantaged', says David.

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Please forward to friends or family who may be interested in our work.

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Tradewinds welcomes David Lloyd

Dr David Lloyd has recently joined the Board of Tradewinds after several years of collaboration with Tradewinds through his role as coordinator of the University of Southern Cross's East Timor Projects.

David is Senior lecturer in Protected Area Management, Cultural Heritage, Resource Assessment techniques and Coastal Management at Southern Cross University, NSW.

He has many years of research and experience working on capacity building and community development projects in Australia and throughout the Pacific, particularly in relation to natural heritage management. He is also a long term supporter of the Hope Orphanage in Gleno, East Timor. We are delighted to have him join us.