

Development of durable engineered wood products in Papua New Guinea and Australia



Key details

Location

Papua New Guinea

Duration

Start Jul 2015

End Sep 2019

Budget

AUD 1,058,882

Commissioned organisation

Department of Agriculture and Fisheries,
Queensland

Partners

Engineered Wood Products Association of Australasia; Environmental Futures Research Institute; Griffith University; Pacific Island Projects; Papua New Guinea Forest Authority; PNG Forest Industries Association; Pro and Associates Aust Pty.Ltd; SEE4D

Project Leader

Tony Dakin, Queensland Dept of Agriculture & Fisheries

ACIAR Research Program Manager

Dr Nora Devoe

Program

Forestry

Project code

FST/2014/065

Overview

This project contributed to social and economic benefits in Papua New Guinea (PNG) through new and improved engineered wood product (EWP) technologies.

PNG has abundant forest resources. Harvesting from these forests and subsequent processing activities generate significant value to landowners, communities and local economies.

EWPs offer a significant opportunity in PNG and Australia. Working directly with private sector businesses to accelerate the development of novel EWPs has greatly improved the capacity, skills and knowledge within the industry, and tapped into potential markets.

Traditionally the PNG forestry industry has been a major log exporter to markets in Japan, Korea and China. Recent government policies are encouraging the development of processing and manufacturing to create more value in-country and realise the associated benefits.

Project outcomes

- Designed, manufactured and exhibited prototype school furniture and prepared engineering designs for a demonstration 'solar carpark'.
- Produced several innovative products including: fire retardant plywood for wall paneling; floor panels for rail carriages; lightweight construction panels; beams, components and mouldings.
- Developed products from waste and residues such as shavings, sawdust and offcuts.
- Developed a practical application to estimate log volume.



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