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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH: Pacific Community / Communauté du Pacifique, SPREP, IUCN

Reforestation and restoration of natural plants habitat in Papua New Guinea

Project coordinator : KUP Reforestation

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD

August 2025 – March 2027

AMOUNT OF FUNDING

€ 40,000

The site of the project is known for its grassland and a few remaining forests that are affected by Climate change, bushfires, and human activities, which have significantly reduced the region's forest cover, ultimately impacting water sources, soil quality, and biodiversity.
Led by KUP Reforestation, **the project focuses on conserving the remaining 2,000 hectares of forest and restoring 150 hectares of degraded land**. It aims to mitigate these effects by preserving remaining forests, reforesting degraded areas, and addressing human-induced threats such as small-scale logging, land clearing for agriculture, and excessive harvesting of trees for building materials.

Specific objectives:

- To establish a central nursery hub that can **produce and supply 80,000 tree seedlings** of diverse native species (gum trees, coffee, casuarina...).
- To **restore 150 hectares of degraded habitat** by planting 80,000 native trees and shrubs.
- To conserve and preserve 2,000 hectares of remaining community forest biodiversity and ecosystem, and enhance the remaining forest in Kup Local Level Government (LLG).
- To conduct a hands-on nursery training workshop for 20 community members to enhance their Knowledge and skills in plant propagation and nursery management for one week training.

Theme

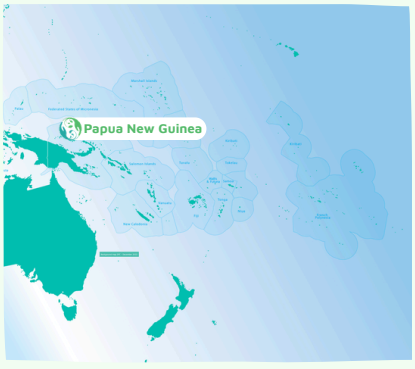
Terrestrial Ecosystem Management and Restoration

Main co-benefits, in addition to climate change adaptation

- Biodiversity conservation
- Human health
- Food security
- Water resource availability and quality

Kup Reforestation Community group members, Gurumugl Village, Kup LLG, Kerowagi District, Simbu Province, PNG - J. BIRI KAI © Kiwa Initiative – 2024

Subregion: ■ Melanesia/Timor-Leste ☐ Micronesia ☐ Polynesia



Papua New Guinea

The project is implemented in the Kup Local-level Government of Papua New Guinea, located in the Kerowagi District, Bismarck Range Corridor in the Simbu Province of the Highlands Region.

- **Direct beneficiaries**:
  - The project reaches 6,000 beneficiaries and focuses on enhancing ecosystem services within the Kup LLG community, while focusing on the inclusion of women and youth.
- **Indirect beneficiaries**:
  - 10,000 individuals compose the total population neighboring border communities in Jiwaka Province and South Anglimp District.

Key results till date:
The project involves a range of integrated activities aimed at restoring and conserving forest ecosystems in the Kup LLG area.

Nursey management training

- The team successfully conducted a week-long formal nursery training with 33 individuals gaining skills and certificates in plant propagation and nursey management methods. These participants are now raising a number of seedlings to assist in the reforestation and restoration activities of the project. So far, 6523 seedlings have been transported in the main nursery hub for distribution and planting.

Establishment of a central nursey hub

- A central nursery hub with a capacity to host up to 50,000 seedlings was established to promote habitat restoration and biodiversity conservation. The training centre established facilitates sessions and gathering of members for project activities, meetings and discussions.

Tree seedlings raised and propagated

- Successful propagation of 56,582 tree seedlings and distribution of mature seedings for planting. 1,036 seedings of 4 native plant species nurtured and awaiting maturity for distribution and planting.

Reforestation and restoration activities

- Successful restoration of degraded habitat with 41,342 seedlings with 25 hectares achieved through project activities and community volunteers. An increase in stewardship noted as community members request to participate in activities to restore their degraded land.

Nature-based Solutions implemented and how they benefit to communities
The project offers a range of long-term societal benefits for the target population. It improves human health through cleaner air and access to medicinal plants, and enhances water security by regulating water cycles and maintaining river flow during dry seasons. The project also supports food security by increasing soil fertility, supporting pollinators, and providing edible and traditional medicinal resources. It boosts livelihoods through sustainable income opportunities such as agroforestry while promoting cultural and spiritual values tied to traditional knowledge and sacred landscapes.

DATA UNDER IUCN-ORO VALIDATION

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