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Date: 14 June 2024

**Program Activity Report: Training on Diversification of Coconut Product
Processing for Countries in the Caribbean Region,
20th of May to 5th of June 2024**

List of the Instructors from ATI Padang:

1. Dr. Ester Edwar, M.Pd
2. Dr. Beni Satria, MP
3. Dr. Maryam, S.TP, MP
4. Dr. Sri Elfina, M.Si
5. Irna Ekawati, S.Si, MT
6. Firdaus Jamsan, MT
7. Zulhamidi, MT
8. Rudianto, MT
9. Dedy Rahmad, M.Sc
10. Dwimaryam Suciati, M.Sc
11. Wahyu Fitrianda Mufti, MT
12. Rosalina, MT
13. Demi Ramadian, MT
14. Verra Syahmer, MT
15. Miftahul Khairati, M.Sc
16. Melysa Putri, M.Si
17. Eko Supriadi, MT
18. Abdul Hafiizh

List of Countries (Alphabetically Sorted):

No	Country	Number of Participant(s)
1	Bahamas	2
2	Barbados	2
3	Cuba	2
4	Grenada	1
5	Guyana	2
6	St. Kitts and Nevis	2
7	St. Lucia	2
8	St. Vincent and the Granadines	2
9	Suriname	2
10	CARDI	2
	Total	19

Agenda

Monday, May 20, 2024

TIME***PROGRAM***

12:00 am Participant arrival at hotel (airport transfer will be organized)

1:00 pm Welcome Reception:

Informal welcome by Head of BPSDMI

3:00 pm Participants and BPSDMI team depart for Padang

7:00-9:00 pm Welcome Dinner

9:00 pm Participants' return to hotel

9:15 pm Participants arrival at Mercure Hotel Padang

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

TIME***PROGRAM***

7:00-8:00 am Breakfast

11:30-12:15 pm Lunch

12:30 am-1:00 pm Participants depart for Politeknik ATI Padang

1:00-1:30 pm Opening Ceremony

<i>1:30-3:10 pm</i>	Pre-test
	Introduction of participants and instructors
<i>3:10 pm</i>	Participants' return to hotel
<i>7:00-8:00 pm</i>	Dinner

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

TIME	PROGRAM
<i>7:00-8:00 am</i>	Breakfast
<i>8:30-10:10 am</i>	Training topics: Agronomy
<i>10:10-11:50 am</i>	Training topics: Introduction to Coconut Product Diversification
<i>11:50 am-1:00 pm</i>	Lunch
<i>1:00-4:20 pm</i>	Training Topics: Production Planning and Inventory Control
<i>7:00-8:00 pm</i>	Dinner

Thursday, May 23, 2024

TIME	PROGRAM
<i>7:00-8:00 am</i>	Breakfast
<i>8:30-11:50 am</i>	Industrial Bazar Visit at Ceremony of "Dies Natalis" Politeknik ATI Padang
<i>11:50- 1:00 pm</i>	Lunch
<i>1:00-3:10 pm</i>	Training topic: Theory of VCO Production Process
<i>3:10 pm</i>	Participants' return to hotel
<i>7:00-8:00 pm</i>	Dinner

Friday, May 24, 2024

TIME	PROGRAM
<i>7:00-8:00 am</i>	Breakfast
<i>8:00-8:30 am</i>	Participants depart for Politeknik ATI Padang
<i>8:30-10:10 am</i>	Training topic:

	Theory of Coconut Oil Production Process
<i>10:10-11:50 am</i>	Training topic: Theory of Nata de coco Production Process
<i>11:50 am-1:00 pm</i>	Lunch
<i>1:00-4:20 pm</i>	Training topic: Occupational Health and Safety
<i>4:20 pm</i>	Participants' return to hotel
<i>7:00-8:00 pm</i>	Dinner
Saturday, May 25, 2024	
TIME	PROGRAM
<i>7:00-8:00 am</i>	Breakfast
<i>8:00-8:30 am</i>	Participants depart for Politeknik ATI Padang
<i>8:30-11:50 am</i>	Training topic: Quality Control and Food Safety
<i>11:50 am-1:00 pm</i>	Lunch
<i>1:00-4:20 pm</i>	Training topic: Pre-treatment of coconut milk
<i>4:20 pm</i>	Participants' return to hotel
<i>7:00-8:00 pm</i>	Dinner
Sunday, May 26, 2024	
TIME	PROGRAM
<i>7:00-8:00 am</i>	Breakfast
<i>8:00-8:30 am</i>	Participants depart for Politeknik ATI Padang
<i>8:30-11:50 am</i>	Training topic: Production of Virgin Coconut Oil
<i>11:50 am-1:00 pm</i>	Lunch
<i>1:00-4:20 pm</i>	Training topic: Production of Coconut Oil
<i>4:20 pm</i>	Participants' return to hotel
<i>7:00-8:00 pm</i>	Dinner

Monday, May 27, 2024

TIME	PROGRAM
<i>7:00-8:00 am</i>	Breakfast
<i>8:00-8:30 am</i>	Participants depart for Politeknik ATI Padang
<i>8:30-11:50 am</i>	Training topic: Production of Nata decoco
<i>11:50 am-1:00 pm</i>	Lunch
<i>1:00-4:20 pm</i>	Labelling and Packaging
<i>4:20 pm</i>	Participants' return to hotel
<i>7:00-8:00 pm</i>	Dinner

Tuesday, May 28, 2024

TIME	PROGRAM
<i>7:00-8:00 am</i>	Breakfast
<i>8:00-8:30 am</i>	Participants depart for Politeknik ATI Padang
<i>8:30 am-4:20 pm</i>	Practice of Designing Labels with Application
<i>4:20 pm</i>	Participants' return to hotel
<i>7:00-8:00 pm</i>	Dinner

Wednesday, May 29, 2024

TIME	PROGRAM
<i>7:00-8:00 am</i>	Breakfast
<i>8:00-8:30 am</i>	Participants depart for Politeknik ATI Padang
<i>8:30-4:20 am</i>	Culture visit to coconut-producing regency
<i>4:20 pm</i>	Participants' return to hotel
<i>7:00-8:00 pm</i>	Dinner

Thursday, May 30, 2024

TIME	PROGRAM
<i>7:00-8:00 am</i>	Breakfast
<i>8:00-8:30 am</i>	Participants depart for Politeknik ATI Padang
<i>8:30-04:20 am</i>	Visit to SMEs producing coconut product
<i>04:20 pm</i>	Participants' return to hotel

7:00-8:00 pm Dinner

Friday, May 31, 2024

TIME

PROGRAM

7:00-8:00 am Breakfast

8:00-8:30 am Participants depart for Politeknik ATI Padang

8:30-04:20 am Business Plan (Part 1)

04:20 pm Participants' return to hotel

7:00-8:00 pm Dinner

Saturday, June 1, 2024

TIME

PROGRAM

7:00-8:00 am Breakfast

8:00-8:30 am Participants depart for Politeknik ATI Padang

8:30-04:20 am Business Plan (Part 2)

04:20 pm Participants' return to hotel

7:00-8:00 pm Dinner

Sunday, June 2, 2024

TIME

PROGRAM

7:00-8:00 am Breakfast

8:00-8:30 am Participants depart for Politeknik ATI Padang

8:30-04:20 am Visit to coconut-based Indonesian food manufacturer

04:20 pm Participants' return to hotel

7:00-8:00 pm Dinner

Monday, June 3, 2024

TIME

PROGRAM

7:00-8:00 am Breakfast

8:00-8:30 am Participants depart for Politeknik ATI Padang

8:30-11:50 am Focus Group Discussion: Feasibility Study
Development of Coconut Processing Industry

11:50 am-1:00 pm Lunch

1:00-4:20 pm Post-test and Follow-up of training

04:20 pm Participants' return to hotel

7:00-8:00 pm Dinner

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

TIME

PROGRAM

7:00-8:00 am Breakfast

8:00-8:30 am Participants depart for Politeknik ATI Padang

8:30-11:50 am Farewell ceremony and handing out certificates

11:50-1:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm Participants' return to hotel

7:00-8:00 pm Dinner

Wednesday, June 5, 2024

TIME

PROGRAM

7:00-8:00 am Breakfast

8:30 am Participant homecoming

Training on Diversification of Coconut Product Processing for Countries in the Caribbean Region,

20th of May to 5th of June 2024

Background

Indonesia's role in international relations is closely tied to its foreign policy, which can be defined as the policies, positions, and actions of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia in fostering international cooperation with other nations. Indonesia engages in foreign cooperation with friendly countries as well as international organizations, including both Inter-Governmental Organizations (IGOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

International cooperation is of paramount importance, as it has a significant positive impact on various aspects of life in the participating countries. In the economic sector, such cooperation facilitates cross-border trade and investment, fostering economic growth, job creation, and improved living standards. It also enables countries to access resources that may not be available domestically, including natural resources, technology, and human resource development. Ultimately, international cooperation plays a vital role in addressing global challenges such as climate change, disease outbreaks, illegal trade, food security, and other pressing issues.

From a geopolitical perspective, Indonesia has maintained close relations with countries in the Caribbean and Latin America for decades. However, economic cooperation between Indonesia and these regions remains suboptimal. Data indicate that Indonesia's trade volume accounts for only 0.4% of the total trade volume between the Caribbean-Latin America region and the rest of the world.

There is significant potential for Indonesia to enhance cooperation with Caribbean nations. The shared tropical climate offers mutual opportunities in the utilization of biological resources, one of which is the coconut.

Coconut is a vital commodity in tropical and coastal regions, including Indonesia and the Caribbean. Often referred to as the "tree of life," nearly every part of the coconut tree has economic value—from its leaves, trunk, and roots to its fruit.

The Indonesian Ministry of Industry has identified more than 20 coconut-derived products that contribute added value and economic benefits. These products include coconut-based food items (such as virgin coconut oil, desiccated coconut, and coconut milk), beverages, cosmetics, eco-friendly packaging, furniture, and industrial materials like activated carbon and geotextiles.

According to a report by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Caribbean countries contribute approximately 6% of the world's coconut production, amounting to 1.5 million tons annually. Meanwhile, Indonesia is the world's largest coconut producer, with an output exceeding 17 million tons in 2021. However, value-added processing of coconut products in the Caribbean remains underdeveloped, and many coconut farmers in the eastern Caribbean are smallholder farmers with limited processing capabilities.

In alignment with its commitment to accelerating the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Indonesia, as a leading global coconut producer, seeks to collaborate with Caribbean nations to enhance human resource capacity in coconut product diversification.

Through capacity-building initiatives, Indonesia aims to contribute to food security and the development of a robust and sustainable coconut industry in the Caribbean. Global demand for coconut-based products continues to grow, particularly in markets that prioritize sustainability and health-conscious standards. By strengthening human resource capacity, Caribbean countries will be better equipped to meet international standards for coconut-derived products, thereby unlocking access to global markets.

Additionally, with support from Indonesian expertise, coconut-based products will gain greater recognition across the Americas. Training in sustainable coconut processing will also help Caribbean communities adopt environmentally friendly practices, such as coconut waste recycling.

This initiative underscores Indonesia's commitment to fostering South-South cooperation and leveraging its expertise to support economic development in partner countries.

Objectives of the Activity

1. Providing Training on Coconut Product Processing.

Conduct knowledge and skills transfer to Caribbean communities on the production process of coconut-derived products, including:

- a. Training on Virgin Coconut Oil (VCO) production;

- b. Training on Coconut Oil production; and
 - c. Training on Nata de Coco production.
- 2. Supporting Business Development for Coconut-Based Products.

Provide additional training to support the development of coconut-based product businesses, covering:

 - a. Production planning;
 - b. Inventory management;
 - c. Quality control;
 - d. Product packaging and labelling; and
 - e. Techno-economic analysis and marketing strategies for coconut-derived products.
- 3. Introducing Indonesian-Made Processing Equipment.

Introduce coconut product processing machinery manufactured in Indonesia to enhance opportunities for exporting Indonesian-made equipment to the Caribbean region.

Evaluation

Based on evaluations conducted during and after the training—through observations, participant interviews, and questionnaire responses (Appendix 6)—it can be concluded that the training successfully met its intended objectives:

1. The training provided participants with knowledge and skills on the production process of coconut-derived products, specifically coconut oil, virgin coconut oil, and nata de coco, through both theoretical sessions and hands-on practice at the Teaching Factory.
2. Participants acquired fundamental knowledge and skills essential for developing the coconut processing industry, including coconut agronomy, product diversification, production planning and control, occupational health and safety, quality assurance, packaging and labelling, and business planning.
3. Through practical production exercises and factory visits conducted during the training, participants became familiar with various Indonesian-made production machines and equipment. Additionally, some participants made purchases of available agro-industrial products.

Follow-Up Actions

In addition to the outcomes, participants expressed the following follow-up expectations from the training:

1. Facilitation of coconut seedling procurement.
2. Provision of coconut processing machinery.
3. Collaboration for business mentoring and support.

Conclusion

The Capacity Building Training on Coconut Product Diversification for Caribbean Countries was successfully conducted with the active participation of 19 participants from 9 countries. Despite several challenges, such as delays in signing the grant agreement, rescheduling of the training, cancellation of the cultural visit, and health issues among participants, the program successfully achieved its primary objectives. Participants gained in-depth knowledge and practical skills in producing coconut-derived products such as Virgin Coconut Oil (VCO), coconut oil, and Nata de Coco.

Evaluation results indicated a significant improvement in participants' knowledge and skills, as reflected in the increased post-test scores compared to the pre-test. Practical sessions and field visits were highly appreciated, providing participants with valuable hands-on experience and inspiration to develop coconut-based enterprises in their respective countries. Additionally, supporting materials covering occupational health and safety, quality control and food safety, and business plan development helped participants understand key aspects of building a sustainable business.

Challenges encountered during the training, such as language barriers, were effectively addressed through good coordination and quick problem-solving by the organizing team. Regular monitoring and evaluation have been planned as follow-up actions to ensure the continued application of the knowledge and skills acquired by the participants.

Overall, this training program has had a significant positive impact, strengthening participants' capacity in coconut product diversification and creating new opportunities for the development of the coconut industry in the Caribbean region. With well-structured follow-up actions, participants are expected to apply their newly acquired knowledge and skills to improve community welfare and drive economic growth in their countries.

Recommendations

Given the enthusiasm of participants following the training, it is recommended to implement follow-up activities in the form of technical assistance for the development of Small and Medium Enterprise (SMEs) centers or Coconut Product Processing Business Incubators in recipient countries. Two countries should be selected as pilot projects for this initiative.

Additionally, opportunities for collaboration, such as the export of Indonesian-made processing equipment and coconut seedlings, should be explored, as several participants expressed interest in these areas.

Foto Kegiatan



