

## Rural Coastal Fisheries Development Project, Papua New Guinea



### Location

Papua New Guinea

### Client

National Fisheries Authority, Papua New Guinea

### Project Value

EUR€1.1 Million

### Start Date

October 2002

### Completion Date

September 2007

### Donor

European Commission

### Office Responsible

Cardno Agrisystems

### Responsibilities

Private Sector and Enterprise Development

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### Project Scope

The objective of the project is to improve the welfare of rural coastal populations through a greater participation in harvesting and marketing of their marine resources. The Project will contribute to a sustainable improvement in the social and economic welfare.

RCFDP is a departure from the traditional fisheries project and is offering an exciting and challenging alternative approach to development of the fisheries sector in PNG. The project is directing its support through the private sector and is providing 'access to success' for small-scale fishermen.

The project focuses on entrepreneurs based in the main towns who are already running successful businesses. Loans to fishermen are channelled through these companies, so-called Private Sector Partners (PSPs), who contract the fishermen and repay the project loans from sales of fish purchased from the fishing groups.

The project is promoting the creation

of fishermen's associations to help train its members and executives to understand the fishing industry and its markets including:

- Design, development and supply of the project fishing vessels, including 9.9 metre small tuna long-liners, 8.2 metre vertical drop-liners and a 6.2 metre inshore craft.
- Export development by linking small-scale fishermen to the global market through the PSPs.
- Participation by the PNG fishing industry at the European Seafood Exposition.
- Creation of partnerships between PNG fishing industry and European seafood importers resulting in export sales during the first three years of the project of some US\$18 million.
- Direct support of project beneficiaries through purchasing fish from fishermen or employment in fish processing plants.
- Project acting as a credit guarantor to communities who do not have access to capital.
- Help for communities with depleted resources to acquire resource management skills.