

Newsletter – July 2010

Since our last update, our partner organisation in Indonesia, Jalesa, has managed to recruit new staff. You will recall that last year we learned of the death of their director, Daniel Salubongga. This followed the death of one of their field officers in a motor cycle accident and the loss of two other staff members who married each other and then departed.

Fortunately they have re-built the organisation after the loss of so many key people. The new director is Eveready Lolo who has good grasp of English which makes it easier for us to communicate. We have used a consultant who knows Jalesa well and he has helped develop a new programme, again aimed at helping the farmers to produce better coffee yields and quality. We have again been awarded the subsidy available from NZ Aid where projects measure up to internationally accepted standards of project design and our funding of Jalesa is now underway again.

The project is costing about \$NZ46,000 annually. There is some input from Jalesa and the local farmers of around \$NZ3000. NZ Aid is providing \$35,000 leaving around \$NZ8000 to be funded by ourselves.

It would be very much appreciated if those of you who see value in helping these farmers could send a donation. Any donation will be gratefully received and we especially appreciate any gift of over \$100.

Thank you too for those of you who have supported our special appeal to provide coffee peeling machines. These are simple, strong machines, hand operated and cost only around \$150. By having sufficient of them, farmers are able to get their coffee peeled and dried promptly, thus assuring higher levels of quality. Rather than donating the machines outright and to ensure that those farmers who had been hiring their own machines to others were not undercut unfairly, we have asked the farmers to pay 50% of the cost with those funds then going back to fund the overall project.

We need to now visit Toraja and meet Eveready and his team. Graham Robertson will be travelling there in mid-October. This is outside the window when NZ farmers like to travel but if anyone would like to join this visit they will be very welcome.

We have previously mentioned the help we are getting from VECO, a big European NGO. They also fund Jalesa to do very similar work to that which we are supporting and have offered to monitor the project for us. Effective monitoring is vital to ensure the assistance is achieving worthwhile gains and having our project evaluated by an experienced team is important to us. We are also likely to have one joint project in future thus reducing compliance costs for all involved and we will be discussing this with VECO when we visit Indonesia in October..

Should you wish to contribute to the work of Toraja.co.nz, you may either:

1. Post directly into our bank account

Our account number is 01 1807 0146929 00

Our account name is Toraja Rural Development Charitable Trust.

**Please notify me of your donation by emailing [clarefreeth@xtra.co.nz](mailto:clarefreeth@xtra.co.nz) including your name, address and the amount donated.**

We will forward a receipt.

2. Pay by cheque

Please print off and return your cheque with the form below.

<b><u>Form for Donations to Toraja.co.nz</u></b>	
First Name_____	Last Name_____
Address_____	
_____	
Phone_____	Email_____
Cheque enclosed for \$_____ made payable to TRDCT.	
Tick here if you do not wish to be added to Toraja.co.nz's mailing list.	
<b>Please return this form to Clare Freeth, 17 Fechnes Road, RD 1, Ashburton 7771</b>	

Clare Freeth  
Administrator  
Tel: 03 3025656  
Email: [clarefreeth@xtra.co.nz](mailto:clarefreeth@xtra.co.nz)  
Address: 17 Fechnes Road, RD 1, Ashburton

On behalf of the Board of Toraja.co.nz