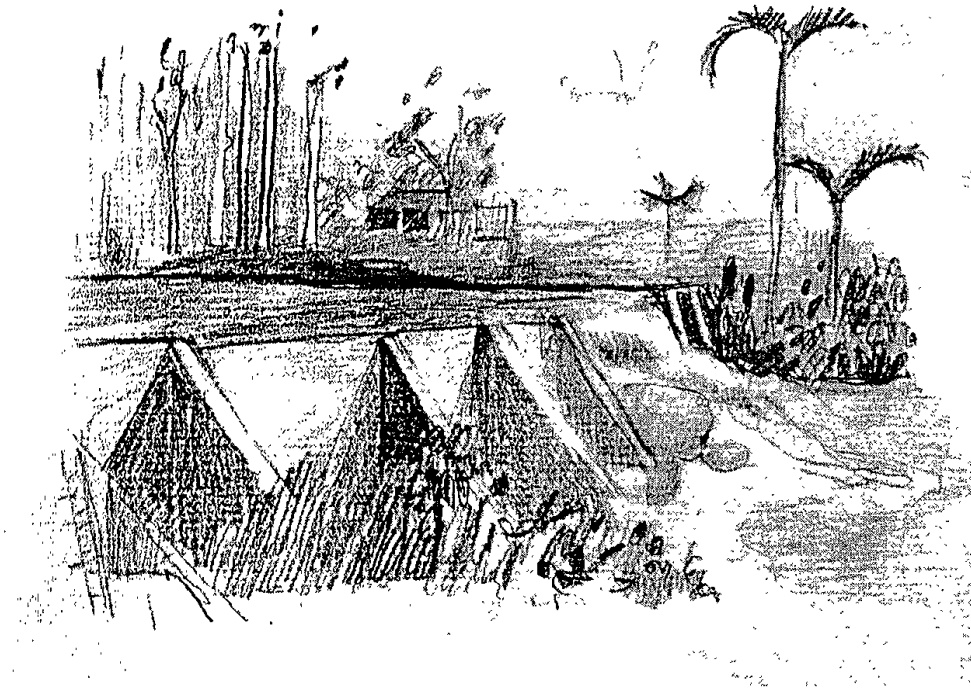


# apace newsletter

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Appropriate Technology  
for Community and Environment  
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Pictured above is the weir at Bulelavata Village in Solomon Islands.

The weir is used to divert some of the water from the stream into a pipe (penstock) which diverts the water into the turbine. After passing through the turbine the water is returned to the stream unpolluted. Bulelavata Village

has recently connected their electricity supply to Buleah High School, where the lights have now been turned on !

The system has a capacity of approximately 24 kilowatts, enough to power the whole village and school. (an individual house in Australia has a similar capacity)

**APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY FOR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT INC**  
Trading as APACE

**Audit Report to the Members**

**Scope**

I have audited the financial statements being a special purpose financial report comprising the Statement by Members of the Committee, Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet and notes to and forming part of the accounts for the year ended 30 June, 2001 of APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY FOR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT INC.

The committee is responsible for the financial statements and have determined that the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet the needs of the Associations Incorporation Act and the needs of the members. I have conducted an independent audit of these financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the members. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, and described in Note 1, are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial statements have been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial statements to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements. These policies do not required the application of all Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements (Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views).

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

**Audit opinion**

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the financial position of APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY FOR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT INC as at 30 June, 2001 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

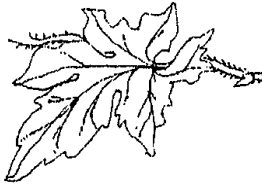
**MARY CHOATE CPA**  
**REGISTERED COMPANY AUDITOR**

signed Mary Choate

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12th November, 2001

Copies of the full audited reports may be obtained from the APACE office

# The Kastom Gaden Association in Solomon Islands by Tony Jansen

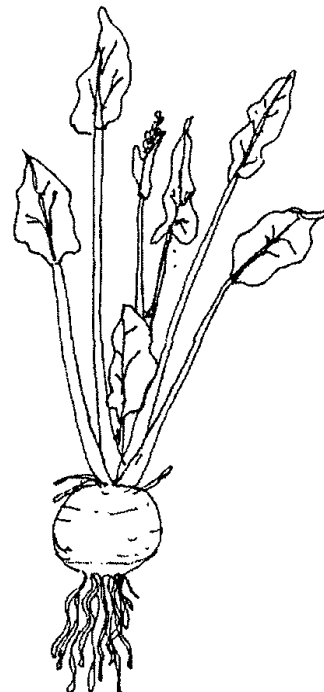


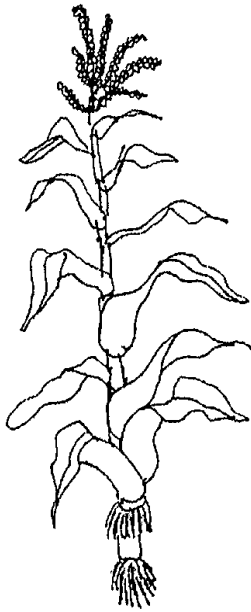
After about twelve months of interim board discussions and planning the Kastom Gaden Association (KGA) is now formally registered as an independent charitable trust in Solomon Islands. The trust board members are a dedicated and skilled group of people: Brother Jack Kalisto (Principal of St Dominic's Vocational Training Centre -recognised as one of the best training centres in the country); Hon Joini Tutua (Organic farmer, a founder of the Kastom Garden Program and an honorary life member of APACE); Josephine Teakeni (former producer of 'Olketa Mere' women's media program and long time PMN member) and Martina Ului (President of the National Council of Women and founding member of the Planting Material Network). The Association is structured with a trust board and a members steering committee that meets more regularly to advise and support the staff. The steering committee includes staff members, local experts and farmers.

Roselyn Kabu Maemouri is the counterpart manager of the organisation since October working with Tony Jansen who's position is currently supported by Australian Volunteers International. The two managers have worked together since the beginning of the APACE Kastom Garden project in 1995 and through to the local organisation. The Association is staffed with an Administrative Officer ( Florence Nodoro), a Planting Material Network Coordinator (Mary Timothy) and presently two seed curators (Techla Vapusi and Elisabeth Ashley).

Three students from Airahu rural training centre in Kwara'ae Malaita are doing a one year attachment with the Association. Over the last six months the AusAID Community Peace Restoration Fund has funded the upgrading of facilities at the Burns Creek centre which had been without power for more than a year following the theft of the centre's solar panels around the time of the coup in 2000. The office now has a good desk top publishing system and a nice working environment in a leaf house that is self cooled without any need for air conditioning. It remains an inspiring place to visitors who see a well equipped and effective office housed in a low cost local materials, building surrounded by food gardens.

The Association is currently implementing or developing fourteen projects ranging from very small to quite large activities including 'Seed production for displaced people'. Planting Material Network farmers have produced about 16000 packets of vegetable seed so far with training and support from the network. These seeds are now being distributed through local organisations such as women's networks, Solomon Islands Development Trust, Women for Peace and through the coordinators of the AusAID





Community Peace Restoration Fund and other PMN members. The project is helping to provide training and income to rural farmers while providing a sustainable source of seed for distribution to 6000 needy families as part of local organisations relief efforts. The project is now in its last phase and will be completed in February 2002.

A Pacific regional project funded by AusAID through ACIL has some Solomon Islands activities that are implemented jointly by PMN with the department of Agriculture in Solomon Islands. PMN has collected and is supporting the maintenance of 843 taro cultivars in four field genebanks established by local organisations that are part of the PMN. The taro will be distributed back to farmers early next year in awareness raising activities that will establish an on-farm conservation network for the wide genetic diversity of taro in Solomon Islands. In addition a 'core collection' of the 843 cultivars, representing 70-80% of the genetic diversity of the collection will be deposited in tissue culture and cryopreservation in the Secretariat of the Pacific Communities Regional Gene Bank in Suva, Fiji. There it will be placed in long term storage for future recovery by Solomon Islands in the event that their taro is lost in, for example, a disaster or through the more slow process of agricultural change.

#### **Livelihood development**

A second major focus of the KGA is the 'Sustainable Youth Livelihoods through Village Agriculture' program. Young people will be trained and supported in the development of small scale agricultural livelihoods using low external input models. For example poultry will be raised using local breeds, in local materials housing with local feed production using small hand grain mills. The Associations model is family based poultry, piggery and micro forestry for land restoration and livelihood development. At this time the program is proposed to start in North Malaita with the Baetolau Farmers Network. It may later expand to other places including Guadalcanal and Temotu provinces.

#### **Moving toward a Melanesian food security network**

KGA continues to work at developing regional linkages to share experiences and facilitate the development of wider efforts at grass roots agricultural improvement. These include participation in the development of a regional project Secretariat for the Pacific Community project proposal 'Development of Sustainable Agriculture in the South Pacific'; participation in the establishment of a national plant genetic resource conservation committee, and networking with local NGO's in PNG, Vanuatu and Fiji. Many of these efforts are being coordinated through a new development consultancy called Terra Circle that links expertise from Solomon Islands, PNG, Australian and other countries in participatory farmer led approaches to food security and community health. Negotiations are under way with various organisations including Community Aid Abroad, Australian Volunteers International, Seed Savers Network and APHEDA to support and collaborate in some of these efforts.

*For more detailed KGA project information you can visit  
<http://www.peoplefirst.net.sb/NEWS/News.asp?IDnews=938>  
This is an interesting web site compiling development and other  
news on Solomon Islands*