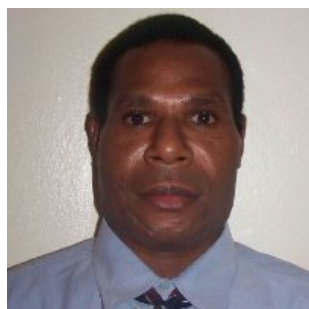


**Jonathan Ritchie and Musawe Sinebare interview with Joel Waramboi, NARI, Port Moresby, 8 September 2014**

**PhD, UQ, Food Technology, 2010 cohort**



[00:00:36]	ADS scholarship. PhD 2009-2013 at UQ, St Lucia, Brisbane. Previously worked with NARI as senior scientist. PhD research on food processing (sweet potato). Adding value to sweet potatoes. Returned to NARI March 2013.	Background; scholarship awarded
[00:02:11]	Challenges fitting in to a new environment, new place, transport systems etc. Learning to live by himself because he left his family (2 children) at home for the four years. It was challenging besides the academic work.	Arrival; living in Australia
[00:03:13]	Academically the research taught him to mature. To work independently, to plan your research, you have a time frame to achieve things, milestones, outputs. "What this has done to me personally is it has built me up to actually to the research correctly...making it scientifically sound." Improved his writing skills, international publications. Promotion. Mentoring.	Studying in Australia
[00:06:13]	Collaboration with UQ ongoing with supervisors. Co-writing papers. UQ alumni Association in contact; newsletters. Some contact internationally with fellow	Ongoing collaboration; international networks

	students - Indonesian, Singaporean friends.	
[00:07:42]	BA Food Technology at University of Technology in Lae. MA at University of Greenwich, UK, in affiliation with the National Resource Institute. 1 year in UK. Wife and one child at that time. Completed MA September 2004. Worked with NARI until 2009	Educational background; international mobility; networks
[00:10:09]	Application for ADS. Calls for EOI in further study at NARI. Through its HR program they recommend looking for scholarships eg Chevening. Tried 2007 for ADS but unsuccessful. Go it second time. Eagerness to further his own professional career.	Application process
[00:11:41]	Applying to UQ. Principal supervisor has former lecturer at UniTech. Contacted him to ask his interest. Good connections at UQ added weight to his application for the scholarship.	Existing connections with Australia
[00:13:39]	Arrival and settling in. It was very, very hard. Missed family. Felt like giving up but his supervisors were very supportive and helped him through it. No point in giving up.	Arrival; challenges
[00:15:07]	PNG Association at UQ, 3 monthly gatherings. Support from wantoks. Network of international students from the laboratory. School organised social gatherings with staff and students. Very active in this. AusAid student coordinator in Brisbane kept in constant contact. Helpful if problems.	Friendships; PNG network in Brisbane
[00:18:36]	Kept in contact with NARI. They continued to pay his salary.	
[00:19:16]	Accommodation; initially lived in student college for a few	Living in Brisbane

	weeks. 9 from PNG arriving together. Assisted by Student Accommodation office to find somewhere to live. Not difficult to find. First year shared with 2 other Papua New Guineans from his batch.	
[00:21:12]	Visit from family in June 2011 for 3 weeks. Travelled around with the children. Gold Coast. Returned home twice a year during the scholarship.	Family; Travel in Australia
[00:22:04]	Still in contact with fellow PNG students now back home. Contact with Australian friends, fellow students, including one whose father works in PNG.	PNG alumni network; connections with Australia
[00:24:02]	This was first opportunity to visit Australia. Had travelled elsewhere overseas. Expected challenges. Expensive. Food is completely different. Cannot find favourite vegetables. Otherwise people to people relationships ok. 'If you open up to people they will open up. Otherwise people mind their own business.' Good and bad things about this. PNG culture is to be open to anybody. Safe compared with PNG. Ongoing connections; repeat visit to Australia not yet.	Awareness of Australia before and after.
[00:28:41]	Advice to future awardees. Good institutions. AusAid support you well and don't lose contact. Overcoming challenges. Use the support structures available.	Reflections on scholarship opportunity
[00:32:39]	Attended church studies and made many friends and still have contact with them. Visit by some of them in a few weeks to attend a church convention he is coordinating.	Networks; community groups; church groups; connections with Australia
[00:34:55]	END	