

**10th Global RCE Conference  
Yogyakarta, Indonesia**



**Session 2: Field Visit Orientation**

11:00-12:00, Wednesday, 23 November 2016

**A Case on “Development of homemade chocolate from cacao farm in Gunung Kidul, Yogyakarta”**

Gunung Kidul is located in the southeast part of the province of Yogyakarta which is rich in natural resources and agriculture including Cacao plantation. Traditionally, Cacao fruits are sold domestically and abroad, generally in poor conditions for the farmers, and the selling prices are not conducive to encouraging farmers to produce more. This situation has been the case for long time. Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM) has been involved in the community development of Gunung Kidul and in the last decade or so has introduced innovation into sustainable agriculture in the area particularly in Cacao farming.

The new innovative approach was development of value added products. Instead of having a supply chain from planting to harvesting to selling, they introduced value addition phase of “processing” after harvesting and before going to the market, thus creating a “value chain”. The final product is homemade chocolate. UGM introduced simple production and technological processes and at the same time change the mind set and culture of the farmers. UGM introduced the concept of having local distribution system, having students participate, and introduced government-academic-business partnerships. They formed clusters of farmers sharing a common production facility, and there are more than a hundred of such clusters in operation.

The initiative is developing well, but more efforts on the part of UGM need to be done in terms of research to improve quality and efficiency of processing facilities, learning and changing mind sets of farmers, and getting more stakeholders involved in the value chain. The field visit centered on one farm and a production facility used by a cluster of farmers.

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