

FARMING TODAY

Rural women open accounts

By JAMES G.KILA

THIRT-three women from villages in ward 17 of Usino LLG in Madang province are now proud owners of new MiCash mobile bank accounts following an arrangement between Ramu NiCo (MCC) Community Affairs agriculture section and Nationwide Microbank.

These women were participants of a five day intensive training on poultry production and sustainable livelihoods from June 1-5 conducted by Ramu NiCo agriculture field officers Samuel Masawa and Seth Win.

The Ramu NiCo field staff after the training arranged with the Nationwide Micro Bank for officers to travel to Iguuwe village near Usino last Wednesday for the rural women farmers to open new bank accounts,

The Iguuwe women were very appreciative of the arrangement by Masawa and Win and also thanked the two bank officers from Nationwide Microbank, loans officer Georgina Niangu and Jeremiah Ruado for taking time to travel to Iguuwe village near Usino, along the Madang-Ramu highway.

The bank officers took time to explain the various banking facilities offered such as MiCash mobile phone banking and MiPikinini savings



Rural women farmers from Iguuwe lining up to open new bank accounts with the assistance of Nationwide Microbank loans officer Georgina Niangu (left).

account and other services, before facilitating the rural women to open their bank accounts right within their rural village setting.

Secretary for the Zone Two women group, Philinda Jeffrey thanked Ramu NiCo field officers for providing a wonderful training so women could know their own potential in rural development.

She also acknowledged the presence of the bank officers, stating that often rural women are reluctant to go to banks in town because they are turned

away by all sorts of bank policies.

Jeffrey said the women were grateful for officers from Nationwide Microbank right at their village and our door steps to give awareness and allow them to open new bank accounts.

Ramu NiCo Sustainable Agriculture Supervisor, Allan Wahwah encouraged the women to continue to save their money earned from poultry and markets sales and see their money grow.

He also emphasised that

women should manage their earnings well and make sure money for business and personal use are clearly separate and set aside for their purposes.

The women thanked the trainers from Ramu NiCo for the poultry production and sustainable livelihood training.

One of the participants, Diana Philip Ukus said the training was encouraging and had opened their mindset on investing the little money they have in priority areas.