

## The Solomon Islands Planting Material Network is for:

- ✿ farmers
- ✿ non-government organisations
- ✿ government extension workers
- ✿ schools
- ✿ other people who want to look after the crop biodiversity of the Solomon Islands.

### Members receive:

- ✿ free seeds from the Planting Material Network seed bank
- ✿ training, information and contacts.

You can join the Planting Material Network by filling out and posting the form on the other side. Or send the information on the form on whatsapp to +677 7986883

*Girls with the seed pod of winged bean*



Visitors to the Planting Material Network garden learn about seed saving and improved farming.



### The Planting Material Network

- ✿ encourages saving and sharing seeds with farmers
- ✿ produces seed for distribution among members.

### You can get seeds

If you want seeds of food plants you should join the Solomon Islands Planting Material Network.

### How to join the Network

Send a membership fee of \$15 or some dried seed to:

Coordinator  
Planting Material Network  
PO Box 128  
Honiara Solomon Islands

You will receive a newsletter and packets of seed. You can order more seeds at any time.

### Why save seeds ?

- ✿ growing many different food plants and varieties of those plants is a traditional way of providing family food security
- ✿ the Planting Material Network encourages members to look after all their varieties of plants—this is called on-farm conservation; all of these varieties are important for today and for the future
- ✿ seeds can be saved to plant in your garden
- ✿ seeds can be exchanged with other farmers for different seeds
- ✿ planting the seeds you save means you do not have to spend your money to buy seeds
- ✿ saving seeds and growing different food plants in your garden provides you with vegetables for a mixed family diet
- ✿ a mixed diet improves your family's health and helps your children grow strong and healthy
- ✿ saving seeds means you can grow food for your family during crisis or disaster
- ✿ saving seeds and exchanging them with other farmers makes Solomon Island communities more self-reliant.

How to contact the network:

Coordinator,  
Planting Material Network  
PO Box 128  
Honiara  
Solomon Islands  
Or send a message to  
+677 7986883 on  
whatsapp and we will  
get back to you.



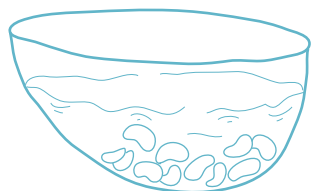
Seeds and plants for productive gardens,  
healthy families and healthy communities



A seed production and exchange  
network for Solomon Island farmers







Soak seed before planting



#### Planting seeds

- ✿ plant small seeds into the nursery
- ✿ plant larger seeds straight in the ground.



Harvesting food

#### Plant your seeds

Plant seeds from the Planting Material Network to improve your family's health:

- ✿ soak the seed in water for half an hour before planting
- ✿ make a hole that is twice as deep as your seed
- ✿ place a seed in the hole and cover with soil
- ✿ pour some water over the covered seed
- ✿ pour on more water as the plant grows
- ✿ harvest the vegetable to eat when the plant has fully grown and leave some plants to flower and go to seed
- ✿ collect and save the seed.



Collecting seeds



Drying seeds

Solomon Islands Planting Material Network

# SAVE YOUR SEEDS

#### Save your seeds

Save some of your seed for replanting and to share with other farmers:

- ✿ collect the seeds from the plant after it has flowered and grown
- ✿ put the seeds in a dry place and leave them to dry out
- ✿ you can plant the dried seeds in your garden
- ✿ some of the seeds you have saved and dried with other farmers in your village.



I want to join the...  
**Planting Material Network**

Name:

Postal address:

#### I want to join the Network by:

- ☐ posting \$15 with this form as my membership for one year
- ☐ sending some dried seeds as my membership for one year
- ☐ providing volunteer work to the Network to earn my membership

#### Post this membership form to:

Coordinator  
Planting Material Network  
PO Box 128  
Honiara  
Solomon Islands