

## Rural agroprocessing enterprises



*Putra Bhineka Perkasa employees packing coffee*

The promotion of rural-based agroprocessing enterprises has important implications for employment and expanded agricultural production. Such enterprises, however, must contend with changes due to globalization, advances in biotechnology and information technology, and societal concerns about the environment, health, and nutrition.

To assist agroprocessors, the APO organized a workshop on Planning and Management of Rural-based Agroprocessing Enterprises in Bali, Indonesia, 11–15 May. The workshop was jointly implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration. The 21 participants from 10 member countries studied productivity tools and techniques, associated best practices, and new approaches. Representatives of the two ministries detailed practices related to government policy in Indonesia and its productivity tools. The APO deputed three resource speakers whose perspectives on agroprocessing improvement covered financial and investment decision making, supply chain management, community capacity development for rural-based agroindustry, and integration between industries and communities.

Field visits to three agroprocessing SMEs demonstrated how to establish and maintain a win-win relationship between the agroprocessing industry and agriculture: Tembesi Abattoir is a livestock-processing enterprise; Squeeze produces tropical fruit juice; and Putra Bhineka Perkasa PT processes coffee. The workshop concluded with the drafting of productivity improvement programs for agroprocessing enterprises as participants' follow-up activities.