



MRDC

TOKAUT

*Custodians
of tomorrow*

MRDC Tokaut | MARCH EDITION 2018

Hundreds killed in deadly earthquake



A family in mourning in Paua Village in the Moran region. Paua Village is located close to the epicentre of the earthquake and was one of the worst hit with 12 deaths confirmed

On February 26th 2018, at 3.44am, a 7.5 magnitude earthquake shook the highlands of Papua New Guinea causing deaths, injuries, traumatised survivors and destroyed buildings, roads and rivers.

The epicentre was located in the Southern Highlands Province, while aftershocks were felt in Hela and Western provinces.

It killed more than 100 people, displaced 500,000 more some of whom thereon preferred to sleep outdoors and under the rain rather than take refuge in sheltered structures or the nearby health centres out of fear that it would collapse on them.

Numbers of those affected are expected to increase as more areas become accessible particularly in view of the timing the quake hit.

People in the highlands especially enjoy this time of the night, tucked into their fair coated blankets while others sleep peacefully near the fire place in the cold.

The highlanders went to bed the night before having planned out their schedule for the next day knowing

that Mother Nature will provide for the day as she always does.

Land is a significant aspect of every tribe and every people because it is our identity. Our culture and traditions are defined by the land that we live in.

It is our birthright. It gives us life. Mother Nature is our provider and protector, we depend on her for almost everything.

Because the land seldom reacts differently, we grow up fearing not the land.

Unbeknownst to all, Mother Nature had a different agenda set out for the early hours of February 26.

The deadly earthquake shook not only the highlands but the country at large, including Papua New Guineans who resided overseas.

The Mineral Resources Development Company immediately after the quake reached out to assist the people of Southern Highlands who are also hosts of the PNG LNG project.

MRDC sent a team to the disaster affected areas after the quake hit to assess the damage and prepare reports for emergency aid and relief.

MRDC Managing Director Mr. Augustine Mano accompanied Prime Minister Mr. Peter O'Neill, Oil Search Limited Managing Director Mr. Peter Botten and other state representatives to assess the situation.

Relief operations began on March 5 with three teams set up; one being the main command in Port Moresby (MRDC office), team two in Mt.Hagen to buy supplies and move into Moro while team three managed the unloading, sorting and distribution of relief items to affected areas and villages.

The MRDC committed a total of K6.5 million to quake relief efforts – of which K3 million was contributed by Petroleum Resources Kutubu (PRK) which was shared between the Southern Highlands and Gulf Provincial governments, each receiving K1.5 million. Petroleum Resources Moran (PRM) committed K1 million towards relief operations and Mineral Resources Ok Tedi Limited (MROT) contributed K1 million to Western Province.

All the supplies were brought in from Mt. Hagen with the assistance of Hevilift, who donated the use of

Continues on page 2

Managing Director's Message



MRDC Managing Director - Augustine Mano

Happy New Year and welcome to our first edition of the MRDC Tokaut for 2018. Usually we'd set our projections and our hopes this being our first update for the year, but this has been overshadowed by the tragedy brought about by the 7.5 earthquake that shook our country in the early hours of February 26.

Lives were lost and those of the survivors turned upside down overnight so too life as they knew it particularly their relationship with nature – turning from one of nonchalant to great fear.

As a result of the widespread damage in the highlands, it took weeks to determine the number of lives affected as far flung areas inland were cut off.

Heartening was the outpouring love and shining through clearly was the resilience of our fellow Papua New Guineans.

Your company, MRDC, as custodians of tomorrow, reached out the affected. It did so in cash and kind, not only seeing to basic needs, but also medical assistance and ensuring that these relief items were rounded up and delivered to those in need. More of MRDC's relief efforts and impact of the devastating earthquake can be found on pages 1, 5, 6 & 7.

I also had the opportunity to speak at the second petroleum and energy summit this quarter in which I reiterated the need to revise the distribution of royalties and equities to gas project landowners and provincial governments. In the same speech, highlights of which are outlined on page 2 and 3, I re-emphasised the importance of the landowner identification process because only when we have gone through this process can we be certain that the rightful landowners benefit from resources derived from their land.

This includes but not limited to a second gas-fired power station that is being planned to be opened (page 3) as another source of income for the landowners and the establishment of an office in Tabubil (page 4) for the convenience of landowners of Star Mountains and the people of Western Province which means they do not need to venture far from home to have their queries attended to. Landowners also benefit from offshore investments like the Taumesina Resort in Samoa which was the recipient of the prestigious Samoan Tourism Award

(on page 8) and CITF community-based projects, an update on which is featured on page 9.

Other events that happened during the quarter saw the renaming of Pacific Place to MRDC Haus (page 4), our continued support of the education of underprivileged children via a cash donation to Life Care Inc 'Strongim Pikinini Education Program for the fourth consecutive year (page 8), as well as a brief from of the PNG LNG plant facility at Portion 152 (page 10).

Page 11 is dedicated to our staff – featuring our winning netball women's team as well as four staff members sharing their thoughts on women empowerment and its importance. There was a consensus that women empowerment was indeed important.

As such we continue our support of women such as of the MRDC 9s featured on page 12. This year's competition saw 16 women's teams took part compared to four last year. Hohola Flies went on to win the women's title whilst Tarangau won that for the men's.

Into the second quarter of the year, we pray that our fellow countrymen devastated by the earthquake pick up the pieces and return to normalcy. It will not be easy and they cannot do it alone. They need our support and love to continue with life. Please do not hold back from extending a helping hand.

Until the next issue of the Tokaut, stay safe!

Hundreds killed in deadly earthquake

a Mill 8 helicopter to help carry out MRDC's relief operations. Hevilit was more than willing to assist as the very people affected were its shareholders. MRDC also provided to Southern Highlands and Gulf provinces, 24 tonnes of relief supplies including bags of rice, flour, tin fish, noodles,

cooking oil, cooking utensils, water and canvas. Of this, 18 tonnes of relief supplies were delivered to villages of Pimaga, Baguale, Yalanda, Waro, Homa, Paua, Kaipu, Sisibia, Lake Kutubu Villages and the Hekari region in Southern Highlands, while 6 tonnes were sent to Kikori in the Gulf Province.

MRDC also worked closely with government in assisting the National Disaster Services transport relief supplies to affected areas within Kutubu, Moran and Kikori. MRDC also worked with Oil Search Limited (OSL) and Exxon Mobil to ensure the people are assisted in the best way possible.

Mano calls for greater benefits for landowners



MRDC MD Mr. Augustine Mano speaking at the 2nd Petroleum and Energy Summit.

Fundamental flaws in the distribution of royalties and equities to gas project landowners and provincial governments were highlighted at the 2nd PNG petroleum and energy summit in Port Moresby in March.

MRDC Managing Director Augustine Mano addressed the international audience Summit and voiced the genuine aspirations of its stakeholders.

He asserted that similar to how oil companies are in the business of maximising their shareholders value, MRDC is in the business of maximising its stakeholders' value in the mining, oil and gas projects. MRDCs' stakeholders are the project beneficiaries namely the project area landowners and the relevant provincial governments.

Mr Mano pointed out two fundamental flaws in the current system. These are affecting adversely the flow of benefits

to these beneficiary groups and has consequences.

Firstly, the primary responsibility under the Oil and Gas Act for landowner identification is with the oil companies who are required to do this before applying for the Petroleum Development Licence (PDL). In the PNG LNG case, it was rushed and not done thoroughly. That is why the funds are not flowing and the State is having to carry out this exercise again.

He said there is K450 million parked in the trust account because the matters are in court following the failure of the State and the developers to do proper identification.

Secondly, the methodology for calculation of royalty (and development levy) was changed such that the effective royalty is less than 0.40 per cent compared to 2 per cent prescribed under the law. This has resulted in very low royalty to landowners and low development levy to the provinces. For many months in 2016 it resulted in negative royalty and development levy.

"We need to fix these flaws".

"MRDC is a Custodian of Tomorrow for our beneficiaries and it is our job to highlight these issues and work to correct them so maximise value for them".

He also questioned why only have 2 percent equity in oil and gas whereas mining has 5 per cent.

He believes the 2 per cent was insufficient.

"Times and expectations changed over time and there is a need to change the equity percentage distribution for equal footing benefits by increasing the percentage"

He added that provincial governments have been excluded in the equity benefits sharing arrangement and the change should also look at including them as beneficiary.

He said a benchmark was set in the Kutubu oil project, the first petroleum project but that was never followed in subsequent projects.

MRDC is making income generally investments for its beneficiaries to supplement the income from oil and gas as these have a finite life span.

"The Star Mountain Plaza and other investments in PNG and overseas have enabled our beneficiaries to create asset base and sustained income. MRDC through the CITF also invests in community projects to improve their quality of life..

The landowner identification process needs to be completed for MRDC to continue to make sustainable investments for landowners and provincial governments", said Mano.

These observations from Mr. Mano were applauded by the international community as well as PNG stakeholders.

MRDC, KPHL to build second gas-fired power station

The Mineral Resources Development Company (MRDC) and Kumul Petroleum Holdings Limited (KPHL) have signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) to establish a second gas-fired power station near Port Moresby.

The station will use natural gas from the PNG LNG liquefaction plant. The plant will feed high-efficiency generators that will produce 45 to 50 megawatts power to supplement the Port Moresby power grid through a new power line and a substation network to be constructed in Gerehu.

The 45 to 50 megawatt power station will complement the 57.8 megawatt power plant currently under construction.

MRDC Managing Director Mr Augustine Mano said this milestone project will create another source of income for landowners who are dependent on royalty and equity payments from their resources projects.

"We are looking forward to creating the market to make power more affordable to Port Moresby residents," Mano stated.

KPHL Managing Director Mr Wapu Sonk said the MoA which is the first between the companies, will enable them to explore gas and power opportunities in Port Moresby and neighbouring provinces.

"The model that we are looking at is very quick to deliver and will take up to six months depending on the commercial arrangements and regulatory approvals," said Sonk.

The KPHL-MRDC power project will support the government's development agenda of increasing access to electricity as well as delivering cheaper and more efficient power supply to the capital city.

The gas-fired power project will be developed under a 50-50 partnership and will be operated by a joint venture company.

The plant will be located next to the Port Moresby Power Project being developed by Niu Power limited.

MRDC establishes presence in Tabubil



The new Tabubil office Boardroom

The Mineral Resources Development Company (MRDC) has established an office in Tabubil to service landowners of Star Mountain and the people of Western Province. The office is located in Pitalok Centre.

MRDC made a commitment to set up offices in Tabubil and Daru based on the Heads of Agreement (HoA) made by government to offload its 33% share of the Ok Tedi Mine to the landowners.

Mineral Resources Star Mountain Director Mr John Atmeyok said the establishment of an office in Tabubil is a way forward and ensures easy access to MRDC by mine landowners especially with regards to attending to queries or any related matter.

Pastor and counsellor for Kumkit and Amkit villages Mr James Kananap said that the people were pleased to have the MRDC office set up in Tabubil because it enables them to have easy access to information about their benefits.

"MRDC on ground gives confidence to the landowners and to the people of the Star Mountain. If we need information or assistance then we will just approach the MRDC office. It is a bonus to the landowners of Star Mountain." Kananap said.

MRDC's new liaison officer and groundsman Alex Wapia will have the responsibility to liaise with the landowners, directors, developer and the contractors.

Close to K500, 0000 was spent on the renovation and refurbishment of the office.

Pacific Place renamed MRDC Haus



Cutting the ribbon on the new access card system from the foyer to mark the reopening and renaming of the Pacific Place to MRDC Haus.

L-R: MRDC Managing Director Augustine Mano, PRM Director Paul Yawe, MRDC Board member Mr William Searson, PRM Director Mr Tony Kila and Gulf Governor who is also a board member of PRK, PRM and PRG, Hon. Chris Haiveta.

Pacific Place in downtown Port Moresby was renamed 'MRDC Haus' in February.

Mineral Resources Development Company (MRDC) Managing Director Mr Augustine Mano presided over the ceremony at the building's renovated foyer attended by directors, tenants, management and staff of MRDC and Pacific Property Trust (PPT).

The renaming coincided with the reopening of the foyer, after the completion of the first stage of renovations on the building.

"When we took over, it was not easy. There were so many challenges and issues we adopted but I am happy to say we have overcome those challenges to bring the building back to its former glory days, but this time as MRDC Haus."

The security and access to the building was an important aspect of the upgrade which will now see an access card only system used through the reception and the lifts to each floor, making MRDC Haus one of the safest buildings in Port Moresby for its tenants and the public.

"CCTV's have been installed in and around the premises, especially in the car park, foyer and lifts," Mr Mano added.

Mr. Peter Boru, Government Affairs Manager Asia Oil & Gas located on level ten commended MRDC's efforts.

"I think it really improved, it's good we have landowners companies and a nationally owned company running the whole show. This building has been here for a very long time and

now to be upgraded to meet the standards of the 21st Century," said Mr Boru.

Longest tenants, Leahy Lewin Lowing Sullivan Lawyers, were also pleased with the upgrades.

"We are happy with the changes and have extended our lease for another three years," said Mr Stephen Lewin.

The second stage of renovations is ongoing which includes the construction of a restaurant on level one which is expected to be opened in March.

Mr. Arthur Sam of Samkiaktubangliu Accountants on level two said: "We meet a lot of clients in coffee shops. When they come in, I'll just say let's meet at the coffee shop downstairs."

Since taking over the trusteeship of PPT in 2014, MRDC has spent close to K32 million on renovations of the Pacific Place and the Pacific MMI buildings.

Located in the Central Business District (CBD), MRDC Haus is testament of efforts by MRDC to redefine landowner wealth through investments outside of the oil, gas and mining industries.

MRDC Haus is managed by PPT which is owned by landowners from the Kutubu Oil Project through Petroleum Resources Kutubu (PRK), Petroleum Resources Moran (PRM), Petroleum Resources Gobe (PRG) and OK Tedi Mine through Mineral Resources Star Mountains (MRSM) and Mineral Resources OK Tedi Limited (MROT).

MRDC ups earthquake relief efforts with medical aid



The PIH Medical Relief Team doing a ward round in the morning. Dr. Cathy Reto sees a patient while the PIH and Pimaga nursing team observes



PIH Registered Nursing Officer (RNO) giving medication to a patient seen at Pimaga Rural Hospital

MRDC stepped up its earthquake relief efforts, this time sending in a medical team of doctors and nurses from Pacific International Hospital to be stationed at the Pimaga Rural Hospital in Kutubu.

The team got straight into work, with its first task being a medical evacuation of a pregnant mother with labour complications to Mendi Hospital with the support of Oil search. The mother from Mt. Bosavi had walked 12 hours to get to Pimaga Rural Hospital to deliver her baby.

Pimaga is currently home to several villages in the Kutubu area who lost property and food gardens in the earthquake a month ago. The refugees have been living in tents whilst getting food rations, water and medical aid from donors including MRDC.

The Pimaga Rural hospital has seen an increase in patients seeking treatment for all conditions including injuries sustained from the earthquake. With the increase, medical staff was needed, hence MRDC has engaged PIH, to position a medical team there to cater to those needs in these time of hardship.

The rural hospital currently does not have the capacity to care for the critically ill thus refers these cases to Mendi and Hagen general hospitals.

The PIH team of two doctors and a registered nurse have been in Pimaga for the last two weeks.

The team also flew in with over 90 boxes of much needed medical supplies including equipment needed at the rural hospital.

Hospital Matron Michael Puma was grateful to the MRDC for its assistance.

"Thank you MRDC, Oil Search, provincial health authority and donor agencies who have come to our aid in time of need," Puma said.

"Their help has been tremendous and the presence of doctors on the ground in the few weeks has been a huge success."

He said the people were grateful and hoped the presence of doctors on the ground would continue into the future in collaboration with the provincial health authority.

The medical team will be on rotation for a few weeks providing specialist care to those in need.

MRDC says PIH is partly owned by the landowners and it was only right to engage them in the landowners' time of need.

Tonnage of relief supplies Distributed per the affected regions

Moro Distribution Base – Total Tonnage = 43 tonnes

▶ Total tonnage distributed to Kutubu = 16.9 tonnes

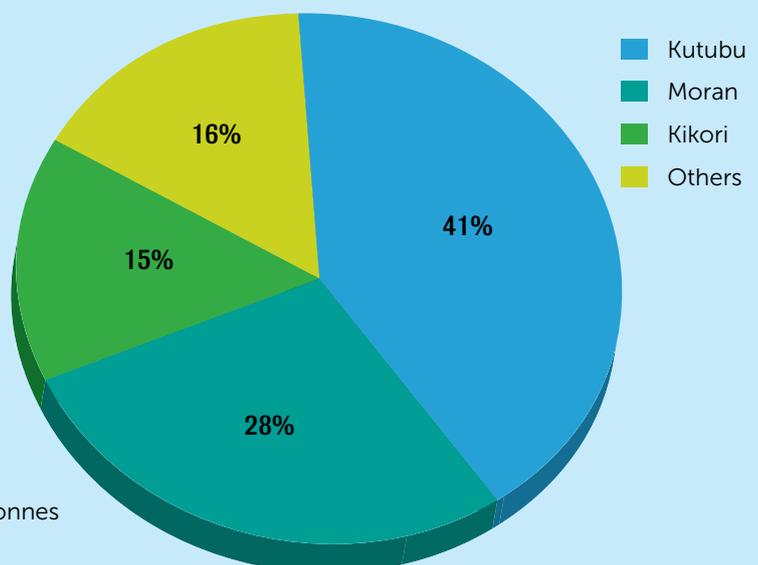
- Kaipu/Sisibia - 2.4 tonnes
- Waro - 4.5 tonnes
- Pimaga - 10 tonnes

▶ Total tonnage distributed to Moran = 11.6 tonnes

- Yolanda - 3 tonnes
- Baguale - 2.5 tonnes
- Homa - 4.3 tonnes
- Paua - 1.8 tonnes

▶ Total tonnage distributed to Kikori = 6 tonnes

▶ Total tonnage distributed to various regions = 6.185 tonnes



Earthquake effects and Relief efforts





MRDC assists in the education of underprivileged children



Public Relations Officer Iona Reto presenting the donation cheque to Life PNG Care Director Collin Pake

The Mineral Resources Development Company (MRDC) has reaffirmed its support of Life Care Inc. "Strongim Pikinini Education Program" this year with a donation of K10, 000.

MRDC Public Relations Officer Iona Reto presented the cheque to the organisation during their annual school photo shoot in February.

As custodians of tomorrow, MRDC believes in education as a catalyst for a better future, and therefore supports and promotes organisations such as Life PNG Care in its efforts to

educate children who are born into unfortunate circumstances.

Director of Life PNG Care Collin Pake thanked MRDC for its continuous support since 2015. He also acknowledged MRDC's support in other community projects and initiatives that aim to make a change in this country.

"On behalf of the students, our kids and our visiting kids, volunteers and everyone, we thank the MD Augustine Mano and the management team. I know this is not the only organization

they are supporting, this group is an amazing group. They support many community projects and initiatives all across the country and we are proud of their support," said Pake.

Without companies like MRDC, Pake conceded the children would not be able to attend school, which may leave some on the streets while others looking for other means and ways to survive.

"We acknowledge your valuable contribution towards our vision, our vision is to impact unfortunate children through education."

Reto encouraged the children to stay in school as education was the key to a good and better life.

"Education is everything, it is everything in life in order for you to better yourself and have a good life," Reto said.

She also acknowledged the important work of Life PNG Care through Collin and his wife.

MRDC also distributed merchandise such as water bottles, school bags and calendars to the students.

LPNGC then presented a framed certificate of appreciation to MRDC for its continuous support.

PNG-owned luxury resort wins Samoan tourism award

Papua New Guinean owned Taumeasina Island Resort' in Samoa, were declared winners of the country's prestigious 'National Tourism Excellence Awards' 2017/2018.

The multi-million dollar luxury resort is owned by three PNG joint venture partners; the Lamana Group (50%) Gobe Landowner company Petroleum Resources Gobe (19%) and Mineral Resources Development Company (31%).

Taumeasina snatched the main category award from established resorts, Return to Paradise and past winner Seabreeze as well as secured the Best Hygiene Award.

Handing over the awards during the ceremony hosted at the Taumeasina, Samoa's Deputy Prime Minister Hon. Fiame Naomi Mata'afa congratulated the resort's staff and management.

Taumeasina's General Manager Nathan Bucknall admitted the

journey had been challenging, but equally rewarding. He acknowledged the effort put in by the resort's management and staff.

Since its opening 19 months ago, the resort has hosted many celebrities and dignitaries from abroad, visitors to the country as well as Samoans returning home to visit family and relatives. It has also been a popular destination for weddings and events.

"Taumeasina Island Resort, is blessed with an amazing team of people, who work together, to achieve a common goal. Without the support and hard work of the people around us, we would not be able to have received this award."

Bucknall admitted to win again next year would be a challenge, but he has big plans lined up.

"Taumeasina will continue as it has done since July 2016, with training of staff and managers, developing

new food and beverage concepts and promotions, and working closely with our tourism partners, in both Samoa and PNG, to ensure the best chance to achieve the same recognition next year," he said.

Organised by the Samoa Tourism Authority, the event celebrates the outstanding performances of those who have made exceptional contributions to the country's tourism industry over the past year. This year, 12 awards were on offer. Taumeasina Resort was nominated in five categories.

The resort is a 45-minute drive from the Faleolo International Airport, and 5 minutes from the capital city of Samoa, Apia. The resort has 80 rooms and 25 villas, shops, world class restaurants, a bar, water sports pavilion, day spa, gym, beach and wedding chapel.

CITF Projects 2018

MRDC through its Community Infrastructure Trust Fund (CITF) has been working on new community projects in the Central, Southern Highlands, Gulf and Western provinces. As mandated by the state to be trustee of the peoples' share and interest in the petroleum and mining projects, MRDC is not only obligated to pay out royalties and equities to the people, the company's vision is to also make sure that the people can sustain themselves after the project. This is achieved through

its CITF projects where the company builds infrastructures such as classrooms, teachers' housing, church, aid posts, and sports fields in project areas.

CITF is made of 30% of funds taken out of all royalty or equity payments from the petroleum project areas as per the Oil and Gas Act.

GR-PNGLNGPL CITF Funded Projects;

1. Porebada Community Health Centre

The Community Health Centre in Porebada Village will serve all four plant site villages (PPFL2) which are Porebada, Rearea, Boera and Papa. The health centre will be constructed according to the design provided by the Health Department.



2. Rearea Classrooms

Maintenance of three * 2 storey double classrooms & Completion of a 2 storey double classroom in Rearea Village. The existing 3 x 2 storey double classrooms will be demolished then reconstructed.



The 1x 2 storey double classrooms building in Rearea village abandoned by the Provincial Government. MRDC completed the building through CITF program. Students are now using the classrooms.



*Boera Teachers Unit and Papa Primary School projects are also under construction planning.

PRK CITF Funded Projects;

1. Kaipu Elementary School

Construction and maintenance of a double classroom and a teacher's house have been successfully completed.



2. Hekari Sports Centre in Waro, Southern Highlands Province.

Backfilling work is 50% complete





Figure 1. Panoramic view of the PNG LNG facility



Figure 2. Haus Win



Introduction

MRDC's technical team on behalf of its gas subsidiaries and as part of the PNG LNG Joint Venture partners that attends the TCM (Technical Committee Meeting) were invited for a close up tour of the PNG LNG Plant Facility at Portion 152 on 27 November 2017.

The day started with the participants' undergo the facility's safety induction at the main entrance followed by briefing at the haus win. From the haus win lookout, there is a breathtaking view of the entire facility as seen in Figure 1.

The briefing was done by four brilliant technicians who are PNG nationals and were proud to show and tell us about the work they do and its importance in the running of the entire facility. They were also our tour guide during the entire tour.



Figure 4. Two Storage Tanks of LNG

Interesting facts from the tour

- The total cost of the PNG LNG project is US\$19 billion.
- The PNG LNG Project was originally designed to be operated above its nameplate capacity of 6.9 million tonne per annum (MTPA), so by mid-2016 production was averaging 7.9 MTPA.
- Production workforce stands at 2,400, 80 per cent of whom are Papua New Guineans.
- Around 1 billion cubic feet of natural gas is turned into LNG every day at the LNG Plant.
- Over 210 Papua New Guinean Operations and Maintenance technicians being trained of which 25% are women.



Fig5. First of the 2 Trains at the LNG Plant

- The LNG facility has a 2.3km trestle for loading tankers, two 125,000m³ LNG storage tanks, LPG recovery systems and two 50,000-barrel condensate storage tanks. As seen here in Figure 4 are the two tanks that stores
- The project gas is supplied by a 716km gas pipeline, 417km of which is subsea and measures 36inch in diameter (Kopi on the coast is 450km from Port Moresby), while the onshore 265km section is 32inch in diameter.

LNG Production is sensitive to ambient temperatures, hence the hotter the day the lower the production whereas the cooler the day the higher the LNG production yields from the plant.

The LNG plant has two trains which uses ConocoPhillips technology (used by more than 50% of LNG plants worldwide). Their proprietary natural gas liquefaction technology, which is based on the optimised cascade (SM) process are central to the two trains. Figure 6 shows the first of the two trains as you enter the plant.

MRDC participation in the PNG LNG project

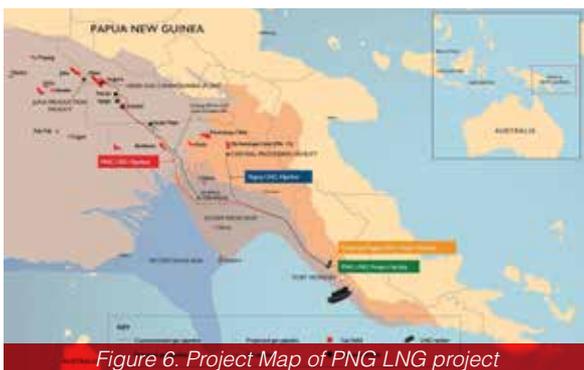


Figure 6. Project Map of PNG LNG project

ExxonMobil PNG Limited operates PNG LNG on behalf of five co-venture partners with MRDC holding 2.8% of the project equity on behalf of the gas subsidiary from which the "Project Gas" is sourced from seven fields: the Hides, Angore and Juha gas fields and from associated gas in the Oil Search-operated Kutubu, Agogo, Moran and Gobe Main Oil fields, which provides approximately 20% of PNG LNG Project gas.

Figure 6 shows the entire project connected by over 700 kilometres of onshore and offshore pipeline stretching from the conditioning facilities in Hides to the liquefaction and storage facility near Port Moresby.

Healthy employees equals productivity



Mineral Resources Development Company Netball team with Team Manager Annie Waigeno at the Rita Flynn Courts in Port Moresby

To achieve productivity and effectiveness, a company must make sure that its employees are physically and mentally healthy. A company without its employees is like a machine without an engine, therefore it is important to invest in the health and fitness of its employees.

Mineral Resources Development Company (MRDC) knows full well the importance of its employees thus invests in their health and their wellbeing. It does this by paying gym membership of its employees either at the Life Gymnasium in Holiday Inn Hotel or the gym at the Aviat Club.

MRDC also encourages its employees to participate in sports and physical activities such as corporate-based competitions including touch, and netball. One such competition a group of MRDC ladies were involved in was the 2017 Private Netball Competition in which they defeated all other corporate teams to win.

Despite being a newcomer in the competition, the MRDC team managed to score a spot in the grand final where they went head to head with the undefeatable ladies of Stevens Printing. It was a tough game, however the MRDC ladies in red beat their opponents with only a point difference at 12-11.

Team Captain and Rental Officer Joyce Ora says it is important for employees to take part in sporting activities as it encourages physical fitness and boosts productivity in the work place.

"By playing sports, it makes us physically fit as well as in our daily work, therefore it is important for the company to participate in sports," said Ora.

MRDC's netball team comprised of women from the Administration, Investment and Financial Services departments.

International Women's Day Vox Pop

In light of International Women's Day on March 8, Tokaut had the chance to ask some MRDC staff about their thoughts on International Women's Day and if they think Women Empowerment is important.



Yes it's giving women the ability to fully and genuinely participate economically, socially, and politically. In the particular case of women, it means being able to participate in this way without being discriminated on the basis of their gender. ~ Madeline Masa



Women are naturally tough and intelligent, empowering them enables them to take on challenges from all facets of society, be it big or small. ~ Jack Lohia



Umi mas planim kaikai lo ground na bihain ba umi kaikai bigpla, ol meri na pikinini meri em olsem ol kaikai umi planim lo ground. ~ Sisio Famundi



Empowering women is important because when you empower a woman, you empower a family. ~ Malcolm Pang

Increased women participation in 2018 MRDC 9s tourney



Ladies from the Hohola Flies and the Royals at the National Football Stadium Port Moresby. PC: Loop PNG

The 2018 Mineral Resources Development Company (MRDC) rugby 9's tournament saw an increased number of women participation.

Sixteen teams took part in this year's competition compared to four last year.

Port Moresby Rugby Football League (POMRFL) administrator Mr Mackenzie Maino said he had hoped for an increased number of women's participation this year, given last year's successful World Cup.

"It is good to see a total of 16 teams join this year to make the event competitive," said Maino.

Hiccups and delays were experienced at the start, but in the end, with MRDC's support, the 2018 tournament proved to be a success much to Maino's delight.

"I thank MRDC and its board for their continuous support to rugby league," Maino said.

This is the fourth year that MRDC's offered financial backing towards the tournament, amounting to over K100,000.

MRDC's External Affairs Manager Mr. Steven Evekone who was also present at the tournament kick-off expressed the company's willingness to continue

its support of the tournament in future.

"With our support of such tournaments, we can give the youths something to do and help develop them," said Evekone.

The tournament started February 3 featuring a total of 32 registered teams – 28 POMRFL clubs plus four clubs outside the city. It was held over three weekends.

Hohola Flies women defeated the Royals 14-8 to claim the women's title whilst the men's title was won by Tarangau after a 20-16 win over the Royals' male counterpart.