



The Independent State of
Papua New Guinea

Inside this issue:

- * **Minister's Foreword Message**
- * **Goals and Objectives for the Department**
- * **Core functional branches of the Department**
- * **Major achievements for the Department in 2016**
- * **Launching of Corporate Plan 2017-2021, Annual Operational Plan and Website**
- * **News Flash! (3 page publications of major events in news brief)**
- * **Pictorial Highlights of 2016-2017**



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Komuniti LUKAUT



N e w s l e t t e r

Issue 1

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INTRODUCTION BY SECRETARY



It is with pleasure to introduce you all to the first Edition of our **Komuniti Lukaut Newsletter**, where we share our achievements in the different sections and programs that we as a Government Agency drive to enhance the livelihood of our communities.

I am really excited that this newsletter is used as one of the many mediums that we will be using to inform the public on what the department is doing with the relevant sections or programmes on everything that is outlined on our five (5) year Corporate Plan 2017-2021 and our one (1) year Annual Operational Plan 2017.

When I look at the Achievements, really it is about the department's journey over the years, that has moulded us and help us understand the different community develop-

ment approaches that can really work better in our country.

The approaches have been challenged with the global experiences, and the economic development that is taking place, but it is about finding that balance between what community development approaches can really work to help our communities. We really want to help our communities, but is how we want to do it and who we want to work through to make things work, and that is important.

I am also excited about the new sections in the department, which took us years to finally have them in place. And I feel the department is a lot more coordinated and positioned to work with development partners and deliver. It is all because of the challenges we took on board as a department to help us achieve our plans.

Regardless of which tool that will be used to disseminate information, this newsletter

will help to deliver our messages, deliver our achievements, deliver our challenges and share success stories of our champions in the community that are doing a lot of the good work that many may have not heard of.

And so I would like to use this newsletter to share those stories so that it inspires others to make a difference in the communities they live in.

I want this newsletter to invite different categories of people from children, students at schools, youths, academics at universities and decision makers to help partner with us on areas that they can help achieve government objectives.

I would like to thank everyone that has played a significant part in the department's achievement and happy reading.

Yours Faithfully,

Ms Anna K Solomon

SECRETARY
Department for Community Development & Religion

Commentary

Komuniti LUKAUT newsletter is meant to inform the general public about the news affecting communities around the country.

Welfare, Human Rights and Gender issue including Health and Education and Business are part of Human Growth that needs attention from the Government stakeholders and other development partners.

"We are called upon to serve the people of this nation."

MINISTER'S FOREWORD



It gives me great pleasure as the Minister for Community Development, Religion and Youth, and the Member for Sohe District to welcome you all back to the start of the New Year 2017.

This year will be a very interesting and challenging year for me as the National Election is around the corner, whilst the Department will be going through a lot of challenges and changes as couple of Bills and Acts have being passed since last year and much work will be required this year to align the Policies with it..

One of the major activities to kick start the year by the De-

partment for Community Development, Religion and Youth will be the Monthly Publication of this Newsletter and the hosting of our website that will allow for information dissemination and awareness of the Department's services and functions.

My Department's services and functions has come under many scrutiny, but is one of the least funded government agencies, maybe due to its uneconomical standing that in which has affected the workforce and the service delivery mechanism over the years. Nevertheless, perseverance and diligences by the senior officers under the leadership of my Secretary, Ms Anna Solomon has seen the Department come out from a gloomy state to the forefront where the importance of this department has to be heard and seen.

I would also like to thank our Development Partners and other stakeholders that have stood firm with the Department through thick and thin times to help deliver our activities to achieve our goals and objectives. My department deals with the most often marginalised and vulnerable population of our great nation, and the commitment shown by our Development Partners to deliver important projects aligned with the

department's goals and objectives shows our achievements is a combined teamwork effort.

Therefore, this publication "*Komuniti LUKAUT*" is very vital and is meant to broadcast information on the Government's input in our operation and other social development effort the Department has been embarking on behind the scenes.

Some of the Bills and Policies which I have passed through the parliament and the National Executive Council (NEC) and other very important achievements initiated by the Department will be properly gazetted through this publication and our website.

With that said, I take this time to thank everyone for your patience and cooperation and hope to work closely with you all to finish off what we have initiated since I took office. And also extend my gratitude to the O'Neill-Dion government for its endless leadership and support.

May you all enjoy reading this publication and have a prosperous and productive New Year.

DEPARTMENT'S GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Department of Community Development intends to build vibrant, resilient, knowledgeably and productive communities in Papua New Guinea as the key to sustainable future. It takes lead in mobilizing local communities and marginalized groups in order to enhance productive living and an ongoing process of human development.

The aim of this newsletter is to help promote the work carried out by the department to;

1. Improve Corporate Governance
2. Enhance Community Livelihood and
3. Further Human Rights

4. And Promote and Strengthen Church-State Partnership for Service Delivery.

The various divisions or branches that plays a vital role in achieving the Department's Goals and Objectives are;

1. Policy Planning & Monitoring
2. Community Learning & Informal Economy
3. Disability, Elderly & Religion
4. Office of the Department of Women
5. Office of Child & Welfare Services
6. Gender and Human Rights.

POLICY, PLANNING, MONITORING & EVALUATION BRANCH

Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (PPM&E) is an important Branch within the Department for Community Development and Religion.

The key roles and functions they take on is to provide Plans and Reports of the Department to CACC and NEC through the Office of the Secretary and Deputy Secretary, Corporate and Regulatory Services.

Another important role they play is to represent the Department in Policy Dialogue with other State Agencies and 'relevant organisations'.

The PPM&E Performance under the 2016 Annual Operational Plan were based on the Department's five (5) main goals;

- Improve Corporate Governance;
- Enhance Community

Livelihood;

- Further Human Rights;
- Promote and Strengthen Church-State Partners for Service Delivery, and;
- Special Functions which covers the Office of the Secre-

tary.

PPM&E has done well in terms of achieving the goals and objectives of the Department, but there's still a lot more work to be done.

A total of eighty-five (85) activities were outlined under the 2016 AOP, of which, 25 have been completed or achieved, twenty-seven (27) are currently in progress while thirty-three activities are still pending.

There were couple of challenges faced by the team in delivering their functions. The challenges identified are; Compliance to Monthly Reporting by Divisional Heads (Managers) and Time Management Issues.

However, this important branch in the Department is positive and is looking beyond to continue with the Department's planned activities.

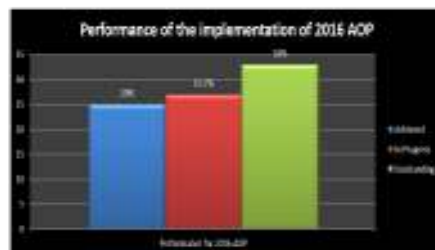
Summary of Performance

2016 AOP – 85 Activities (Total)

25 Activities Achieved

27 Activities In progress

33 Activities Pending



INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY BRANCH

In any business or organisation, whether it be Public or Private Sector, Information & Communication Technology (ICT) plays a vital role in the function of the Organisation.

2016 has been a year of many challenges for the ICT Branch in the Department, but the achievements has been far more greater.

The challenges faced by an organisation when moving from one office to another can be a daunting task when it concerns ICT. And the Department's ICT branch has done a tremendous job in ensuring ICT Infrastructures were up and running in no time during the relocation from Monian Tower, Downtown to Sambra Haus, Wai-gani.

Couple of the challenges faced were manpower during the relocation of ICT server infrastructure as well as funding constraints for the com-

pletion and installation of server infrastructure at Sambra Haus.

Despite these challenges the small ICT team managed to complete and install server infrastructures at Sambra Haus, ensuring the Department continues to function and carry out its mandated responsibilities.

At present, the ICT Branch now

has the capacity in manpower following the recruitment of new ICT support staff in October, 2016.

The ICT branch in 2017 will now focus on Goal 1 which is to Improve Corporate Governance.

5 Year Outlook: 2017 → 2021

- Major upgrade and on-going support of DFCDR ICT infrastructure to cater for internal information systems/databases & keep up to date with new technology.
- Installation of IGIS infrastructure in the Department and connection to the Provincial Administrations to enable CLDCs an effective and efficient information system and communication platform for ease of access to data and information.
- Review of internal ICT Policies for general DFCD ICT system, Internet, email & telephones

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION BRANCH

Another Core functional Branch under the Department for Community Development and Religion is Finance & Administration.

managed to spend within the Annual Budget with the focus on the Government's priority areas.

fund vital community projects under the leadership and guidance from the department inline with the Department's Corporate Plan.

Their role is to ensure that the Department's Financial records and Books are in order, and the logistical support is provided for the Officers in the department to carry out their duties diligently and effectively inline with the Government's priority areas.

2016 has been a tough year for this vital branch in the Department, with regards to the tough economy issues faced in the country.

However, the Department is pleased to announce that regardless, the Department still managed to stick within the 2016 Annual Budget in terms of Expenditure.

A total of K13million was budgeted for the Department in 2016 with K11million budgeted for Operational cost for the year and K2million as Development Grants.

Under the leadership of Secretary, Ms Anna Solomon, the department

2016 Initial Appropriation (GoPNG)	13'929.0
2016 Initial Appropriation (Donor) Non cash	46'880.0
2016 Budget Grand Total	60'809.0
2016 Personnel Emolument (PE)	10'526.1
2016 Goods and Services	3'481.3
2016 Utilities	3'685.3
2016 Grants	200.9
2016 Capital Formation	3.1
2016 YTD Warrant Authority 31/12	14'699.4
2016 YTD Expenditure 31/12	9'033.7
2016 YTD Expenditure 31/12 as %	95%
2016 Funds Available parked @ DoT	5'665.7
2016 YTD Funds Available parked @ DoT as %	5%

Description	Initial Appn.	Current Appn.	Warrant Auth.	CFC Auth.	Total Expn.	O/S Cont.	Com/Re Ad	Fund Avail
	13'929.0	16'161.2	14'799.4	1'033.2	45'921.8	38.1	2'164.2	15.5
11 Total Personnel Emolument	9'956.0	10'526.1	7'361.1	1'791.1	1'700.1	11.7	1'701.3	1.1
12 Total Goods and Services	3'186.4	3'764.9	3'481.3	3'414.9	3'496.0	4.1	3'314.9	0.7
13 Utilities, Rentals & Property	567.3	3'685.3	3'062.9	3'819.7	3'068.9	10.7	3'019.7	0.0
14 Grants Subsidies & Transfer	146.0	200.9	200.9	200.9	456.3	0.4	186.4	15.3
15 Capital Formation	15.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	0.0	3.1	0.0

This was made possible through the continuous support from the Development Partners who continue to

Moving on into 2017 and beyond, the Department is looking to continue its strict spending principles and work within the given 2017 annual budget.

However, the increased number of staff following a major recruitment process for new hires in October 2016 might be a slight challenge for Finance and Administration branch with regards to logistical support.

But this is not a hindrance as the Department has planned out its activities for 2017 with the launching of the Corporate Plan 2017-2021 and Annual Operational Plan 2017 to pave way for a clear and careful spending exercise in 2017.

The Human Resource Branch has also had a good 2016 year on a broader scale.

With the Department lacking man-

HUMAN RESOURCE BRANCH

power. The Human Resource team were on their toes working around the clock to meet the deadline set by the Department of Personal Management to get New Hires into the Department to fill in the vacant positions.

With a clear and transparent selection process, purely based on merit, they pulled through in time to complete the recruitment process and got in 89 new hires into the department.

The selection process was completed in October 2016, and by early November seventy-eight (78) new officers started on the job.

Apart from getting new staff, the HR branch also ensured that internal selections or transfers was also completed for existing officers within the department.

Manpower has been a real issue in the department, and it did not get much easier especially with the Department constantly moving around using four different offices at one stage.

However, with the added new staff, the department now has that capacity to continue to strive, to fulfil its planned activities in 2017 and beyond.

Just like any other branches in the department, the Hu-

man Resources branch have already finalised its 2017-2021 planned activities starting with...

- Manpower Audit and Training Plan, which will run from 2017 to 2018
- Data Base Management System - creating a centralized system for the officers in the department, which will be in collaboration with the ICT team
- Exit Plan for Officers leaving the Public Service - to be done in consultation with Department of Personal Management and other relevant parties
- And major restructure within the Department.

NEWS *flash!*

PUBLIC SERVICE 2017 YEAR RESUMES WITH DEDICATION SERVICE



The Department for Community Development and Religion started the 2017 year on a special note with the hosting of a first ever, combined Public Service, Prayer & Dedication Service on the 10th of January, at the Sir John Guise Stadium Indoor Complex, in Port Moresby.

The Prayer & Dedication Service was the Initiative of the Department, through the Office of Religion, under the leadership of Secretary, Ms Anna Solomon and supported by the Secretary of Personal Management, Mr John Kali.

It was a day of fellowship attended by State Agencies Heads, Departmental Heads and Public Servant's from within NCD.

In his keynote address, Chief Secretary Mr Isaac Lupari said, it was only fitting to start another new calendar year by dedicating the whole public service to God and to renew, review and recommit the tasks that are awaiting ahead for a much better coordinated, effective and efficient delivery of services to the people of Papua New Guinea.

The Public servant's were led by the Chief Magistrate, Ms Nerrie Eliakim in Reciting the Public Service Oath to remind the public servant's about the commitment they have made to serve the people.

Public Servant's were also reminded by Minister for Finance, Hon James Marape that out of the total government budget passed each year, 36 percent of the budget is consumed by the Public Service for wages and salaries alone.

In revealing that, Minister Marape told the Public Servant's that if that is the commitment by the government to look after their wellbeing, it is up to them to ensure they serve with dignity and honesty regardless of Designation or rank and file.

Elder Philip Vaki challenged the public servant's in his Dedication charge that, they are not only Called Upon to Serve as public servant's but to serve also as servant's of God.

And that is a reminder that will always linger in the hearts and minds of those who attended the Service.



CHILDREN'S BI-ANNUAL FORUM LAUNCHED

For the first time, our children will now have the opportunity to speak out on the issues affecting them and discuss amongst themselves about ways to address these issues. Thanks to the Department for Community Development & Religion's, Child and Welfare Services with the support from major partner UNICEF and other development partners, the Children's Forum was launched on the 20th of November, 2016 in Port Moresby with the Theme: "Let the Children Speak". The Event was attended by UNICEF's Representative to PNG, Mr Olushola

Ismail, Minister for Youth, Religion & Community Development, Hon. Delilah Gore, Secretary of the Department for Community Development and Religion, Ms. Anna Solomon, Partners from UNICEF and other UN Agencies Representatives, Heads of Diplomatic Missions of in PNG and Donor & Development Partners.

The Key message from Minister Gore and highlighted also by other speakers during the event was is to give our children an equal opportunity to discuss issues affecting them, allow them to speak freely on their views to contribute to Nation Building.



DEPARTMENT STRENGTHENS PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITY

Director for Child & Family Services, Mr Simon Yanis when addressing Elementary Two and Grade 8 Graduands of Nabua Paka, made an appeal to the Community, Provincial and National leaders that it is paramount that Children's Rights are protected.

He stated that, our number one priority must be our children because everything we own and do, we owe them to our children.

Director Yanis made the trip to Nabua Paka village in Kairuku District, Central Province, on December 7, 2016 to attend the Graduation Ceremony for Nabua Paka Early Childhood Centre and Primary School on behalf of the Secretary of the Department for Community Development and



Religion, Ms Anna Solomon.

The visit was also part of the Department taking the lead in identifying and strengthening the focused areas that are aligned to the department's goals and objectives.

As a token of appreciation for the Partnership with the Nabua Paka community, Director Yanis, donated three new chairs, a table and cabinet to the Early Childhood Centre.



NEWS *flash!***New Officers told to Practice New Culture in the Public Service**

Seventy-Eight (78) new Public Service officers who joined the Department for Community Development and Religion in November, 2016 were told to take their job as a blessing and serve the people of Papua New Guinea with commitment and honesty.

Secretary of the Department for Community Development and Religion, Ms. Anna Solomon when welcoming the new staff members during an Orientation Program, said that team work was vital to move this very important State Agency forward in achieving its Strategic Goals and planned activities.

"You coming here to work gives us a refreshing start and I want to see a new culture being practiced in the Public Service,, especially for this department" said Ms. Solomon.

She commented that, while public servants have been labelled with many name tags for not performing their duty to the expectation of the people, this is not true as it is up to individuals to ensure they do away with the old practices



and start with a fresh work attitude to prosper.

"I am looking out for attitude, commitment, good communication skills, good thinkers, team work and importantly apply respect in everything you do.

"I want you to build confidence while spending time with the Department and never undermine yourself. I want to see good team work between the younger staff and the old staff because you have been chosen as servants to serve the people of Papua New Guinea," Ms. Solomon said.

The new Officers were given a general overview of the Department, the roles, responsibilities and functions of various branches and sections from within the Department.

A total of 97 new staffs were recruited by the Department to occupy various positions from the branches within the Department.

The two day Orientation program was conducted on 17th and 18th November, 2016 at the Departments new look Samba Haus office complex in Waigani.

Department supports Disability Data Survey Project in EHP

November 16th, 2016 was a day of celebration for the people of Unggai-Bena District in Eastern Highlands Province as they celebrated the launching of the Disability Data Survey Project.

The launch took place in Goroka town and was attended by Member for Unggai-Bena and Minister for Lands and Physical Planning, Hon. Benny Allen, members of the District Development Authority, Service providers of Persons with disability in EHP and representing the Department for Community Development and Religion was Mr Joe Itaki - Executive Manager to the Office of the Secretary.

Mr Itaki told the people that, it was a milestone achievement, especially for Persons living with Disability,

while it is important that they take ownership of such initiatives and work together with the Government to implement Policies.

Meanwhile, Minister Allen highlighted the importance of this project as the survey will be rolled out to identify how many persons with disability are living in the District and the specific needs so that they can be catered for.

With this Launching, Unggai-Bena became the first District in the Highlands Region to roll out this project, and only the second District in the country after Rigo District in Central Province, who were

the first to launch the similar project in 2015.

The project was funded to the tune of K100, 000, with K50, 000 coming from the Department and the other half from the Unggai-Bena DSIP funds.



Persons Living with Disability part of the Project Launching

NEWS *flash!***Launch of Corporate Plan 2017-2021, Annual Operational Plan 2017 and Website**

The Department started the 2017 year with the Launching of the Corporate Plan 2017-2021, the Annual Operational Plan and the Department Website on the 20th of January at Holiday Inn Hotel in Port Moresby.

In her welcome remarks, Secretary, Ms. Anna Solomon spoke on the importance of having set plans and activities captured in the Corporate and Annual Operational Plan.

She emphasized that the Department is an important part of the overall Government structure as it deals directly with families, communities and human livelihoods which are all important aspects of Nation building.

"When we talk about all those important government policies, legislations and Acts, it is all captured in our plans which clearly tells you what we want to do as a government agency to help improve the lives of our people through better coordinated service delivery," said Secretary Solomon.

She also stressed that to achieve these plans and activities, the department would like to work together with the Development Partners, donor partners, Non-Government-Organizations,

Churches and other partners so that the implementation process is better coordinated for services to reach the people.

Chief Secretary, Mr Isaac Lupari, CBE, who was invited to speak at the occasion, congratulated the Department in identifying those im-



portant areas that needed to be addressed and have it documented while we strive to develop our community based society.

"The Corporate Plan is an on going document that has been done well, and captures all the Government

policies, right from the Legislative framework, right down to the policy and that's been now manifested into an action plan that goes right down to the details and how they are going to achieve those objectives that are outlined in the policy document.

"It talks about the community, it talks about Gender violence, human rights, persons living with disabilities and everything else that concerns human beings," said Mr Lupari.

In his conclusion remarks, the Chief Secretary pointed out that, it is better having this operational plan but the key to achieving these plans is implementation.

Mr Lupari went on to say that it is a task that needs everyone's contribution in making sure that whatever objectives that has being designed or programmed is implemented for the good of our people.

The Corporate Plan 2017-2021, Annual Operational Plan and the Website was officially launched by Hon. Delilah Gore - Minister for Youth, Religion and Community Development together with the Chief Secretary.

Department Hosts Successful Development Partners Alignment Forum

The challenges of better Coordination, stronger partnerships and effective service delivery were addressed during the Development Partners Alignment Forum held on the January 25th and February 3rd at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Port Moresby.

The idea of the Forum was to bring together Development Partners and present to them the Key Result Areas as outlined in the Department's Corporate Plan 2017-2021 and Annual Operational Plan 2017, whereby, the partners can identify the areas they want to work with the department for implementation.

On January 25th, the department did its presentations to the development partners through the respective Managers of each

Branches within the department.

The focus of their presentation was based on the Key Result Areas and how best they can align their programs and project with the partners so that implementation can be properly coordinated for an effective delivery of services.

After capturing the department's presentations, on February 3rd, the development partners came back with their responses and were pleased to emphasize that most of their planned activities falls under or in line with the various KRA's from the department.

Their presentations were focused on the five (5) main KRA's outlined in the Corporate Plan 2017-2021

and how best their activities can be aligned with the Department's plans and how best they can be coordinated for and effective service delivery.

Department's Highlights for 2016 in Pictorial...



Launch of Children's Bi-Annual Forum



Hand Over of State-Church Partnership Program

GBV Strategy Endorsement



Public Service, Dedication & Prayer Service



MOA Signing of Sign Language Interpreter with NBC Television News

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