



# The **FLY** Breeze

This is a quarterly Publication of the Ok Tedi Development Foundation and its community partners of Western Province

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## Village embracing education

A small village in the Middle Fly District of Western Province is investing funds received from the Ok Tedi mine to improve its school infrastructure.

The people of Mepu, numbering around 900 are constructing a new teacher's house for the elementary school which was recently completed using money from its Village Development Fund (VDF).

Electricity was then connected to the school buildings using the same fund. Mepu is one of the 157 villages currently benefiting from the Community Mine Continuation Agreement (CMCA) benefits package from the Ok Tedi mine. OTDF Middle Fly Regional Development Officer, Roger Babu advised that with the support of the Ok Tedi Development Foundation (OTDF), the village completed the elementary school in 2011 with an enrolment of 97 students.

The school is supported by the Catholic Mission whilst the staff are being employed on a voluntary basis. The community's Village Planning Committee (VPC) is now planning on nominating

a project that will fund the fortnightly salaries for the teachers to ensure their commitment to the school.

The Mepu community have agreed that OTDF will manage the funds from this project to pay the teachers.

Mr. Babu said the teacher's house was built at a cost of K179,000 while K15,000 has been spent on connecting the electricity. Both projects were approved by the Middle Fly Trust.

He said Mepu is a shining example of a village that is investing its money in building a sustainable future for its children.

The process for any CMCA village requesting funding requires that a project be nominated through their respective VPC's. The VPC then supplies the project proposal to their regional Trust Board, the members of which meet every quarter to approve the projects based on a number of criteria which includes whether the projects proposed are sustainable and whether the project will benefit the whole community.

Mr Babu said the teacher's house was completed in May.

Meanwhile the village will also begin funding the construction of five new family homes and purchase a new bus to be sub-contracted to the Stanley Gas project later this year.

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John Unam, the Juls Company Manager whose company was awarded the project by the Mepu community to build the Elementary teacher's house and supply electricity to the school while on the right is the elementary classroom that was built.

## From the CEO's Desk



Education and empowering women has been the Company focus for this quarter. OTDF is fortunate in being able to deliver change on an extensive range of tangible benefits to the Community Mine Continuation Agreement (CMCA) people of Western Province. Arguably the biggest sectoral programme is education and OTDF has had the privilege of facilitating the very strong desire of the women in particular to improve the standard of education.

Although currently tied up in a court battle regrettably orchestrated by only 9 of the more than 124,000 people living in the mine associated corridor, the funding source for this programme is the CMCA portion of the Western Province Peoples Dividend Trust Fund (WPPDTF).

Accessing the WPPDTF requires adherence to a specific series of guidelines signed off by the former Minister for Mining, the Honourable John Pundari on the 25th October 2010 as copied below. OTDF has followed this rigorous process to deliver a comprehensive and innovative strategy for the provision of improved elementary, primary and vocational education across Western Province. The consequent strategy is the culmination of over two years of work in collaboration with the Provincial Department of Education, National Department of Education, Churches, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade (DFAT), Village Planning Committees (VPC's), teachers, communities and members of the Western Province Education Steering Committee (WPESC).

A feasibility study enabling the collaborative input of all relevant stakeholders to be facilitated by OTDF and contracted to Cardno was consequently approved by both the WPESC and OTDF Advisory Committee in May 2014.

The final 'Western Province Education Support Programme' including an initial funding request of near PGK120 million has since been approved by the OTDF Board of Directors and submitted to Secretary Himata for implementation funding from the WPPDTF.

This programme addresses three principle components:

1. Improving Student Learning, including the provision of learning materials and teacher capacity building
2. Strengthening Education Management, including building the capacity of the Provincial Division of Education and the District Education Offices to deliver improved education services.
3. Improving School Infrastructure through Community Engagement, with a focus on new school infrastructure and maintenance, including teacher housing and ensuring women participate in the decision making process.



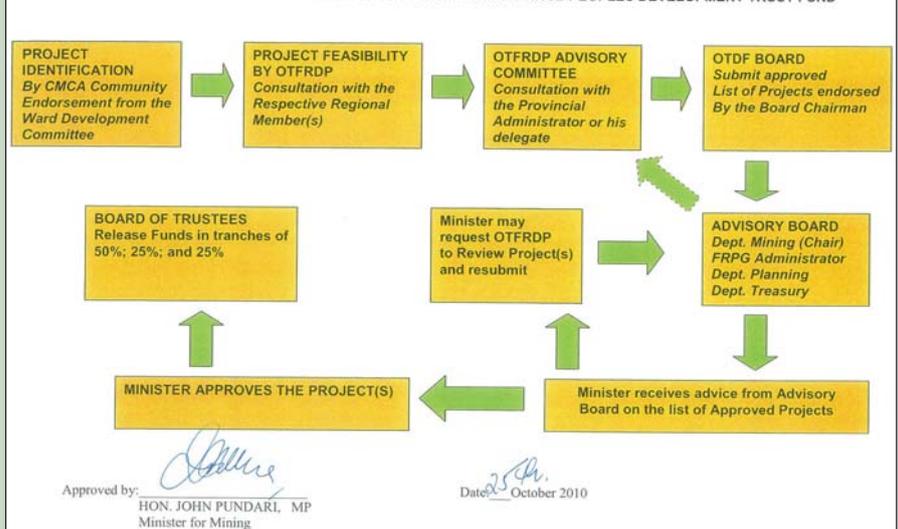
OTDF Board members displaying the Approved Education Strategy

OTDF is encouraged by the high level of public and political support for this Programme; the Secretary of Education has an extensive understanding of, and familiarity with, education in Western Province and offered strong support for this education development strategy and any ensuing implementation. The Governor for Western Province, the Honourable Ati Wobiro and the Provincial Administrator, Dr. Modowa Gumoi (also the Chairman of the Provincial Education Board) have advocated the need for more public, private sector partnerships to improve the education status of the children of Western Province and both support this initiative taken by OTDF.

The Programme will improve literacy, provide choice and deliver real hope for properly educating current and future generations of our mine associated communities and it is hoped the pending Court Case will soon be concluded to enable access to funds for delivering this change.

Beyond this education strategy OTDF is also facilitating the delivery of related programmes such as the construction of teachers housing, financial literacy training and the empowerment of women which you will read more about in the following pages. I would also like to congratulate the ladies that have been recognised for their outstanding performance this quarter, well done to Naomi and Lulu.

### ACCESSING THE 5% CMCA PORTION OF THE "WESTERN PROVINCE PEOPLES DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND"



# FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAMME

## MAKING PROGRESS



*Participants who graduated as Financial Literacy Trainers (TOT)*

After almost a year since the Bank of PNG Microfinance Expansion Project (MEP) and Ok Tedi Development Foundation (OTDF) signed a Memorandum of Agreement in October, 2013 for delivery of Financial Literacy Training in the CMCA Region considerable progress has been made. The core aim of the training programme was to train and encourage CMCA people to manage personal and household money more wisely through Savings, Budgeting and Managing Debt.

It was envisaged that this MEP will deliver Training of Trainers to representatives from each CMCA village who will then deliver that training to their respective communities in their own language. The programme aims to rapidly advance financial education for the people of the CMCA through workshops that will result in the formation of a network of financial educators across Western Province.

The Middle Fly region was the first to complete the training in all its 18 villages which included the Middle Fly Women's Association. Thereafter the Wai Tri and the Nupmo Trust regions

completed their TOT training. It was a great achievement when all the participants received their certificates at the graduation ceremony. A total of 457 participants have graduated so far from the financial literacy training programme, of which 69 are TOTs and 388 were community participants.

The Mine Villages will commence their training in November while the Tutuwe region begins in December. Regrettably all South Fly training is on hold pending the court case. During the training several TOT Trainers were selected by OTDF to be utilized on related programmes when needed. These trainers have already conducted training in the Wai Tri and Nupmo Trusts.

The two local trainers featured here are Fredrick Paulus from Bosset village and Daniel Dewap from Mepu village both in the Middle Fly Region. The training is one of OTDF's 2014 targets in an effort to build the financial capacity of the CMCA people ahead of the larger cash component to be paid to families from 2015.



*Local Trainer Daniel explaining the course content to a participant*



*Trainer Fredrick Paulus on the board in Bosset Village*

# Meet our trailblazers

OTDF continues to deliver on the aspirations of our 124,000-plus community partners in the CMCA region because of our hard working staff. In this issue, we feature two of these staff who have each been rewarded for their outstanding performance and the passion to deliver. Middle Fly Community Development Officer, Louise Olen was awarded the Staff Member of the Quarter Award while Contract Administrator, Naomi Nati was awarded the Staff Encouragement Award. These awards are given out every quarter.

Ms Olen is from the Milne Bay Province of Papua New Guinea.



## How long have you been working with OTDF?

This is my 4th consecutive year working with OTDF. I joined in 2010 during the time when OTDF became independent from OTML.

## Tell us more about the role you play with OTDF?

My role in OTDF is working as the Community Development officer for the Middle Fly region of Western Province. The most important role I play in the community is to help them understand the positive changes that OTDF is delivering. I try to help the community's to better understand these projects, for instance roads and schools or health facilities and to then take ownership of them.

## Why do you like working with OTDF?

I like to work with OTDF because it is people or community oriented. Also, I am supported to do up my own programmes to implement in the regions I am in.

## What are you most passionate about?

I am passionate about changing the lives of people. It's all about the "wow" experience. For instance when I teach someone new things and they say "wow! This is nice" it is in fact awesome, and this is what I am passionate about.

## Do you have any hobbies?

I love singing and also making people happy by putting a smile on their face.

Ms Nati is from the the Gulf Province of Papua New Guinea.



## How long have you been working with OTDF?

As of October, I will have worked with OTDF for 1 year. I joined the organisation last year in October 2013.

## Tell us more about the role you play with OTDF?

I work as the Contracts Administrator for OTDF. It is my role to write up and manage contracts for which OTDF enters into with other parties or development partners. I make sure a contract or agreement that is signed is not breached during the time of the project.

## Why do you like working with OTDF?

I worked in the courtroom setting after leaving school and I was used to that, however since joining OTDF I have experienced many new and varied challenges that are very different from the courtroom setting. I have already learnt many new things.

## What are you most passionate about?

I am passionate about helping people and as far as my role in OTDF is concerned I am focused on helping the community and the people in terms of contracts I manage or write up or any legal issues so that in the end, the community, the developing partners and OTDF are satisfied.

## Do you have any hobbies?

I love reading, meeting new people and also I love to travel.

## .....About us....



Ok Tedi Development Foundation Limited (OTDF) is a new and dynamic organisation mandated to deliver projects into all our community mine associated regions of the Western Province.

OTDF is a not for profit organisation, conceived in 2001 as part of the Community Mine Continuation Agreement (CMCA) enabling the Ok Tedi Mine to continue operating for the collective benefit of the people of Western Province.

Following a review of the CMCA in 2006/2007, the Ok Tedi Fly River Development Programme (OTFRDP) was registered as the Company's trading name to operate independently of OTML operations. Since March 2010, OTDF has been the vehicle delivering sustainable projects and programmes to the CMCA communities.

## Birds get new hangers



The two CMCA-owned Series 400 Twin Otter aircraft now have 'shelters' they can call their own after their hangers were completed in January 2014.

Since their arrival last year, both aircraft have been exposed to the elements on the tarmac at Tabubil airport. After their busy schedules flying to airstrips along the Fly River and some northern parts of the Province, they can now retreat in the evenings under the cover of their brand new hangers. The hangers also provide office space and spare parts storage for the Hevilift engineers and pilots.

# OTDF EMPOWERS WOMEN

While many countries worldwide, including Papua New Guinea, have made significant progress towards gender equality in recent decades, particularly in areas such as education, women continue to be regarded less important than men. Women are less educated, are less likely to advance their careers and are more likely to spend their older years in poverty. This has undermined the capabilities of women in PNG including the resource rich Provinces.

In an effort to correct this inequality the PNG Chamber of Mines and Petroleum facilitated a programme to improve the Social and Economic Empowerment of Women in the Mining and Petroleum sectors.

Funded by the World Bank through the Japanese Social Development Fund the programme aims to empower women by encouraging them to be bold and speak out.

Ok Tedi Mining participated through OTDF Programme Services in which a team of Community Development officers were sent into 15 villages in the North Fly and Middle Fly to assess the standing of women and men in the area.

As part of the programme, the OTDF Community Development Team carried out a survey with four target components:

- 1) Business Development encompassing Financial Literacy & Numeracy and Micro-business development support.
- 2) Community Based Advocacy awareness initiatives on Gender Base Violence and Preventative



*Women in Matkomnai in deep discussion about gender equality as OTDF officers listen, record and guide their discussion.*

Skills Training which encompasses training of local women's associations to be advocates for their project sites.

3) Training and assistance in Small Scale Mining activities.

4) Leadership and Self Esteem training for adolescent girls and young women which includes media, computer skills and photography.

A capacity needs assessment on women in the impact area was carried out to assess literacy levels, skills and training needs with regards to the rural community settings (the occurrence and significance of gender based violence and whether or not women had ever been empowered financially or socially in the CMCA areas was assessed).

OTDF Community Development officers also carried out awareness on life before, during and after Mining.

The awareness conducted by this programme was widely accepted by the target communities with both men and youths attending in addition to the respective women's groups.



*A participant expressing what she felt about life beyond mine closure during the 6 mine villages assessment*

# Representatives attend the Women In Mining workshop

The Ok Tedi Development Foundation (OTDF) organised for executives from the Star Mountains and Wai Tri Women's Associations to attend the Small Grants Capacity Building for Women In Mining (WIM) Association workshop.

The main theme of the workshop was the 'Small Grants Proposal Knowledge Platform', conducted in Port Moresby for Women in Mining from the Southern and New Guinea Islands regions. According to Alison Tammy, Senior Manager – Programme Services, the two attending association executives represented their other 7 sister associations, and have since returned and trained the other 7 Presidents on the processes of preparing project submissions in line with the requirements and conditions expected for funding by the Mineral Resources Authority (MRA).

Ms. Tammy highlighted that this is another potential source of funding for economically viable small scale projects to be put forward by Women's Associations in the Mine villages and CMCA communities to access. This is another means by which the CMCA women can be empowered to independently run their Associations.



*One of the Participants actively participating in the workshop*

Ms. Tammy advised that the workshop was organised by MRA and supported by GRM International to educate the women leaders on what the Small Grants project is and how Women's Associations from the Ok Tedi, Lihir, Simberi, Pogera, Hidden Valley, Ramu, Tolukuma and Mt. Sinivit mines can access this grant. The intention of the grant is to enable investment in improved livelihood opportunities. Ms Tammy added that the project has been set up in such a way that its expected outcomes are intended to address the goals of the WIM Action Plan.

The Women in Mining Small Grants Project is an initiative of the MRA for which funding was secured for through the World Bank and provided for under the Women In Mining Action Plan as a 5 year programme. The women who attended the workshop were encouraged to plan and put together submissions to commence the Small Grants programme through to MRA where a Screening Committee will assess and approve submissions fulfilling the grant requirements or request further information as required.

The CMCA Women have already submitted 2 applications for conducting Financial Literacy and Adult Literacy training for women in all trust regions and the Mine Villages.



*Representatives from the Mining areas in PNG who attended the workshop in Port Moresby.*

This newsletter is produced by the OTDF Public Relations to update and report on developments OTDF is carrying out throughout the Community Mine Continuation Agreement (CMCA) region, including the Western Province.

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