The World Bank in Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea (PNG) is the most linguistically diverse country in the world. It has a remarkable abundance of resources, and a population of over eight million people, 85% of whom live in rural areas. The World Bank’s long-term support to PNG is focused on improving livelihoods, strengthening macro and fiscal resilience, ensuring effective services reach people, diversifying the economy and creating jobs.

Current Projects

As of July 2022 there are 13 active operations.

- PNG Agriculture Commercialization & Diversification Project
- COVID-19 Emergency Response Project
- Crisis Response & Sustainable Recovery DPO
- Emergency Tuberculosis Project
- Improving Access to Health Services in PNG
- Rural Service Delivery Project
- Urban Youth Employment Project II
- Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Project Phase II
- Water Supply and Sanitation Development Project
- Energy Utility Performance & Reliability Project
- Resilient Transport Project
- Child Nutrition & Social Protection Project
- Enhancing Labor Mobility from PNG Project

*based on July 2022 data.
Agriculture & Food

The US$40 million (approx. PGK142 million) PNG Agriculture Commercialization & Diversification Project builds on the success of the Productive Partnership in Agriculture Project, which supported more than 67,000 coffee and cocoa farmers to build their skills, productivity and access to markets. The new project will continue to support coffee and cocoa growers, as well as farmers of small livestock and crops such as coconut and spices.

Social Sustainability & Inclusion

The Urban Youth Employment Project II aims to improve the capacity of young men and women to engage in productive income generating activities. In Port Moresby, its predecessor, the Urban Youth Employment Project, helped 18,500 long-term young and unemployed Papua New Guineans – 40% of whom are women - to undertake vocational training and fully subsidized work placements, creating over 815,000 days of work. UYEPII extends the program into Lae, PNG’s industrial hub and second largest city.

Health, Nutrition & Social Protection

The US$90 million (approx. PGK318 million) PNG Child Nutrition and Social Protection Project will be multi-sectoral and support implementation of the ‘PNG CARES’ (Community-based Approach to Reduce and End Stunting) initiative. This work will deliver improvements to nutrition-focused health services at provincial health centers throughout the country. The initiative will also support village health authorities and church health organizations to deliver community-level education on topics critical to health and nutrition during the vital first 1,000 days of children’s lives.

Transport

The US$107.55 million (approx. PGK381 million) Resilient Transport Project will fund the rehabilitation of 63kms of the Ramu and Hiritano highways, and fund extended maintenance of nearly 200kms of critical transport links. The project builds upon the second phase of the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Project that has already restored more than 160kms of roads across PNG, benefitting an estimated 1.3 million people (27% of PNG’s population).