

# Fly Breeze Newsletter



This Fly Breeze newsletter is a bi-monthly news bulletin

January - February 2023 Issue 71



CEO receives vehicle key from community leaders

## OTDF CEO's Welcome

This year has started off well and we hope to maintain the momentum throughout 2023.

Our Values will continue to underpin our decisions and help us to make a difference in the CMCA communities. With this strong foundation, a committed team, and a robust strategy, I am confident that we are very well positioned for continued growth and success.

We have improved our reporting process to strengthen focus on delivery and achieving targets against budget. We will continue to report on UN SDG's.

OTDF is currently discussing with PNGEIT the opportunity of lodging SDG data as part of OTML's sustainability contribution to the extractive industry.

Trust projects delivery is a key area which we will improve in 2023 with continued support from OTML shipping team.

Our communities are well versed with project approval processes and requirements which eases some of the pressure but we must continue to maintain open dialogue to ensure concerns are addressed satisfactorily.

Partnership is critical for OTDF. We will

continue to seek new collaborative arrangements and strengthen the existing alliances. Western Province is large and the only way we can achieve effective coverage is through working transparently and collaboratively with development stakeholders.

The CMCA review is planned to commence this year. OTML Community Relations (CR) will take lead and OTDF will be supporting the process.

It is critical all stakeholders work together in this process to ensure win-win outcomes for all, and particularly the CMCA villages. This social license guarantees continued OTML operations.

I want to thank everyone for your continued commitment and support.

All of us have an important role to play in the work ahead and I'm confident that together we will achieve great things. I wish you and your loved ones a safe and successful 2023!

God Bless.

## In this issue



Community build learning centre



Film training for media team



Education kits for elementary schools



OTDF programs updates



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.

**Want to know more about OTDF?**

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🌐 [www.otdfpng.org](http://www.otdfpng.org)



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Middle Fly Women's association executives receives dinghy

## Middle Fly Women association dinghy & motor delivered

The Middle Fly region of the Western Province comprises of large bodies of water, so transportation is a challenge experienced by government and other development partners in service delivery.

One such development group is the Middle Fly Women and Children's Association of the Community Mine Continuation Agreement (CMCA).

The association serves 18 villages scattered along the lakes of Middle Fly, along the Fly River corridor.

The executives on 15th March received the administration dingy and outboard motor delivered through Ok Tedi Development Foundation (OTDF).

Association president Mrs. Charlotte Mathews in her welcome remarks noted the delay in the delivery which impacted their movement when conducting their work down river.

Never the less she expressed gratitude on behalf of the association members to the Trust Administration team and OTDF for the efforts in delivering the association's transport asset.

She said: " Apart from OTDF, I give credit to my women executives, who tirelessly support the association and its work in our community. We know it is voluntary work, however the work and leadership role you play has not gone unnoticed, you will be rewarded."

OTDF Corporate Services Executive Manager, Mr. Raul De los Santos, in his response

congratulated the Middle Fly women for their role in taking lead in development within their Middle Fly communities.

He said: "This will require good stewardship. Women who take care of the family and children, can apply the same principle to the care of the assets delivered today".

The handover Ceremony was witnessed by the executives of the association and OTDF staff at the OTDF Yard in Kiunga.

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## OTDF welcomes EMCS

OTDF announces the appointment of Mr Raul De los Santos as the OTDF Executive Manager Corporate Services.

Mr Santos is an experienced Finance Controller and a recognised Certified Practising Accountant (CPA) in the Philippines and PNG.

He has worked internationally, and in the Morobe and Western Highlands provinces in various capacities over the years. His global knowledge and expertise will be greatly beneficial to the OTDF and CMCA communities.

OTDF welcomes Mr De los Santos and thanks everyone for the continued support.



OTDF Executive Manager Corporate Services Mr Raul De los Santos



Vanilla tunnels at Samagos Agro Industrial Centre

## Samagos AIC update

Fly Vanilla is now progressing well towards reality. The much-anticipated nucleus estate is almost complete through hard work, perseverance, good leadership and wise management of funds.

OTDF staff in Kiunga were given a tour of the Agro Industrial Center (AIC) here at Samagos.

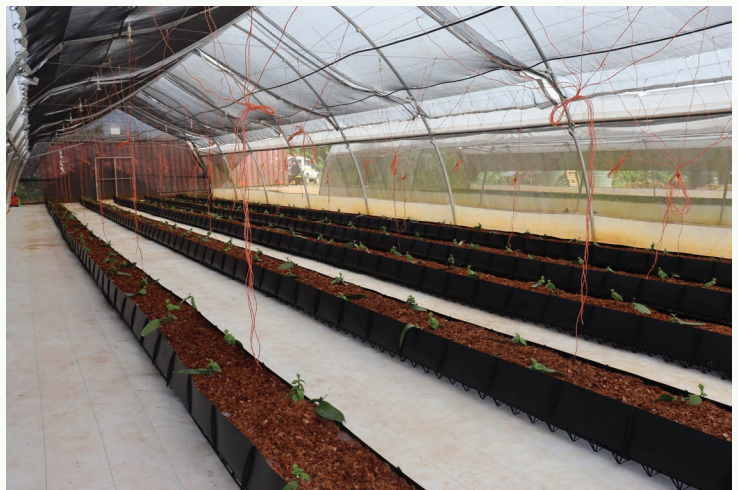
The multimillion kina facility comprises 29 tunnels, which will act as nurseries, and where the vanilla plants will be grown. The center's amenities include a production facility, curing facilities, the processing factory, storage facilities and staffing and administration buildings. The facility is set to open in the second quarter of this year.

West Agro Holdings Chairman, Ian Middleton thanked the partners especially OTDF. He said: "For those of you that have been here for the OTDF journey from inception in 2010, you can be proud to have contributed to the ultimate vision of self-reliance for our communities. This and the adoption of the WestAgro Master Plan by PNGSDP and all the associated AIC projects being rolled out across Western Province brings a close to an important chapter for me.

"On behalf of the many thousands of people across this province that will directly benefit from the WestAgro Master Plan, I thank you all for your continuous support."

OTDF CEO Havini Vira said the focus for OTDF is smallholder farmers and their involvement in growing vanilla.

"We must empower our smallholder farmers in our CMCA Trust



Vanilla planted in the grow-out tunnel at Samagos

regions with appropriate tools, skills and knowledge to operate on their own."

He said there is critical need to address the high dependence in CMCA villages on cash compensation from OTML.

"Developing diversified income streams is essential for the future and empowering households will address income generation concerns."

Creating a quality product demands the best possible vanilla crop: working closely and sustainably with local farmers is the only way to achieve this.



South Fly FODE & ADULT Matriculation student enrolment

## First quarter updates

### Education

The OTDF Community Education Service (CES) team have served CMCA and PAD students since 2012, providing service to learners who wish to complete their education.

The team this year enrolled 451 students to do Flexible Open Distance Education (FODE): From this enrolment, 246 are male students and 205 females. In the DODL Adult Matriculation, for this 2023 academic year, 647 students registered to do Adult Matriculation.

From this enrolment 364 male students and 283 female registered. A total of 175 grade 10 students registered to do Pre-Matriculation, while 242 grade 11 and 230 grade 12 students registered to study under the PNG University of Technology (UNITECH) DODL Adult Matriculation Program (AMP).

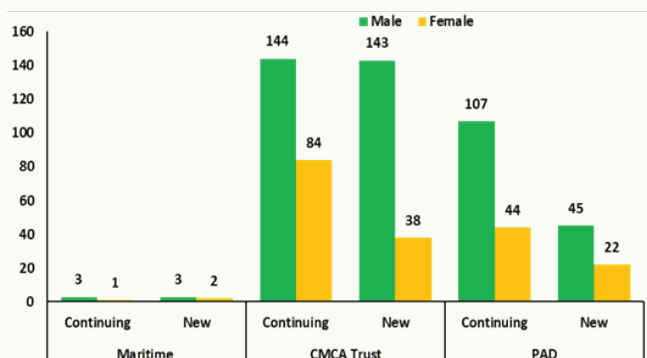


Table showing the CES enrolment figures

### Livelihood Development

Rubber is presently a source of income for one quarter of the CMCA Trust Regions, ideally suited to the environment, remoteness and lifestyle of the people in Western Province.

Considering this, OTDF continues to support small block holder production through internal and Trust funding sources.

The LDP field officers have so far distributed 6,500 Bare Budded Stumps (BBS) to 57 farmers at Serki village, moved from the Aiambak Field Base.

Interested growers have so far planted rubber over eight hectares, the LDP team have reached half the set target of 15 hectares.

Since the winding down of the rubber project in the Middle Fly, the remaining 18,000 seedlings left at the Aiambak Nursery are being extracted and distributed, with a rubber demo block to be set up at Aiambak Field Base.

It is anticipated that the Extraction & Distribution (E&D) will continue into the second quarter accompanied by the harvesting of eaglewood trees under trial.

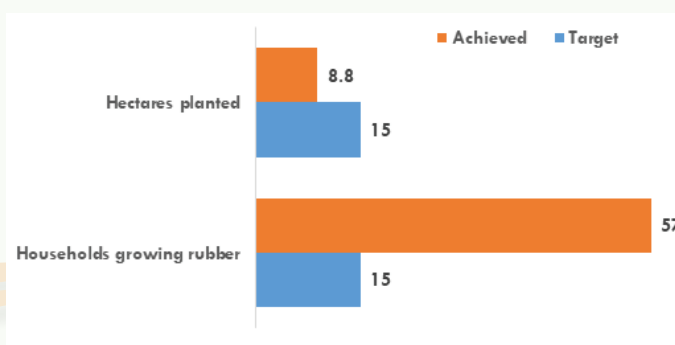


Table showing the progress of rubber program in South Fly



BBS extraction at Aiambak field base



## Community Development

### Agent of change

WaSH program coordinator Michael Koini (R) doing WaSH & Food Security baseline survey in Korkit village, Nupmo Trust region

## 2023 Program updates continues

### Community Development

The Community Development (CD) programs have so far completed all women budget workshops, and conducted its planned Executive and Regional Meetings for all regions. The nine association executives have been taking lead in making sure the planned meetings were conducted.

The South Fly Women & Children Associations had delivered project materials to their respective Women Social Issues Concern Groups (WSICG), including the trust funded development projects and conducted one training on food security.

So far in quarter one, support has been provided to 6 Womens Social Issues Concern Group (WSICG), two churches, and have facilitated three medical referrals.

### WaSH

After the launch of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH) program in 2022, the program has conducted Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) trainings in all four of the selected villages.

Twenty Ventilated Improved Pit (VIP) latrines were constructed in Pukaduka 1 village, with demonstrations completed in all four villages.

VIP latrines material distribution to Mutam and Pagona is complete while planning is underway to visit Sagapari in March to conduct CLTS training, VIP latrine demonstration, followed by distribution of VIP latrine materials.

The WaSH team has been actively involved in mobilising VIP latrine materials for the four selected schools of the South Fly since January whilst materials earmarked for the four selected Health Centres are being prepared for movement.

In 2023, the program moves into Middle Fly with the NF WaSH Survey currently progress.



VIP latrine seats built ready for installation

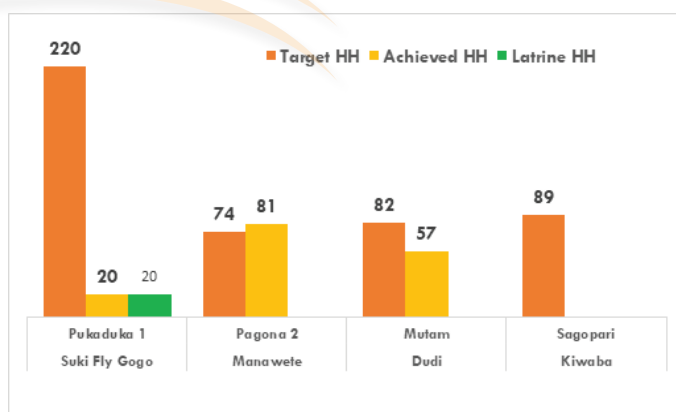


Table showing the WaSH targets



Teachers from selected schools receive their educational kits

## Women association supports schools

Many children in PNG don't access quality education. One of the contributing factors is inadequate sources of teaching materials preventing children reaching significant milestones in their education.

To address this, ten elementary schools in North Fly District of Western Province were supported with education materials containing Solar Projector Kits and mobile phones installed with interactive learning resources.

The specialised software is tailored for early learning students in rural PNG as the eLearning resources are presented in both Tok Pisin and in English.

Mrs Joan Gabriel of Matkomnai Elementary School expressed appreciation for the support. She said: "Because we don't have access to power, using projectors and useful technology to teach is a challenge for us rural schools, and having this solar generator kit to charge and power the devices is what we teachers have longed for".

The educational kits were purchased through counter funding from Tutuwe Ara and the Nima Ara Women & Children's Association of the Community Mine Continuation Agreement (CMCA).

The presentation and training was facilitated by All Children Reading (ACR) Program through Save the Children PNG.

Vice President for Tutuwe Ara Mrs Serah Meroke spoke on behalf of the two associations acknowledging the support from Save the Children and development partners involved in delivering this education kits.

### Change is coming

Those who have the heart for the underprivileged and the vision to change these accepted norms are steadily bringing change to the rural communities.

Save the Children PNGACR Project Manager Hilton Kapal advised teachers from ten different schools in North Fly District of the importance of the educational kits and its maintenance.

The teachers were provided training on the eLearning resource materials contained in the mobile phones prior to receiving the educational kits.

According to Save the Children PNG Area Manager, Mr Stanley Kumasimba, the mobile phones are installed with the latest technology of interactive learning and teaching materials containing videos and basic phonics presented in Tok Pisin and English.

Mr Kumasimba advised the teachers that an evaluation would follow to monitor the project and also provide recommendations to the women associations if the project was viable and could be extended to more schools in the North Fly District.

Program Services Sustainable Development Manager Mr Andrew Mari encouraged the teachers to take good care of the hi-tech equipment and its accessories as they were expensive.

He said: "The equipment is meant for the whole school to use. From experience, many projects meant for community benefit were personalised, mishandled and damaged."

He urged the teachers to refrain from this practice and to change that trend.



The kits include a projector, solar generator, solar pannel and accessories



File photo: Oksapim Secondary School student dormitories under renovation in 2019

## Oksapim Secondary School officially open facilities

The Oksapim Secondary School, in the Telefomin District, West Sepik Province, officially opened its new facilities on 8 February 2023.

Built under the National Government's Infrastructure Tax Credit Scheme (ICTS) worth K38.4 million and implemented by Ok Tedi Mining Limited (OTML) and its business partners, the school will begin using the facilities this academic year.

Located in Tekin Valley, about 76 kilometres from Telefomin district, the Oksapim Secondary School infrastructure project was approved in 2010 at a project cost of K26 million, with implementation beginning in 2012.

OTML and its business partners completed the project which saw the construction of seven staff houses, two double classrooms, three dormitories, three ablution blocks, a mess, administration building, library and science laboratory.

The opening ceremony was attended by Minister for Works and Highways and Member for Telefomin, Hon. Solan Mirisim, cabinet ministers and executives, and Executive Management representatives from Ok Tedi Mining Limited, and the Ok Tedi Development Foundation.

Minister for Finance and Planning and Member for Finschhafen, Hon. Rainbo Paita, committed K1 million towards the funding of new computers for students to use.

Minister Mirisim, committed K3 million to the secondary school and K1 million each to Oksapim High School and Bak High School.

He further announced the installation of a new communications tower by Telikom PNG in Tekin Valley to support the implementation of ICT infrastructure at the school by PNG DataCo.

OTML acting General Manager Community and Operation Support, Mr. Jesse Pile, said the new school facilities will continue to provide opportunities for more young men and women to be educated.

"Ok Tedi will continue to work with the National, Provincial, District, and Local Level governments, and other stakeholders to deliver such projects that will change the lives of people," he said.

OTML thanked the various business partners involved in the project which included Tabubil Engineering, Milum Investment, Lotic Bige Ltd, Hausman Builders, KERACS, Heli Niugini, Hevilift and Ok Tedi Development Foundation.



Ms Doris Roy during training at Tmindemesuk

## Inclusivity for special needs people

The Tutuwa Ara Women and Children's Association have supported a woman with disability from Tmindemesuk village with a sewing kit.

Doris Roy was gifted a manual sewing machine and a bolt of material as a Christmas gift last year.

"After attending the sewing training, it has empowered me to earn money and support my school aged daughter by sewing meri blouses to sell."

"I received sewing skills training in September 2022 and four months later I am benefiting from the life skills knowledge. I received my machine and material and started my small sewing business. I had sewn five meri blouses and sold each one for K25. I am thankful to the association for the support and especially to come and share skills at the village level."



The Tmindemesuk community and development partners in front of the learning centre

## Women empowerment: Local women build community learning centre

The Tutuwe Ara Women and Children's Association is a group of women in Western Province, committed to developing their 29 communities through self-reliance.

In Tmindemesuk Village, the women have established a community learning center and life skills program for women to learn basic sewing skills.

Under the leadership of Mrs. Denise Albert Handy, the first president elected in 2015 for the Tmindemesuk Women's Social Issues Concern Group (WSICG), the women raised funds and received support from 20 local firms and organizations to build their own semi-permanent Community Learning Centre.

Completed in 2022, the first sewing training was held in September, with 19 participants learning how to sew meri blouses and men's shirts which were sold for K50 and K20 each.

The Tutuwe Ara Women & Children's Association exists to support its 29 villages and offers life skills training in baking, sewing, and music for interested participants in each of the 29 villages.

The participants were trained by Tutuwe Ara association members and executives who had previously undergone sewing training facilitated by the Kiunga Technical Vocational Education Training Centre (KTVETC) last year.

The association will continue to support self-initiated programs, and more support will be given if members pay their K200 registration affiliation fee.

The women of Tmindemesuk Village were humbled to receive life skills in sewing and are now encouraged to share their knowledge with the women in their respective villages.

The success story of the Tutuwe Ara Women and Children's Association demonstrates how empowered women can positively impact their communities in the Community Mine Continuation Agreement (CMCA) Trust Region.



Mrs Handy (middle) and the Tmindemesuk WSICG executives & committee members



Mrs Handy (R) assisting participants during training



National Film Institute staff demonstrate the use of lighting as part of film training

## OTDF Media staff participate in film making training

A weeklong film and documentary training facilitated by the National Film Institute (NFI) attracted participants from the government and private sector. OTDF sent its media staff to attend the training in Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province, from 27 February – 3 March. Titled 'Basic Approach To Documentary Filmmaking Using Smartphones', participants were given first hand knowledge in script writing, the three stages of film production and editing.

The highlight was the session on the use of mobile phones (android) to capture pictures and video footage to make documentary films, facilitated by highly skilled local filmmakers from NFI who delivered the skills in mobile editing.

Topics covered included Refresher into communication & media (not limited to journalism); Introduction to basic documentary film making; Basic shots and angles in filming; Overview of the three stages of production: Pre-production, Production & Post production; Script writing; Practical session on how to use the mobile phone camera; Filming using mobile phone; Film Production – practical session; and Film editing on mobile phone using android app 'KineMaster'.

The NFI exists to produce films documenting Papua New Guinea's rich and diverse cultural heritage.



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1. Techniques in mobile camera use during interview
2. Participants shown the NFI digitising room
3. Film editing on the mobile phone using android application



The GDS trainees with the CEO Mr. Vira (second from right)

## Graduate Development Scheme Program update

The OTDF's Graduate Development Scheme is nearing its two-year completion, since receiving its trainees in 2021. The program will continue this year with another set of inductees.

Moses Waiviro – Graduate Agricultural Extension Officer  
 Livelihood Development Program  
 OTDF Graduate Development Scheme  
 JUNE 2021 – MARCH 2023  
 (1 YEAR 10 MONTHS)  
 GDS TRAINING PROGRAM

My involvement with the Innovative Agro Industries (IAI) team at Samagos has broadened my knowledge in vanilla upkeep in a controlled tunnel nursery.

Participating in pollinating vanilla has given me confidence as a new agriculturalist to train locals in my community on improved methods of vanilla growing.

I was involved in packing cocoa peat for transplanting vanilla vines and also involved in the setup of the macro in the site four tunnel, which will be a nursery site before transplanting the vines to other tunnels.

I was engaged to work in the green house, with tasks like watering vanilla and training vanilla vines on nylon rope for the ease of looping.

This is an achievement as a pioneer in the OTDF GDS program and I am privileged to learn these new skills and knowledge from the IAI team on how to propagate vanilla under greenhouse conditions.

I have learnt that the importance of growth and development of the vanilla and suitable timing on when to disturb and pollinate the flowers.



Moses provides LDP updates at the Middle Fly VPC's meeting



Preparing cocoa peat for transplanting vanilla



Abraham provides general awareness during a visit to Bultem village, Star Mountains LLG

## Trainee gets accounting certification while in GDS program

Abraham Kromnong – Graduate Accountant  
Finance & Administration  
OTDF Graduate Development Scheme  
JUNE 2021 – MARCH 2023  
(1 YEAR 10 MONTHS)  
GDS TRAINING PROGRAM

How time flies to have come this far despite the Covid-19 pandemic disruptions in 2021 when I first joined as a pioneer GDS Accountant at OTDF. For me, it was all about gaining the exposure in a multi-cultural and modern setting business environment after my studies at UPNG's new School of Business & Public Policy Building and also with my previous internship exposure in Port Moresby. The only organization that could offer this type of standard back home was Ok Tedi Mining Ltd. Surprisingly, it was a privilege to join OTDF as a pioneer GDS, as it is a subsidiary of OTML. The most unique thing I will take away from this GDS training is from seeing firsthand different styles of leadership traits portrayed by various leaders within the organization to influence decision making, both within the organization and out in the communities, in order to make sure that we achieve our annual targets. In my view, OTDF is one of the best organizational models in PNG's context that can be replicated and implemented by other mineral and energy project developers in PNG to allow impacted communities to easily allocate their development funds to enable sustainable socio-economic development. This model reduces tedious and lengthy processes within governmental agencies that delays and infuriates local impacted communities on development ambitions.

**"IF NOT NOW, THEN WHEN? IF NOT US, THEN WHO?"**  
Former OTDF Board Chairman, Musje Werror

The following are my achievements which I am most pleased with.

### CERTIFIED PRACTICING ACCOUNTANTS PNG

Exams passed 2021 – 2022: Foundations of Accounting, Business Law, Taxation Law & Practice, Strategic Management Accounting, Advanced Audit and Assurance, Ethics and Governance. Exams to complete in 2023: Financial Risk Management and Financial Reporting.

### GDS ROTATIONS COMPLETED

Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, General Ledger, External Audit



Abraham in the finance office workstation

I am thankful for being continuously supported by OTDF to pursue my Certified Practicing Accounts (CPA) studies while doing my GDS within the two years of training. I have passed six CPA PNG Exams and this year I will be completing the remaining two (2) exams. My goal is to attain the designation of Certified Practicing Accountant by CPA PNG. I believe that gaining experience at work is one thing but also having the drive to attain professional qualifications while young is an investment that will pay off in the long run and I will always be thankful to OTDF for giving me this opportunity.

My GDS training included rotating to different Finance sections in OTDF. I was able to perform roles in accounts payable, accounts receivable, general ledger and external audit engagements. As a result, I have gained confidence to perform different finance tasks independently.

The highlight for my training is seeing the complete financial process from recording of transactions all the way to producing monthly financial reports. As an Accountant most of the time you will work behind the scenes to move the organizations' operational requirements.

As a result I have learnt that team work and greater cooperation from everyone in the organization helps to achieve the overall objectives and annual targets.

# Time Out



1. OTDF team out on field duty in the Star mountains
2. Staff given tour of Samagoes AIC
3. Corporate Services team
4. OTDF Admin staff taking a breather out of office
5. Staff prepare to travel for VPC elections
6. Trust team

**STRONGIM**  
**WAN**  
**WOK**  
**PASIN**