



Department of Provincial and Local Government Affairs

Monthly Newsletter

Issue 1/2018

March 2018

FROM THE SECRETARY



Welcome to the first edition of our monthly newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed of what's happening, what has happened and what will happen.

This year 2018 has major challenges for my department and so we have launched our Corporate Plan 2017-2022 in December and the restructure will follow suit shortly to pave the way for the Department to strategically achieve its objectives.

And with that, I hope you will find this newsletter interesting and informative.

For any comments, information or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Department on the contact list at the back page.

And finally, I'd like to wish you all a family and friends filled Easter of peace, joy and love. Take care, be safe and enjoy the family time together.

Dickson Guina
Secretary

NEW ORGANIC LAW ON DECENTRALIZATION

The new organic law provides for provincial governments to be given more autonomy, where the National Government will hand down some functions and administrative powers controlled at the national level to the provincial government to operate and manage their own economies.

But not all provinces will be given these powers, only those provinces that perform and prove to the National Government that they are capable to operate independently will be granted these powers.

When a province is gains Autonomy status, it does not mean it is breaking away from PNG eventually like what the Autonomous Region Of Bougainville (AROB) is now experiencing.

Autonomy is gradative decentralization when Provincial Governments are empowered with functions and powers to responsibly operate independently from the national budget.

These provinces should have cities or towns and districts as the growth centres with all the minimum standards that should attract and retain people to live in the provinces and districts.

This will ultimately minimize rural-urban drift, people will stay and work in the provinces.

Provinces that perform very well will eventually form integrated governments for efficiency and production.

This department's role is to evaluate and monitor the performances of all the provinces through the activities of PLLSMA and recommend to the National government which provinces are ready for decentralization.



Department of Provincial and Local Government Affairs

Monthly Newsletter

Issue 1/2018

March 2018

Currently, New Ireland Province is the first province of the 3 recommended provinces that was granted autonomy status recently. The other provinces, Enga and East New Britain Provinces are the next two provinces preparing for decentralization.

However, when a province does not effectively perform the given powers and functions, these powers and functions will be removed from the provincial government.

Open Electorate Leaders and Governors together with their CEOs and Provincial Administrators are encouraged to work together with the private sector to grow their own provincial economy.

PARTNERSHIP FOR FRONTLINE SERVICE DELIVERY

Partnership Agreement go hand in hand to effect the Decentralization process.

Partnership agreements involve elected Leaders within a province collaborate with their respective provincial administrators and DDA CEOs, partner with the private sector to grow the provincial economy.

Partnership agreements will eliminate duplication of projects and share resources, address maintenance and ownership issues so the resource keeps operating.

For example, if a donor wanted to build a hydro power plant for a certain district. This agreement can allow for who will maintain and take ownership of this resource when completed so it does not cease.

DPLGA has developed Partnership for frontline Service Delivery and Growth which will assist DDAs and Provincial Governments to work together in partnership with the private sector, donor agencies, churches or individuals.

To ensure that Policy implementation is well coordinated to achieve service delivery and development outcomes, DPLGA has developed a *Practice Start up Toolkit*.

This partnership agreement provides for Provincial Governors and DDA Chairs (Open Members of Parliament) to agree to service delivery functions and responsibility for DDAs to perform.

DPLGA department will guide the Leaders on what partnership can do in terms of achieving deliverables and improve quality of life for their particular province based on data.

Basically, *all* the Elected Leaders within each province will work together regardless of whether they are in the Government or Opposition, for the betterment of their province, district and LLGs.

There are three phases for the process of decentralization. The preparatory phase and phase 1 are Service Delivery agreements whilst the phase 2 and 3 are inter government agreements for decentralization and economic growth.

The preparatory phase of is very crucial where all leaders of a province are mobilized, with their plans and collectively agree on clear deliverables, priorities and sharing of resources to attain service delivery as a province.



Department of Provincial and Local Government Affairs

Monthly Newsletter

Issue 1/2018

March 2018

Morobe Province, Milne Bay Central and East Sepik province have completed the preparatory phase and are ready for phase 1.

Phase 1 is the Service Delivery Partnership Agreement (SDPA) and Inter Government Agreement. These provinces should have mobilized their leaders and public servants. Their SDPA should be endorsed and ready for signing. They should have prioritized areas for transfers and draft Inter Government Agreements for signing.

Provinces that completed phase 1 and preparing for Phase 2 are East new Britain Province and Enga.

Phase 2 is based on Minimum Standards and Wealth Creation. Inter Government Agreement for performance based power sharing or gradative decentralization. Provinces that meet the Minimum Standards of Service Delivery are given more powers towards investments and growing their economies.

Only New Ireland Province has attained phase 2 and is now preparing for the final phase 3.

Phase 3 is Inter Government Agreement for economic growth. Well performing provinces or economic sectors form intergrated governments for efficiency and production.

PLLSMA

PLLSMA (*pronounced as 'plasmah'*) is the abbreviation for Provincial and Local Level Services Monitoring Authority, established under Section 110 of the Organic Law on Provincial and Local Level Government 1995.

PLLSMA provides the coordination and monitoring framework for whole of Government, including department partners and other key service delivery partners in terms of service delivery activities at the Provincial, District and Local Level Government levels.

It is chaired by the DPLGA Secretary, co-chaired by Secretary of Department of National Planning and Monitoring with heads of both central and line agencies as members.

Recently this month, Chief Secretary, Mr. Issac Lupari, CBE, called for a Special PLLSMA Meeting and Provincial Administrators meeting which was hailed very successful.

PLLSMA also initiated PCMC (Provincial Coordination and Monitoring Committee), in the provinces, which is a committee that coordinates and monitors service delivery activities in the provinces.

We will feature some of the important outcomes and the upcoming PLLSMA activities in the next month issue.

DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (DDA)

The District Development Authority (DDA) is a mechanism established by an Act as required by the Organic Law, and replaced what used to be the Joint District Planning and Budget Priority Committee (JDPBPC).

DDA is not a level of Government, but a mechanism created by the Government for frontline services, as Districts are closer to the majority of the people in the rural areas.

All elected leaders of Open Electorate are the automatic chairman of their respective DDAs



Department of Provincial and Local Government Affairs

Monthly Newsletter

Issue 1/2018

March 2018

with LLG Presidents as the members of the DDA Board including three more that are appointed by the Chairman, of which one must be a female.

District service and growth centres must be developed to attract skilled workers to live and work in rural area. The private sector must invest in districts to serve the people.

DDAs must ensure to develop Minimum Standards to create an enabling environment to revitalize district services and growth centres, such as having 24 hour water and power supply, urban level hospital with doctors, schools and training institutions, Police stations, etc.

DDAs are also responsible to administer all the public servants in the Districts and therefore it must ensure the welfare of government workers.

Accountability. The National Executive Council (NEC) can suspend a DDA Board upon advice from the Minister for Inter Government Relations. Reasons for suspension include;

- Authority is unable to perform its functions.
- Gross improper conduct of affairs.
- Misappropriating funds.
- Conflicting conduct with the Provincial Government's policies and plans.
- Board fails to comply with the Minister's directive according to the Act.

Open Members of Parliament are encouraged to work together with their DDA Chief Executive Officer to collaborate with their Provincial Administrators and Governor to utilize the Provincial Service Delivery Partnership Agreement (SDPA)

All DDAs are required to submit S119 Reports to Department of Provincial and Local Government Affairs on a quarterly basis. *See the back for contact details.*

RURAL SERVICE DELIVERY & LOCAL GOVERNANCE PROJECT (RSDLGP)

The Rural Service Delivery & Local Governance Project (RSDLGP) was introduced in 2013 and implemented by DPLGA.

The aim of the project to empower people in the rural areas and is 'Community Driven Development' project, meaning the people choose what project they need and they contributed 15% of the total project cost via local materials, labour or cash.

The project was trialed in 73 wards in Central Province and Western Province from 2013 – 2016.

So far, the trial project has funded 22 water catchments, 21 aid posts, 11 classrooms, 5 community halls, 4 solar lightings, 2 nurse houses, 2 teachers houses, 1 library, village court house, medical store, water supply, footbridge and a water transport.



Pictured above is the completed aid post at Gusiore Ward, Kiunga Rural LLG, Western Province.



Department of Provincial and Local Government Affairs

Monthly Newsletter

Issue 1/2018

March 2018

RSDLGP Scale Up. The project has now being scaled up to include 3 more provinces, including East New Britain Province, Simbu and West Sepik Province which will benefit 20 districts in these provinces.

The project facilitates training to the provinces, district, LLGs and ward officials for implementation of projects.

The project is funded by the World Bank, the Australian Government and PNG Government.

Leaders willing to engage their province or district in this project are encouraged to contact the department through the LLG Division for assistance.

MORE PICTURES OF RURAL SERVICE DELIVERY PROJECTS COMPLETED



Left to right: completed water catchment project, Lake murray LLG, Middle Fly District; Chiria Ward, Kairuku LLG, Central Province; DPLGA Director, Delilah Koja presenting a project cheque to Bisuaka Ward Member, of Oriomo Bituru LLG.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017

- Launching of the DPLGA Corporate Plan 2017-2022
- Launching of the Rural Service Delivery Project (RSDP) by Minister for Inter Government Relations, Hon. Kevin Isifu on 2nd November 2017 at Kitpeng Building. The scale up will now extend to 3 provinces, ENB, Simbu and West Sepik.
- Coalition of Partners Meeting on Greater Decentralization, 28 Sept 2017
- Mr. Dickson Guina was appointed as the Permanent Secretary of DPLGA on 7th March 2017.



Department of Provincial and Local Government Affairs

Monthly Newsletter

Issue 1/2018

March 2018

The Ministry and the Executive Management Team

Minister for Inter Government Relations.....	Hon. Kevin Isifu, MP
Secretary, DPLGA	Mr. Dickson Guina
DPLGA Acting Deputy Secretary, PMI	Mr. Joseph Warus
DPLG Deputy Secretary, TASS	Mr. Julius Wargirai

Important Contacts

Matters Regarding...	Division	Contact information
DDA	Ms. Jennifer Adema – Director Ms. Delialah Koja - Director	Tel: 301 1007/3011055/1058 jadema@dplga.gov.pg dkoja@dplga.gov.pg
City Authorities, Legal issues	Mrs. Nanai Puka-Areni – Director Ms. Michiko Kwaimani	Tel: 3011057/3011038 npuka@dplga.gov.pg mkwaimani@dplga.gov.pg
PLLSMA, Monitoring & evaluation	Mr. Akame Tunama – Director Mrs. Christine Boude	Tel: 301 1008/301 1053 atunama@dplga.gov.pg cboude@dplga.gov.pg
LLG, boundaries, elections, SPA, Rural Service Delivery Projects	Mr. Larson Thomas – Director Mr. Ken Gaso	Tel: 3011043/3011046 lthomas@dplga.gov.pg kgaso@dplga.gov.pg
Partnership agreements, policies	Mr. Gabriel Ngat – Director Mr. Herman Mirio Mr. Paterson Kassam	3011072/3011039 gngat@dplga.gov.pg hmirio@dplga.gov.pg pkassam@dplga.gov.pg
Office of the Secretary/ newsletter	Nelly Kema/Kathy John	Tel: 3011064/3011065/18 nkema@dplga.gov.pg kjohn@dplga.gov.pg
Office of the Minister	Ms. Relvie Kimia	Tel: 3011017 igrenq1@dplga.gov.pg kimiarelvie17@gmail.com