



Transparency International PAPUA NEW GUINEA INC.

Our Values: Accountability | Fairness & Justice | Patience & Perseverance | Courage & Commitment | Respect

THE TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL PNG QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



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TIPNG Legal interns at the Launching of the Interim ICAC Office Anti-Corruption Strategy. (L-R) Courtneyalla Dotson, George Monouluk and Mariah Bualia.

UPNG LAW STUDENTS COMMENCE INTERNSHIP

We have engaged three interns from the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) as part of our Legal Internship Program (LIP). The LIP first started in 2017 as an opportunity for UPNG Law School Students to gain valuable exposure to anti-corruption advocacy within TIPNG. Now in its sixth year, the LIP has continued to support TIPNG’s legal capacity to promote good governance within the country.

The internship commenced on Monday 30th October 2022 and will end in February 2023. The three interns selected for 2022-23 TIPNG Legal Internship program are:

- Ms. Mariah Bualia, LLB 4
- Ms. Courtneyalla Dotson, LLB 3
- Mr. George Monouluk, LLB 4

“We thank the University of Papua New Guinea School of Law for continuing to support this internship program by TIPNG. In 2020 we signed a 5-year MoU that will take us through to 2024. This Internship continues to strengthen the efforts of TIPNG as we work to empower people in PNG to take action against corruption,” said Ms. Arianne Kassman, TIPNG Chief Executive Officer.

The three interns will be with us for 14 weeks and will assist us in producing legal briefs, reviewing our advocacy files and providing technical support to our policy work. This partnership supports TIPNG’s strategic objectives to be able to respond to issues that require legal skills. The interns have also attended high-level stakeholder meetings and engagement including the UN Anti-Corruption workshop on the National Anti-Corruption Plan of Action, meeting with TIPNG founding director and EITI Head of the Global Secretariat.

The Legal Internship Program has been made possible with funding from the TI Indo-Pacific Partnership for Strong, Transparent, Responsive & Open Networks for Good Governance (TI IPP STRONGG) 2020 – 2023. This funding assists chapters of Transparency International to contribute to reduced corruption in the Indo-Pacific region by empowering a strong and independent civil society voice and network that can mobilize action in support of increased accountability of public and private institutions nationally and regionally.



FROM THE HELM

Dear Members and Friends,

The final quarter of this year started and ended on a high note with two major events: The 2nd National Integrity Summit and the Elections Seminar.

We kick-started this quarter with our Legal Aid Program where we had three trainees from the Legal Training Institute. The trainees were with us for two weeks. We also took on our sixth batch of legal students under our Legal Internship Program who are currently engaged with us for 14 weeks. Also this year, we took on our first accounting intern who is working with our finance team to gain exposure and experience in the sector.

The 2nd National Integrity Summit brought experts and reformers into dialogue on how best we can improve our integrity as a nation. I'd like to acknowledge the support from the European Union that made the Summit possible.

Also at the Summit, we recognized and awarded three organizations who have taken the initiative to devise mechanisms to strengthen their integrity and an outstanding journalist for her investigative journalism piece.

We hosted our election seminar late November and presented the findings of our elections observations. The report was received by the PNG Electoral Commissioner, Mr Simon Sinai. We have put forward a number of recommendations aimed at improving the transparency and integrity of our elections and we are ready to work with the various stakeholders to ensure better elections come 2027.

From both our events, we produced and released outcome documents summing the discussions and ideas shared, and paving a way forward to enhancing the integrity of our society.

The fourth quarter ended with the International Anti Corruption Day where we ran a social media campaign defining various forms of corruption, namely conflict of interest, grand corruption, political corruption, sextortion and fraud.

As you read through this issue of our newsletter, you will realize that at TIPNG, we work with a sense of urgency to combat corruption by working with our partners and engaging in spaces that require full transparency. Your support as members and friends give us the mandate to speak up and we hope that in the New Year 2023, you will continue to stand by us by renewing your support as members. Please contact us for an application form and an invoice.

Thank you again and wishing you all a safe journey into the New Year!

Arianne Kassman

TIPNG ELECTED PRESIDENT OF RESOURCE GOVERNANCE COALITION

We were voted President of the PNG Governance Coalition in October during its Annual General Meeting.

In addition to TIPNG as the President, the following positions on the PNGRGC Council were voted during the AGM; Center for Environmental Law & Community Rights (Vice President), Consultative Implementation and Monitoring Council (Secretary), and Institute of National Affairs (Treasurer). All office bearer agencies will serve in these roles for the next 12 months.

"PNGRGC looks forward to being more innovative and is prepared to take bold steps in supporting outreach and programs to achieve the objectives set out in the PNGRGC Constitution" said TIPNG CEO, Ms. Arianne Kassman after the election of the new Council at the AGM.

The objectives of the PNG Resource Governance Coalition are to:

- Be used as an umbrella organization to encompass all CSOs that have an interest and work in or related to the Extractive Sector
- Contribute constructively to the civil society's participation in the introduction, promotion, awareness and implementation of the EITI in PNG
- Introduce, promote and maintain programs and initiatives that are community focused
- Develop understandings and partnerships with others
- Maintain high standards of good governance for the Coalition and its members;
- Establish and maintain a register of membership, as the basis for programs and outreach activities; and
- Do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objectives or any of them.

The PNGRGC was founded in 2015 and incorporated in 2018. It is an organization that is broadly responsible for coordinating the efforts of Civil Society Organizations in promoting and advocating the principles of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in PNG.



A group photo with TIPNG CEO Arianne Kassman after the PNGRGC AGM.

LEGAL AID TRAINEES COMPLETE PLACEMENT

Three trainees from the PNG Legal Training Institute (LTI) have successfully completed their work placement program with TIPNG in November 2022. The three trainees spent two weeks with TIPNG, learning key skills including client management, case management, document control, legal briefs and clerical skills.

The Legal Training Institute is a key partner with TIPNG as they share our vision to ensure legal professionals in Papua New Guinea are informed and empowered to take action against corruption.

This was the second batch of trainees from LTI doing their work placement with TIPNG under a recently signed partnership agreement. We are pleased to provide a learning opportunity for the three legal trainees.

TIPNG signed a 5-year Memorandum of Understanding

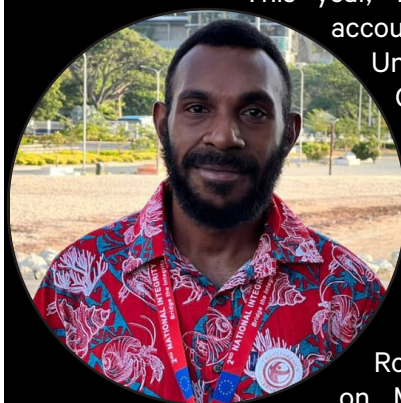
with the PNG LTI in 2020 for the sharing of resources through the LTI's work placement program and legal aid program. The work placement program constitutes part of the final assessment, before completing their training.

The LTI Trainees for 2022, were; Ms. Jenny Steven, Ms. Fredah Bomai and Ms. Cathrine Kinwai. While at TIPNG, the LTI Trainees worked primarily under the Anti-Corruption Help-desk (AnCoHD), a free community service by TIPNG whereby victims and witnesses of corruption in Papua New Guinea, can seek and obtain free and confidential legal advice. While TIPNG is not mandated to investigate, arrest or prosecute cases of corruption, through the AnCoHD TIPNG can review and advise valid corruption complaints as well as manage referrals to the appropriate agencies. The AnCoHD has a toll-free number 180 6000 that can be used for assistance.



(L-R) Deputy Director Partnership & Policy Yuambari Haihuie, Freedah Bomai, Jenny Steven, Cathrine Kinwai and TIPNG Board Director Jerome Sesega.

ACCOUNTING INTERNSHIP AT TIPNG



This year, TIPNG took on its first accounting intern from the University of Papua New Guinea. Mr Rodney Nimiago is a third year accounting student attached with our finance team from October 2022 to February 2023.

Rodney has been working on MYOB entries, updating

finance files and taken through various accounts of the organization. Aside from his formal internship program, Rodney has also been exposed to other areas of TIPNG's work: assisting with events logistics, attending parliament sessions and stakeholder meetings.

The University of Papua New Guinea Bachelor of Accounting program arranges industrial training for its third year students as part of their assessment. TIPNG and the University of Papua New Guinea hope that the practicum will provide practical experience, industry exposure and nurture ethical values towards work.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2ND NATIONAL INTEGRITY SUMMIT

PANEL 1: THE CASE AGAINST CORRUPTION

How can PNG's Law & Justice Sector do more to deter the corrupt?

While the 2021 NISA, identified the Judiciary as the strongest of the three arms of Government, agencies within the Law & Justice Sector still have to bridge the integrity gap to meet public expectations of addressing corruption in PNG. The panel examined how the law & justice sector agencies can address the impunity of the corrupt and further, meet the public expectations of addressing corruption.

The panelists were Secretary of the National Judicial Staff Services, Mr. Jack Kariko, Senior State Prosecutor-Office of the Public Prosecutor, Mr. Emmanuel Thomas, and Anti- Corruption Advisor UNODC, Mr. Graeme Gunn.

The main discussion point was that Law and Justice agencies need to take steps to improve the systems and processes that are in place to make sure that they are more efficient and effective, through collaborations with

CSO's, NGO's and International Development Partners. Further societies expectations of addressing corruption must be met half way as confidentiality barriers prevent full access to information.

Click this link to watch the panel: [2nd National Integrity Summit](#)



(L-R) Mr. Martin Brash (Moderator), Mr. Jack Kariko (NJSS) and Mr. Emmanuel Thomas (Office of the Public Prosecutor).

PANEL 2: PRIVATE SECTOR & PUBLIC MONEY

To what extent does corporate governance strengthen public sector integrity in PNG?

This Panel discussed whether good business practices can in turn promote integrity in state investments & public private partnerships in PNG

The panelists comprised of Executive Manager Strategy & Programme at Kumul Consolidated Holdings, Mr. Sidney Waingut, Economist, Mr. Anthony Yaueb and Executive Director of the American Chamber of Commerce Coral Sea, Mr. Mauterua Tamarua.

The main takeaways from this panel was centered around ways that Corporate and public sector can work together for good governance:

- Laws and Regulations made from high powers need to be executive effectively by implementing agencies. This establishes private sector trust in the public sector and encourages more public-private partnerships.
- Governance is leadership driven. Politicians meddle with Bureaucratic matters and as such bureaucratic cannot do their jobs properly. Per section 148 of the Constitution: Ministers have political duties to the departments but this does not give them the ability

to control. Good leadership = Good Governance.

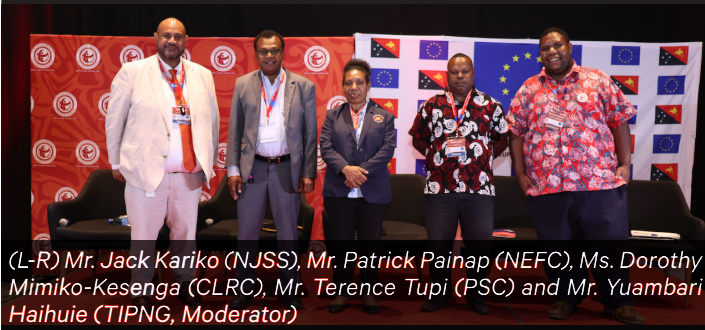
- Withing the Private Sector competition pushes organizations to do better, this is lacking in the private sector. Suggestion; there needs to be competition between public sector departments to outperform each other and do better.
- Organizational Culture (Organization values) need to be upheld.

Click this link to watch the panel: [2nd National Integrity Summit](#)



Mr. Anthony Yaueb (Economist) speaking during the panel.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION: ANTI-CORRUPTION & INTEGRITY STRATEGIES



(L-R) Mr. Jack Kariko (NJSS), Mr. Patrick Painap (NEFC), Ms. Dorothy Mimiko-Kesenga (CLRC), Mr. Terence Tupi (PSC) and Mr. Yuambari Haihuie (TIPNG, Moderator)

This dialogue highlighted the anti-corruption strategies and integrity approaches taken by the agencies involved in the discussion.

Speakers at the round table were Chairman & CEO,

National Economic Fiscal Commission, Mr. Patrick Painap, Secretary, National Judicial Staff Services, Mr. Jack Kariko, Secretary, Constitutional Law Reform Commission Dorothy Mimiko-Kesenga, Deputy Secretary, Public Services Commission, Mr. Terence Tupi, and Interim ICAC Office Chairman, Mr. Thomas Eluh.

All five agencies at the round table signed MoU's with TIPNG to develop internal anti-corruption strategies to address the findings of the National Integrity System Assessment carried out by TIPNG in 2021 and strengthen the work of the enacted Independent Commission Against Commission once operationalized.

Click this link to watch the panel: [2nd National Integrity Summit](#)

PANEL 3: INDEPENDENT FROM SCRUTINY

What expectations of accountability should the public have of Constitutional Offices?

The independence of Constitutional Offices was a key consideration in TIPNG's 2021 National Integrity System Assessment. This panel discussed that while the independence of these agencies is intended to promote national integrity, it also creates the risk of individual impunity.

On the panel were Acting Director, Financial Analysis & Supervision Unit (FASU), Bank of Papua New Guinea, Mr. Wilson Onea, President, Advancing PNG Women Leaders Network, Mrs. Ruth Kissam Tindiwi, and Deputy Clerk, National Parliament, Mr. Richard Whitchurch.

A ringing theme throughout the discussion was that the independence of an office comes with a lot of responsibility and accountability in this area was very critical. All decisions made are for the integrity of the institution that one serves. Both State offices mentioned accountability practices taken on by each of their

respective agencies in addressing the issue of Integrity. The panel also deliberated on the role of civil society organizations, international NGOs and the media in helping to ensure accountability.

Click this link to watch the panel: [2nd National Integrity Summit](#)



Mr. Wilson Onea (FASU, BPNG) making a point during the panel.

PANEL 4: WE THE PEOPLE

The Future of Elections & Integrity Reform



Mr. Anthony Regan from the Australia National University and TIPNG Chair Mr. Peter Aitsi, MBE.

In the aftermath of the 2022 National General Election, this panel will discuss the lessons that need to be learnt to preserve the integrity pillars for democracy in Papua New Guinea. This Panel discussed lessons from the

2022 National General Elections that need to be learnt to preserve the integrity pillars of democracy .

The panelists were the TIPNG Chairman, Peter Aitsi, National Research Institute, Dr Thomas Webster, Australian National University, Mr. Anthony Regan.

The panel emphasized on electoral awareness as a priority to assist communities to understand the value of elections and why they must participate. The panel agreed that to an extent the law is not the issue during elections, it is the people implementing the law causing the 2022 NGE issues. Thoughts were also shared on changing the voting system, government system and overall election system improvements.

Click this line to watch the panel: [2nd National Integrity Summit](#)

ACTIONS TO BRIDGE THE INTEGRITY GAP

Drawing from the consolidated points from the 2nd National Integrity Summit, the following key actions that the State & State Agencies, Development Partners and the Civil Society & Media should consider will Bridge the Integrity Gap and strengthen the national integrity system in Papua New Guinea.

State & State Agencies

- Regular meetings of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy Taskforce are required to provide high level continuity and alignment of actions.
- Agencies must be supported and motivated by the State to develop agency-level anti-corruption and integrity strategies to create links between their mandate and the ICAC proper.

Development Partners

- Development support on Anti-Corruption should align with the existing National Anti-Corruption Strategy so as to reinforce and sustain interventions.

- The National Integrity System Assessment identifies specific actions across the integrity pillars and key linkages that need to be supported to address corruption.

Civil Society & Media

- There is a need to continue National Integrity Summits, so as to consolidate best practice and to promote innovation in integrity.
- National Integrity Summits can be more focused with reference to the 14 Pillars of Integrity outlined in the National Integrity System Assessment.
- Journalists require specialized training for investigative journalism and sustained access to resources.

You can access the full Integrity Summit [Outcome Document](#).



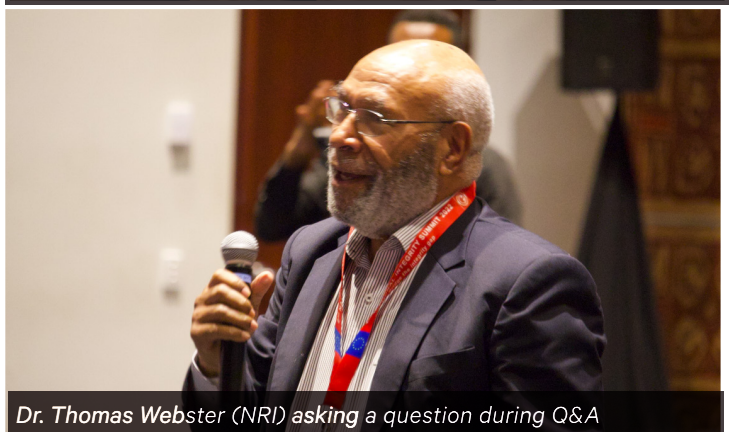
Dr. Michael Spann having a discussion with JSS4D representatives.



(L-R) Ms. Arianne Kassman (TIPNG CEO), Mrs. Stephannie Kirriwom-Sawong (TIPNG Board Director) and Ms. Mavis Tito (Caritas PNG).



TIPNG Chair explaining some of the milestones to the Head of EU delegation in PNG H.E Jacques Fradin.



Dr. Thomas Webster (NRI) asking a question during Q&A



Deputy Director Communications Ms. Yvonne Ngutlick with Marcus from Bougainville Partnership.



Summit participants taking notes during the session.

AGENCIES RECEIVE INTEGRITY AWARDS

Three organizations have scooped the Integrity Initiative of Excellence Awards. The Award is an initiative of Transparency International of PNG (TIPNG), with support from the European Union, and is for the recognition of an initiative within a national agency which strengthens the integrity of that Institution.

The Award is based on five main criteria assessing; innovativeness, replicability or whether the initiative can be replicated in another state agency, accountability, transparency and empowering. The first Integrity Initiative of Excellence Awards were presented in 2017; this year's award was launched in May 2021 and open for entries till October 2022.

There were three categories for Awards nomination:

- Category One: Digital Accessibility and Inclusion- The use of digital media and technology to promote accountability in the organization's activities/functions.
- Category Two: Robust Governance Strategy or Policy Demonstration of an effective mechanism within a policy or Strategy or Policy Demonstration of an effective mechanism within a policy and,

- Category Three: Citizens Centered Innovation, an initiative targeted for the general public. This initiative should empower people and provide a pathway for the public to seek information and assistance.

The three agencies that have received an Integrity Initiative of Excellence Award are:

- National Judicial Staff Services (NJSS) for their e-Judiciary
- Kumul Consolidated Holdings (KCH) for their Whistleblower Policy
- Internal Revenue Commission (IRC) - Fraud and Corruption online Reporting

In presenting the awards, TIPNG Chair Mr Peter Aitsi said, "The awards were aimed at supporting and promoting the initiatives to ensure sustainability and sharing of best practice between agencies. The Awards is an avenue for sharing of best practices and to work collaboratively."

The awards were presented on Friday 18th November 2022, on Day 2 of the 2nd National Integrity Summit held at APEC Haus, Port Moresby.



(L-R) Mr. Ted Maino, Manager Fraud Prevention, IRC, Mr. Russell Tato, Chief Risks Officer, KCH and Mr. Jack Kariko, Secretary NJSS.



NJSS receiving their award for e-Judiciary.



KCHL awarded for their whistle blower policy.



IRC awarded for their Fraud & Corruption Online Reporting.

LAE-BASED REPORTER WINS INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM AWARDS

Transparency International PNG has awarded news reporter Ms Julie Badui Owa its 2022 Investigative Journalism Award.

Julie bagged the award by entering her news story that revealed the shortfalls in government funding on the Tuition Fee Free (TFF) policy in Morobe Province, where she is based. She formed her hypothesis that there was a shortfall in funding of schools in Morobe Province and then set out to prove this notion. Julie interviewed school head teachers, principals and national and provincial education Department senior officers where she revealed unspoken processes within the education department that were used as an excuse for inadequate funding and supply of materials. The persistent news pieces by Julie had an impact which saw Morobe Provincial's TFF's functions decentralized.

TIPNG Chair, Mr. Peter Aitsi said, "The media industry play a vital role as one of the guardians of our democracy. A free media is a cornerstone of democracy and a vital pillar of national integrity and good governance in Papua New Guinea."

The Investigative Journalism Awards is an initiative by Transparency International PNG, with funding support from the European Union, to recognize and encourage local journalists to take on the challenge of investigative reporting. The Awards were launched in 2021 during World Press Freedom Day.

There were 3 categories of this Investigative Journalism Award.

1. Investigation into Statutory Appointments and Use of Public Money
2. Investigation into Separation of Powers
3. Open Category - This is an open category and encourages journalists to discover and expose facts on cases of corruption at all levels of society and exposing scandals.

The Investigative Journalism Award was presented to Ms. Badui Owa on Friday 18th November 2022 on the 2nd Day of the National Integrity Summit. Ms. Badui Owa was also given essential tools for journalism with a retail value of K5,000 in addition to the Award.

STRENGTHENING INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

We facilitated the 2nd Investigative Journalism Workshop in October 2022. With funding support from the European Union and in collaboration with the Media Council of Papua New Guinea, the workshop zoned in on engaging tools online tools for reporting corruption.

Reporters from all media outlets attended that the workshop which covered effective online search of topics and business ownership.

The media in Papua New Guinea or in any democracy plays an important role in providing citizens with relevant information about national political processes and national governance issues.

Secretary of the Media Council of PNG, Ms Belinda Kora, in her opening remarks, also urged journalists to report without bias and to uphold the PNG Media Code of Ethics.

It is TIPNG's hope that the skills learnt at the workshop will enable journalists to carry out thorough research on their beats and publish stories that ignite critical thinking from citizens.



Media Council PNG Secretary Belinda Kora speaking about Media Code of Ethics



(L-R) Journalists from Sunday Bulletin, Wantok Niuspepa, Post Courier, The National and NBC doing an exercise during the workshop.

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION AND INTERIM ICAC OFFICE LAUNCH ANTI-CORRUPTION STRATEGIES

The fourth quarter of the year started on a high note with the two key partners launching their Anti-Corruption Strategies. The Public Services Commission (PSC) and the Interim ICAC Office were commended by TIPNG for developing and launching their Anti-Corruption & Integrity Strategies.

The agency-level Strategies aim to prevent corruption and promote integrity within both agencies.

TIPNG recognizes and commends the dedication and effort of the PSC and the Interim ICAC Office in developing their first agency-level anti-corruption strategy. We believe the commitment speaks to the importance of role of both agencies in ensuring that they are fully equipped to fulfill their mandated functions. Both agency-level strategies are home-grown and specifically tailored to ensure an effective

functioning organization.

The agency-level anti-corruption strategies support the fostering of anti-corruption cultures within the agencies, ensuring compliance and accountability, building capacity and promoting honest leadership.

This Strategies were delivered by TIPNG, with funding support from the European Union, through the Promoting Anti-Corruption & Integrity Strategies (PAIS) Project. Technical support for the development of the strategy was provided by Square Circle, a Brisbane-based firm focused on International Development. The overall objective of TIPNG's PAIS project is to strengthen public trust in our state agencies. This can only be achieved in collaboration with Government, Civil Society, Media and the Private Sector.



PSC Chairman Mr. Apeo Sione and TIPNG CEO Ms. Arianne Kassman during the PSC Anti-Corruption Strategy launch.



Interim ICAC Office showcasing their Anti-Corruption strategy.

TIPNG AT THE 2022 PNG UPDATE

TIPNG was invited to present at the 2022 PNG Update. Organized by the University of Papua New Guinea's School of Business and Public Policy and the Australian National University's Development Policy Centre, the annual PNG Update is the premier forum for the discussion of research and analysis relating to contemporary economic and public policy issues in Papua New Guinea.

The 2022 PNG Update was held at the University of Papua New Guinea Waigani campus on 20–21 October. Our Deputy Director Partnerships & Policy, Mr Yuambari Haihuie presented on TIPNG's work to Bridge the Integrity Gap, through the development of agency-level anti-corruption strategies. Mr Haihuie provided an overview on our European Union-funded Promoting Anti-Corruption and Integrity Strategies (PAIS) Project, and the impact achieved in partnership with state agencies following the 2021 National Integrity System Assessment (NISA).

To learn more about the Integrity Gap in PNG, by reading the full [PNG NISA Report](#).



Deputy Director Partnerships & Policy Mr. Yuambari Haihuie presenting during the PNG Update.

ELECTION OUTREACH NETWORK SHARE EXPERIENCES

Towards the end of October, the Information and Community Awareness Branch of the PNG Electoral Commission facilitated a three-day workshop to review the activities of the Election Outreach Network (EON) in the lead up of the recent 2022 National General Election. TIPNG was invited as a key partner and we shared of the civic awareness and voter education activities that we carried out.

Through our Building Elections through Partnership (BEIP) Project, we carried out the following awareness activities to inform voters:

- Community Awareness and workshops in 8 provinces (Central, New Ireland, Milne Bay, East New Britain, Jiwaka, Morobe, Eastern Highlands and East Sepik)

- Radio talk-back sessions on NBC
- Podcasts
- Strip adverts in the Post-Courier
- Production of voter education videos

We also carried out workshops to train our volunteer election observers across the four regions nationwide.

Other organizations involved in the election awareness also shared their experiences. The purpose of the workshop is to conduct a review and consolidate recommendation for how to improve and expand the EON to support awareness in the future.

APPLUS+ PNG AND TIPNG SIGN MOU

In October 2022, we signed into a partnership with Applus+ PNG to commence pro bono support in innovative recruitment.

A key strategic priority focus for TIPNG is to enhance our organization's capacity by recruiting the right team members. TIPNG is confident in Applus+ global recruitment expertise and its robust Code of Ethics focused and a driven desire to have a positive impact in Papua New Guinea.

We are honored to be in this partnership with Applus+ PNG who share our commitment to see greater integrity in society.



(L-R) Mr. Yuambari Haihuie, Ms. Yvonne Ngutlick, Ms. Arianne Kassman, Stephanie Daniel and James Fraser-Byass.

TI PACIFIC REGIONAL COORDINATOR VISITS PNG



Ms. Losana Tuiraviravi (left) in attendance during the Election Seminar.

We were delighted to welcome and host the TI Pacific Regional Coordinator Losana Tuiraviravi upon her visit to the TIPNG office in November 2022. Losana's role in the TI global movement is to support Pacific chapters. During her visit to this chapter, Losana attended the 2 day TIPNG election seminar at Lamana, Port Moresby.

STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE ELECTIONS IN PNG SHOULD PROMOTE TRANSPARENCY AND INTEGRITY THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRETY OF THE 5-YEAR ELECTORAL CYCLE

We hosted a two-day election seminar to present the findings of its observations during the 2022 National General Elections. The event was guided by the theme “Promoting Transparency for Election Integrity” and this theme will steer discussions over the two days.

Day one of the election seminar featured TIPNG’s presentation of the key findings from its 2022 election observation report and day two facilitated dialogue among stakeholder representatives with the objective of improving the integrity of Papua New Guinea’s election.

We presented our 2022 Election Observation Report to the Government represented by the Chairman for the Special Parliamentary Committee on Elections, Honorable Allan Bird and the Electoral Commissioner, Simon Sinai.

The findings from the report clearly indicated that the 2022 National General Election has continued the trend of deterioration in the quality of the conduct and management of elections in PNG.

Key issues the TIPNG identified in the 2022 National General Elections were:

- Frequent instances of roll inaccuracy;
- Lack of action and enforcement against people committing election offenses,
- Non-compliance with Constitutional requirements
- Disturbances in the conduct of the ballot counting,
- Confusion on the declaration of seats;
- Widespread election-related violence.
- A lack of reliable and consistent communications to the public

These electoral issues further undermine the principles of democracy and the rule of law.

Therefore, restoring confidence in the electoral process, and ensuring transparency and integrity of elections, must be given the highest priority going forward if we are to improve the conduct of our next elections.

“If we are to achieve meaningful and impact-full electoral reforms, there has to be wide engagement as possible, to ensure the public is able to contribute to the process and restore public confidence in the electoral system. Reformers must also not take the easy way out by lowering standards in the National Constitution and Organic Laws as an excuse for poor electoral practices,” said TIPNG Chair, Peter Aitsi.

The independent observation report by TIPNG is the culmination of collaboration with individuals, communities, and organizations to build elections integrity through partnership. It reaffirms TIPNG’s commitment to working with partners to strengthen good governance.

“In this undertaking, we are pleased to note that in addition to the PNGEC and the Inter-Department Electoral Committee (IDEC), there is now a Special Parliamentary Committee on the Conduct of the 2022 National General Election (NGE), who will receive the report and hopefully take on board recommendations, with a view to initiating reforms. It is essential any reforms undertaken must be insulated from political self-interest,” said Mr. Aitsi.

Strategies to improve the conduct of National Elections in Papua New Guinea should include

Focus on promoting transparency and integrity throughout the entirety of the 5-year electoral cycle

This is the fourth observation of elections that TIPNG has carried out. A team of 340 volunteer observers collected election-related information in 20 provinces across all 4 Regions, covering 578 polling places including in areas that posed safety risks.



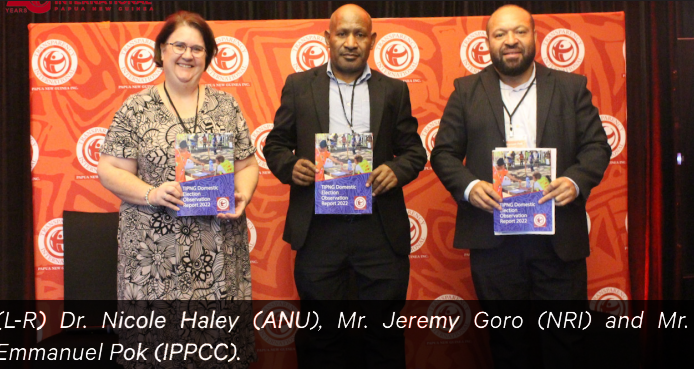
Mr. Haihuie presenting TIPNG Key findings during the seminar.



(L-R) Mr. Richard Kassman OBE (Board Director, TIPNG) presenting the Election Report to Mr. Simon Sinai ML (Electoral Commissioner, PNGEC) and Hon. Allan Bird, MP, (Chairman, Special Parliamentary Committee) launching the TIPNG Election report

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ELECTION SEMINAR

PANEL 1: KEY FINDINGS – ELECTIONS



(L-R) Dr. Nicole Haley (ANU), Mr. Jeremy Goro (NRI) and Mr. Emmanuel Pok (IPPC).

This plenary session featured findings by other observer groups. Dr. Nicole Haley from the Australian National University (ANU), Mr. Jeremy Goro of the PNG National

Research Institute and Mr. Emmanuel Pok, Acting Registrar of the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates Commission each presented in turn.

Observer reports as a means of promoting elections integrity was a frequently mentioned point during the Seminar. In his response to TIPNG's Report, Governor Bird stated that the Special Parliamentary Committee will also present its Report publicly to Parliament following national consultation on the 2022 Elections. The PNGEC in turn has stated it will review election observation reports and consider the recommendations. Mr. Pok in his own remarks urged that Parliament should look into implementing the amendments on the Organic Law on the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates.

PANEL 2: TRANSPARENCY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE ELECTIONS

The panel considered reforms to promote transparency in the National General Elections and how State Agencies, Non-Government Organizations and Partners can collaborate to ensure greater democratic participation.

The first panel featured National Director Caritas PNG, Ms. Mavis Tito, President of the Media Council of PNG, Mr. Neville Choi, Mr. Glen Vitou, from Department of Information, Communication and Technologies and Director of the Information and Civic Awareness Branch at the PNGEC, Mrs. Alice Guguna.

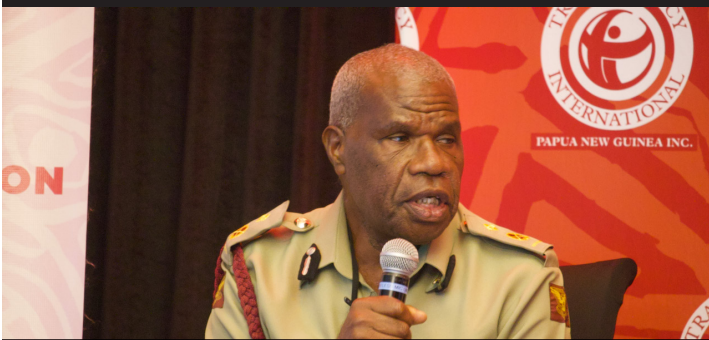
The panel discussed the need for there to be proper dissemination of information by PNGEC throughout the election cycle. In order to ensure that timely, accurate, and accessible information is made available, the PNGEC was urged to adopt strong collaborative approaches with important stakeholders like the media, civil societies, as well as key government institutions. The panel also



(L-R) Ms. Mavis Tito (Caritas PNG), Mr. Neville Choi (MCPNG), Mr. Glen Vitou (DICT) and Mrs. Alice Guguna (PNGEC) during the second panel discussion of the seminar.

considered reforms to promote transparency in the national general elections and how State Agencies, Non-Government Organizations and Partners can collaborate to ensure greater democratic participation.

PANEL 3: INTEGRITY TO STRENGTHEN PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN ELECTIONS



Mr. Moses Mosiri (PNGCS) speaking on the panel during the workshop.

The panel discussed the opportunities to promote integrity throughout the election process to restore public confidence.

The speakers of this plenary were The second panel featured the Deputy Head of the EU Delegation Dr. Silviu Jora, Deputy Commissioner PNGCS, Mr. Moses Mosiri, and Advancing PNG Women Leaders Network, Ms. Cathy Alex.

The main message from the panel was that the PNGEC must prioritize initiatives that promotes the integrity of the election cycle. This includes accurately verifying and updating the electoral roll system, enhancing security for counting stations, increasing trustworthiness in advanced logistics, closely vetting candidates' moral character and conduct, and pushing for the passage of the revised Organic Law on the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates, which has been amended to ensure that Political Parties are held accountable for the deeds of their candidates.

ENSURING ELECTION REFORMS ARE TRANSPARENT AND EVIDENCE-BASED

Building on our role as an independent observer at meetings of the Inter-Departmental Election Committee and as a Domestic Election Observer Group accredited by the PNGEC, we now welcome the opportunity to provide external expertise to the National Parliament as it considers critical electoral reforms.

On September 2nd 2022, Parliament established the Special Parliamentary Committee on 2022 General Elections. The Special Parliamentary Committee is a response in part, to reports from observers such as TIPNG, identifying continuing failings in the delivery and conduct of elections.

Following its establishment, the Special Parliamentary Committee invited TIPNG to provide external assistance, and we attended the first pre-planning meeting on November 10th 2022. Subsequently, TIPNG has supported the Special Parliamentary Committee by reviewing

planning documents and providing guidance on the desktop review of elections reports.

Parliamentary Committees empower citizens to directly engage with legislators. The Parliamentary Committee mechanism also acts as a democratic safeguard to protect reforms from being corrupted in the interest of a few political actors. A transparent consultation process is therefore critical to the success of Committees.

Consultation for elections reform is made easier by existing extensive independent data and recommendations collected by observers like TIPNG. This collated observer data is better suited for informing reforms, than individual anecdotes which can be limited or biased. TIPNG has chosen to support this process, as transparent consultation and evidence-based decision making will increase public confidence and deliver credible reforms to strengthen the integrity of elections in PNG.



(L-R) Michael Warapik (Catholic Professional Network) and Cardinal Sir John Ribbat with Mr. Emmanuel Pok (IPPC).



Hon. Allan Bird, MP, Chairman of the Special Parliamentary Committee during his remarks.



Dr. Oluhbenga IGE (NRI) asking a question during Q&A



Seminar attendee asking a question during Q&A



PNG Electoral Commissioner Mr. Simon Sinai during his presentation.



Dr. Jora (EU) and Mr. Haihuie (TIPNG) sharing a light moment during the seminar.

COMMEMORATING INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY WITH INTERIM ICAC OFFICE

We were invited to speak at the commemoration of International Anti-Corruption Day hosted by the Interim ICAC office early this month. The 2022 theme “UNCAC at 20: Uniting the World Against Corruption”.

TIPNG Deputy Director Partnerships & Policy Mr. Yuambari Haihuie, spoke regarding civil society championing good governance reforms in PNG. Mr. Haihuie also stressed on the need for state agencies to take ownership of actions to improve coordination of the national anti-corruption efforts.

Reference was also made to TIPNG’s independent review report on Papua New Guinea’s implementation of the UNCAC, which celebrated its 20th Anniversary this year. TIPNG’s UNCAC Shadow Report [can be read on our website](#).



Mr. Haihuie presenting the UNCAC shadow report during the event.

ACCOUNTANTS ENCOURAGED TO UPHOLD ETHICAL STANDARDS

The Certified Practicing Accountants PNG invited TIPNG Chair, Mr. Peter Aitsi to speak at its 26th Annual Conference held earlier this quarter in Port Moresby. Mr. Aitsi spoke on the topic of Ethical Challenges in Corporate Governance.

In his speech, Mr. Aitsi challenged the accountants: “The CPA and you as professional members have a critical role in monitoring and upholding ‘Standards’, these standards have a basis in tested methodology and are regularly

reviewed and refined by consistent application drawing lessons from applied practice.

The standards you oversight are an important “tool” to reinforce accountability and lawful conduct for your clients, however its effectiveness relies on your commitment to ethical conduct.

My hope is that we are courageous enough to be able to speak out when we see something is not right.”

TIPNG ATTENDS 39TH INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON DC



TIPNG Chair Mr. Peter Aitsi (Left) and TIPNG CEO Ms. Arianne Kassman (third from right) in Washington DC, USA.

From December 6th to the 10th, TIPNG Chairman and Chief Executive Officer attended the 2022 International Anti-Corruption Conference in Washington DC. The International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC) is the world’s premier global forum that brings together heads of state, civil society, the private sector and more to tackle the increasingly sophisticated challenges posed by corruption.

Incepted in 1983, the IACC takes place every two years

in a different region of the world, and hosts up to 2000 participants from over 140 countries worldwide.


Our chapter was excited and honored to have our CEO, Ms Arianne Kassman as a speaker at this global forum. Ms Kassman was part of a panel of speakers on the topic “Defenders of Democracy: Mobilizing Youth to Uproot Corruption”.

The IACC advances the anti-corruption agenda by raising awareness and stimulating debate. It fosters networking and global exchange of experience that are indispensable for effective advocacy and action, on a global and national level. The conferences also promote international cooperation among government, civil society, the private sector, and citizens by providing the opportunity for face-to-face dialogue and direct liaison between representatives from the agencies and organizations taking part.

INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY: TAKE FIVE AT 5 SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN

To continue to raise awareness on corruption and the different forms of corruption, we ran a social media campaign from December 5 to December 9 2022.

The goal of the social media campaign was for people are better informed of different forms of corruption and its meanings.



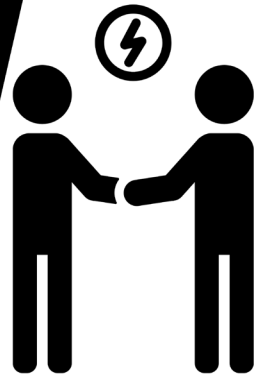
CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Conflict of Interest - A situation where an individual or the organization for which they work, whether a government, business, media outlet, or civil society organization is confronted between the duties and demands of their position and their own private benefit.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Organizations should establish policies and procedures to identify, monitor and manage conflicts of interest which may give rise to a risk of bribery – actual, potential or perceived.

#IACD2022



INTERNATIONAL MEN'S DAY, NOVEMBER 19TH

Our team observed International Men's Day with by celebrating the male staff and their contribution in the fight against corruption in Papua New Guinea.

International Men's Day occurs on November 19th annually is an occasion that recognizes boy's and men's achievements and contributions, for their contributions to the nation, society, community, family, marriage and childcare as we promote basic humanitarian values, as well as awareness towards men's issues.

We celebrated the men at TIPNG that commit to the mission of TIPNG which is to "empower people in PNG act against corruption."



(L-R) Richard Kega, George Monouluk, Lumen Dennis, Rodney Nimiago and Yuambari Haihuie.

PINKTOBER: CANCER INFORMATION SESSION



Deputy Director Partnership and Policy Yuambari Haihuie pictured with the PNG Cancer Foundation team.

In recognition of Pinktober month, we organized a staff breast cancer awareness session facilitated by the PNG Cancer Foundation. The session was aimed at increasing TIPNG staff knowledge on breast cancer, how to recognize the first signs of the disease and steps to take to ensure appropriate medical attention is sought.

REMEMBERING WORLD AIDS DAY

On 1st of December 2022, the team at TIPNG wore red ribbons to recognize World AIDS Day support for people living with HIV. The theme of the day was "Rock the Ribbon". Rocking the Ribbon means celebrating the Red Ribbon that has been an enduring symbol of past heartbreak but also of the progress people have made against HIV stigma and spread in communities.



Team TIPNG posing with the World Aids Day theme.

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WHO WE ARE:

Transparency International PNG is a chapter of Transparency International, a global non-profit, NGO dedicated to empowering people to take action against corruption. TIPNG was formed in 1997 with the aim of combatting corruption in PNG and promoting openness, honesty and accountability in private and public dealings. TIPNG is a membership-based association, guided by voluntary Board of Directors.

OUR MISSION:

To empower people to act against corruption.

WHAT IS CORRUPTION?

Corruption is the abuse of entrusted power for private gain, it hurts everyone whose life, livelihood or happiness depends on the integrity of people in a position of authority.

OUR PROGRAMS:

- Building Elections Integrity Through Partnership
- Anti-Corruption Help Desk
- Active Civic Engagement
- Mike Manning Youth Democracy Camp
- Campaigns and Coalitions
- Sir Anthony Siaguru Walk Against Corruption
- Promoting Anti-corruption & Integrity Strategies

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