



Fishing Line



NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL FISHERIES AUTHORITY

ISSUE No. 2

March - April, 2008

Inside this issue

- NFA Allocates K1 million to Local Fishermen
- Editorial
- Staff Profile
- Provincial Fisheries Officers Trained on EU Standard
- Wewak Fish Project Minutes Signed
- Another Cannery for Lae
- NFA Enters Netball Grand Final

Key Contacts at NFA

Main Switchboard - Ph 309 0444 Fax: 320 2061
11th Floor, Deloitte Tower
P.O. Box 2016, Port Moresby, N.C.D.
Website: <http://www.fisheries.gov.pg>
Editor: Priscilla Maigu

Mr Sylvester Pokajam - Acting Managing Director
Ph: 309 0431 Fax: 320 3024

Mr John Kasu - Executive Manager, Corporate Services

Mr Ronald Kuk - Executive Manager, Projects

Mr Terry Ward - Financial Controller

Mr Kema Mailu - Board Administration Officer

Ms Welete Wararu - Executive Manager, Provincial Support & Industry Development

Mr Augustine Mobiha - Executive Manager, Fisheries Management

Mr Ludwig Kumoru - Fisheries Manager - Tuna

Mr Jacob Wani - Fisheries Manager - Inland & Aquaculture

Mr Lester Baule - Fisheries Manager - Lobster/Prawn

Mr Leban Gisawa - Fisheries Manager - Inshore (Live Fish) & Sedentary

Mr Noan Pakop - Executive Manager - Monitoring Control & Surveillance

Mr Giza Komangin - Enforcement, Team Leader

Ms Aquina Kango - Audit & Certification, Team Leader

Mr Philip Polon - Executive Manager - Licensing & Information. Ph: 309 0470 Fax: 320 2069

Mr Rainol Gibson - Property Manager

Mr Tatek Buraik - Principal, National Fisheries College, Kavieng. Ph: 984 2187 Fax: 984 2343 New Ireland Province

Mr Oliver Teno - EU RCDP National Field Coordinator
Ph: 309 0419 Fax: 320 2061 Email: rcfdp@datec.com.pg

NFA Allocates K1 Million to Local Fishermen



- This is the Kotuni Trout Project in the Eastern Highlands Province. This project received K20,000 from NFA through PDF funding.

Local fishermen, fishing groups and fish farmers would now be able to progress further or start new fishing ventures after a funding allocation of K1 million was made by National Fisheries Authority.

Acting Managing Director of National Fisheries Authority, Mr. Sylvester Pokajam announced in March this year when presenting a K90, 000 cheque to the NCD Youth Rehabilitation Care Centre. He said for the past three years NFA has supported small-scale fisheries development projects and this would be another milestone for the National Fisheries Authority to support more projects throughout PNG.

He said youth population comprised 50% of the total population but a lot of them don't have employment opportunities. Mr.

Pokajam said this would certainly create employment opportunities. "We have big markets in the National Capital District and we would like to see all youths involve themselves in fishing activities and make use of the money given", He said.

Executive Manger for Provincial Support and Industry Development, Ms Welete Wararu said that of the K1 million, K400 000 is from the Project Development Fund (PDF) while K600 000 is from the NFA 2008 budget allocation under operational funds from provincial grants to assist the development of artisanal fisheries sector.

Ms. Wararu said that NFA has received overwhelming responses from PDF applications and they have successfully considered 58 applicants.

From the Managing Director's Desk

Welcome to the second edition of the Fishing Line News of 2008. It is my pleasure to brief you and inform you about the fisheries activities and very imperative consultative meetings held for the benefit of Papua New Guinea.

On behalf of National Fisheries Authority and the Government of Papua New Guinea, Minister for Fisheries, Honourable Ben Semri and National Fisheries Authority representative attended a consultative meeting in Philippines.

This meeting had a significant impact on the tuna industry as there were already three tuna companies approached to invest in Papua New Guinea. These companies will have massive economic impact or benefit to the country as their expected export quantity will be around 350 metric tones of canned tuna and 50 metric tones of loined tuna per export. This will certainly boost the economy as there will be additional tuna plants in Papua New Guinea. Papua New Guinea is one of the leading tuna capital in the Pacific Region as more tuna companies pierce in.

We have also attended Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) meeting in Canberra. This was another consultative meeting pertained the management of coastal waters and the conservation and management of tuna and other highly migratory fish stock in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. Fisheries Scientists perceived that yellowfin and big-eye tuna species are nearing depletion stages and our meeting focused on the conservation and management issues.

This was a brainstorm meeting which derived from the last year's meeting held in Guam.

The Minister for Fisheries and National Fisheries Authority sturdily oppose any disposal of deep sea tailings from Ramu Nickel Project. We will not tolerate any disposal of tailings into the rivers nor the waters from any mining project or company. National Fisheries Authority has got massive conservation and management plans to manage the marine resources to be sustainable and equitable. Mining or other forms of business in Papua New Guinea will sooner or later be extinct but marine resources will never die out as we have management, and conservation plans and policies. We are strongly opposing any tailing disposal within the PNG waters.

We will not compromise nor tolerate anything with the disposal of tailing in the waters of PNG. This is because for instance, when Ok Tedi was first started they said nothing will pollute the river system but after 20 years, now the river is filled with high level of silt thus high species fish have disappeared.

We don't want to see the same thing in our waters thus we totally oppose any tailing disposal into our waters as the future of this country lies on the marine resources. The Marine resources are to be protected and conserved at any time.

Sylvester B. Pokajam
Acting Managing Director

- from page 1...

Ms Wararu said that cheques have already been paid to each successful applicant. Most of the fish farmers and fishermen had shown their gratitude to the NFA via email, letters and telephone. "It was amazing for me as I read the post courier that I would be receiving K10 000 from the PDF project", said Mr Michael one of the recipients of the funds from NFA.

Ms. Wararu thanked the successful applicants for their interests in developing small-scale fishing businesses and encouraged them to work hard and become successful fishermen and women.

Staff Profile



Name: **Mr Gideon Pama**
Age: **25**
Marital Status: **Single**
Qualification: **Bachelor of Science-Biology (UPNG)**
Current Position: **Fisheries Management officer - Aquaculture**

Mr. Gideon Pama comes from Mul Baiyer in the Western Highlands Province. His parents are employees of the Department of Health in EHP, thus he was born and grew up there. His primary education began in the 1990s where he attended Numonohi Christian Academy outside Goroka Town and completed grade six in 1995.

Mr. Pama did well in primary education and was selected into Goroka Secondary. He completed secondary schooling in 2001. He excelled in school and gained entry to the University of Papua New Guinea in 2002. He undertook Science studies, majoring in Biology. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Science-Biology in 2005. Whilst a student, his 2004-2005 vocation periods were spent on work attachment with NFA as Scientific Research Officer. He was with NFA for four months and was involved in Saratoga sampling in the Western Province.

Since then he has been attached to NFA on casual basis and was assigned to assist the Fisheries Management Group particularly, with Aquaculture and Inland Fisheries.

Whilst engaged as casual employee, NFA advertised a position for Fisheries Management Officer-Aquaculture. He applied for the position and was successfully considered.

He has this to say about National Fisheries Authority.

"As a fresh graduate scientist I am privileged to be working in an organisation such as NFA because it takes fisheries science and economics as the foundation for making and implementing the best management procedures for our country's fishery resources.

I believe NFA has great management plans for PNG's fishery resources and I am grateful for being given the opportunity to contribute to aquaculture development in PNG", Mr Pama concluded.

Provincial Fisheries Officers Trained on EU Standard



- Provincial Fisheries officers with their certificates from NFA after successfully completing their training.

The National Fisheries Authority (NFA) has successfully conducted a one-month workshop on training Provincial Fisheries Officers on European Union (EU) standard. The training was held at the Madang Resort Hotel, which included Provincial Fisheries Officers from East Sepik, Madang, Morobe, New Ireland, Milne Bay, Western and Central Province.

The training focused on the EU Regulations, PNG Standards and Inspection Systems for Fish and Fishery Products. In a small closing ceremony on behalf of NFA Managing Director Mr. Sylvester Pokajam, Executive Manager for Monitoring Control and Surveillance Mr. Noan Pakop told the participants that this training was very essential for the inspectors to understand the EU Regulations, PNG Standards and Inspection Systems for Fish and Fishery products, and to effectively implement it in Papua New Guinea.

"Globally compliance to food safety requirement is a must to penetrate any markets", Mr. Pakop said. He said that for PNG to enter European Union (EU) market we have no choice but to implement the EU Regulations and PNG Standards harmoniously to address public health concerns through the internationally recognized Food Safety Management Systems requirements. "This is important for PNG in order to maintain market access into EU, which is a tax free market and fetches a high price for our premium canned tuna and frozen loins", Mr Pakop said.



- Fisherman from Goroka with Carp caught from the river and is selling on the road site for K20.00.

Wewak Fish Project to Start Soon



- From left: Mr. Pokajam, Mr. Kwayaila and Mr. Mimura shaking hands after signing the minutes of the project discussion.

The Wewak fish market and jetty is expected to kick start late this year or early January 2009. Mr. Sylvester Pokajam, Acting Managing Director of National Fisheries Authority, Mr. Ichiro Mimura, Japanese International Co-operation Agency (JICA) Team Leader and Mr. Mosilayola Kwayaila Aid Policy and Coordination Director of the Department of the National Planning and Monitoring signed the minutes of discussion on the Basic Design Study stage, last month.

"We really want the project to start this year and this is our commitment", Mr Pokajam said during the signing of the minutes in March this year.

Mr. Pokajam said NFA would continue to work closely with the JICA team and East Sepik Provincial Government to ensure the project's success. He said this is an important fisheries project and NFA has met all the cost incurred as an agent of the State in relation to the formulation and planning process of this project.

He thanked the Government of Japan and the JICA Basic Design Study team for taking this important project into PNG. He also thanked the Department of National Planning and Monitoring for its support to NFA in facilitating this project.

Mr. Mimura thanked NFA for its cooperation in fulfilling the development of the project and the government of PNG and also NFA for the continuous support.

Mr. Kwayaila also thanked the government of Japan for its continuous support toward PNG government's development initiatives. He, however, said this project would not only benefit the entrepreneurs but also the surrounding communities of East Sepik and fish vendors as well.

He said land issue was a big obstacle that they encountered and they will ensure that this project will smoothly progress further with the people of East Sepik. He said land issue will not halt the development of the project, and he assured JICA of this.

One More Cannery for Lae Soon



• Employees of Frabelle (PNG) loining tuna.

One more tuna cannery is now earmarked for construction in Lae. According to Executive Manager for Monitoring and Control Surveillance Mr Noan Pakop.

Mr. Pakop revealed this while speaking on behalf of Acting Managing Director of National Fisheries Authority Mr Sylvester Pokajam at a small closing ceremony for the Provincial Fisheries Officers' training workshop held in Madang recently.

He said more investors are coming into PNG because of good investment opportunities, like, the Relaxation of Rules Of Origin in the European Union market. He said, that means PNG can source fish globally and process here which will have duty free market access into EU markets. "This is a great achievement for PNG during European Partnership Agreement negotiation last year and the signing of this Interim Agreement," Mr Pakop said.

He said the fisheries sector has tremendously boomed in the last 8-10 years and its activities will continue to increase as long as we stay focused. He said PNG is one of the countries that has obtained EU approval to export to the EU market.

He said that NFA is ensuring that the Government's Medium Term Development Strategy on Fisheries Export Driven & Recovery Strategy is achieved, through encouraging downstream processing, value-addition and facilitation of exports.

As per the Prime Minister Grand Chief Sir Michael Somare's speech during the 2007 NFA dividend payment ceremony, he wanted to see in the next 10-15 years, the fisheries sector generating 100,000 employment and 1 billion export revenue annually. Therefore, NFA in consultation with other Government line agencies has been working hard in achieving this challenge and work has already been undertaken to build a Marine Industrial Park here in PNG. This is a very large investment commitment the Government has made, which will see PNG as the tuna capital in the Pacific.

NFA Enters Netball Grand Final



• In Action! Pau Kagena of NFA with the ball looking for her goal shooter.

A one sided call by the umpire saw the defeat of National Fisheries Authority (NFA) to Internal Revenue Commission (IRC) on a 28-19 fulltime score. It was the final game of Division 1 played on Saturday 8th, March 2008 on the Rita Flynn Court.

The brightly attired fisheries women entered the court at 11 am, all fired up for the game.

The opening shot for first score was made by IRC. The IRC was the tougher side racing ahead of the NFA, however with much more experienced players on the likes of Pau Kagena (centre) Gillian Ole (Goal Defend) and Cathy Solomon (Goal Attack) fisheries made a rigorous come back at the final minutes towards end of first half to bring the score to 11-14 in favour of IRC.

At the second half of the game, IRC collected all the balls for score leaving our fisheries women trailing behind on 15-24; adding to the drop in NFA's team moral was the unfounded one sided umpire calls against NFA that that saw the game closing in on NFA with fulltime final score at 28-19 in favour of IRC.

Despite the loss, NFA took out the best defender trophy at a small closing ceremony at Rita Flynn Courts for Divisional one and runner up trophy.

Congratulations! Hey you pismeris! Noken down-hearted tumas, mi bai GS next season... [Prestige]



• NFA Netball squad pose for photograph before the game.