

PJV assists remote Oksapmin in West Sepik Province

PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA – SUNDAY 09 FEBRUARY, 2020 – A community in the Oksapmin Rural Local Level Government (LLG) area in West Sepik Province, is the latest to benefit from Porgera Joint Venture (PJV).

The airstrip at the Oksapmin Government Station, on 23 January this year, became the presentation arena for the PJV donation, many of them building materials and tools, for Oksapmin High School, the Sisimin Aid Post, and the Sanapte Seventh Day Adventist (SDA) Church.

The PJV team, with the goods, on-board a twin otter aircraft landed at the Government Station, much to the surprise and delight of many locals.

The items included: cement bags, roofing iron, nails and hammers, among others.

The donation followed written requests from the school for the construction of a toilet; the aid post for the construction of a house for the Aid Post Orderly (APO); and lastly the SDA church for the construction of a church building.

A very happy school head teacher Minti Tilsil received the donated goods on behalf of her school.

“I had sent letters and quotes to some companies but they did not accept it...but I am happy that PJV, you have responded quickly. With school students, we have a really big need, so very big thank you,” she said.

Sanapte Ward Councillor Lakol Bapioc spoke of the challenges the school was facing.

“We started three-in-one at Oksapmin Primary School and the community we thought of putting K20 per person, but this money would be very small to do a lot of work.

“One of the ways we tried to get help was to write letters, so Oksapmin primary school wrote to PJV. The big thing that we couldn’t do, you have done it. Thank you very much”, he said.

Sanapte SDA Church Pastor Darwin Kotena was appreciative that they would now construct the church building, and by having proper structure, he hoped that more people would attend mass.

“We the pastors develop the spiritual life...but physically we struggle. That’s why Joe took our concerns and consulted with you people and made everything possible and you people support the Sanapte SDA church under the Oksapmin town church. This now will motivate a lot of people to come to church. A small church building, a small group of people will come to worship. A big church building, a lot of people will come.”

The Oksapmin area is within the PJV footprint especially along the riverine where the Company has a gauging station for river monitoring purposes.

>ENDS<

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Porgera mine is a joint venture between Barrick and the Zijin Mining Group, which each owns 47.5%, with the remaining 5% interest held by Mineral Resources Enga (owned equally by Porgera Special Mining Lease landowners and the Enga Provincial Government). The mine is operated by Barrick Niugini Limited (“BNL”).

Porgera Gold Mine – Part of the Community



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Caption: Oksapmin community members who turned up to witness the delivery of PJV donation.



PJV assists remote Oksapmin in West Sepik Province 2

Caption: PJV Community Relations and Engagement Riverine Officer Joe Kaba (right) going over the list of donated items with Pastor Kotena.



PJV assists remote Oksapmin in West Sepik Province 3

Caption: PJV Community Relations and Engagement Riverine Officer Shandric Yangen speaks to Oksapmin community members during the presentation of the donated items.



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Caption: PJV Community Relations and Engagement Riverine team presenting the donated items to Ms Tilsil and Pastor Kotena, much to the joy of community members who were present to witness the occasion.

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