



TOKAUT NEWS

1st & 2nd Quarter 2023 LETTER



The Secretary General of PNG Red Cross Society Mr. Valachie Quagliata (standing middle) with volunteers from ENB and AROB branch picture during the celebration of the World Red Cross Day in Buka.

2023 WORLD RED CROSS DAY MESSAGE

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is celebrating the World Red Cross Red Crescent Day 2023 today on May 8, recognizing the importance of humanitarian action in saving lives, protecting livelihoods, and upholding human dignity.

This year, we want to highlight the universal, human, and diverse aspects of our Movement by focusing on our volunteers and their involvement within our communities. We acknowledge the critical role of volunteers and staff of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in responding to crises, providing essential services, and building resilience.

“The PNG Red Cross volunteers and staff work tirelessly to help people in need, often in very challenging circumstances,” said Valachie Quagliata, Secretary General of the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society.

“On this special day, we celebrate their courage, commitment, and compassion, and renew our pledge to work together to alleviate human suffering and promote human dignity.”

“With the support of PNG Red Cross volunteers and staff, we have helped communities affected by tribal violence, disasters and other humanitarian concerns in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Hela, Southern Highlands, and Enga provinces since 2012,” International

Committee of the Red Cross PNG Head of Mission Georgios Georgantas said.

“We are grateful to work with PNG Red Cross to carry humanitarian mandate in PNG. It would not be achieved without the commitment and tireless efforts of PNG Red Cross staff and volunteers on the ground,” International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Head of Delegation for PNG Maki Igarashi said.

To mark the occasion, National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies around the world are organizing various events and activities, including blood donation campaigns, first aid training sessions, community awareness programs, and fundraising drives.

These initiatives aim to raise awareness about the importance of humanitarian action, mobilize resources for emergency response, and promote the values of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity, and universality.

The World Red Cross Red Crescent Day has been observed annually on May 8th since 1948, commemorating the birth anniversary of Henry Dunant, the founder of the Red Cross. It serves as an opportunity to honor the humanitarian legacy of Dunant and the millions of Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers and staff who have dedicated their lives to serving humanity.

ENB AND AROB BRANCH TAKE PART IN PEER TO PEER EXCHANGE PROGRAM



Volunteers from PNG Red Cross from and ENB Branch during the one week peer to peer exchange program.

Buka, AROB. In the lead up to the World Red Cross Day the Buka and Kokopo branches of the PNG Red Cross took part in a first of its kind peer-to-peer exchange program in Buka last week. The program aimed to enhance the operational capacities of both branches by facilitating the exchange of ideas and information between volunteers.

Accompanied by the branch officer Steven Kilalang and branch chairman Oscar Pidan, six volunteers from Kokopo spent a week in Buka engaging with fellow volunteers, visiting schools, and raising community awareness. The program was a success which ended in a special celebration on May 8th to commemorate World Red Cross and Red Crescent

Day. The Secretary General was in attendance, along with delegates from the International Committee of Red Cross based in Buka.

The Secretary General applauded the initiative taken by the two branches in organizing such programs and commended them as a model for other branches of the National Society to follow.

He also highlighted the significance of World Red Cross Day and acknowledged the dedicated efforts of the volunteers and staff in serving the people through humanitarian activities.



ENB branch Chairperson and Council Member Oscar Donald with a ICRC colleague during the World Red Cross Day Commemoration in Buka.

WORLD RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT DAY CELEBRATION IN MT HAGEN

Mt Hagen, WHP. In commemoration of the World Red Cross Day and our PNG Red Cross Western Highlands Branch organized various exciting activities for the occasion. Our passionate volunteers showcased First Aid demonstrations and presented about the Red Cross movement mandate, and even put on some creative dances.

Delegates from the ICRC in Mt Hagen, the WH Provincial Health Authority, and other community members joined in celebrating the special day.

The commemorations came to a close with Digicel PNG and Wurup Christian Outreach Center generously presenting the branch with tents and a loud hailer respectively.



DREF: RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY ELECTION RELATED CONFLICTS IN THE HIGHLANDS



A Mt Hagen branch volunteer unloading stocks that were distributed to the affected people.

Non-Food Items arrive in Hagen in preparation for Response

Mt Hagen, WHP. Three containers stacked with blankets, mosquito nets, and tarpaulins have arrived in Mt Hagen for distribution to local communities in Western Highlands and Jiwaka that are affected by Election Related Conflicts.

The much-needed Non-Food Items were funded by the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) in partnership with Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society (PNGRCS) under the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF).

We thank our hardworking volunteers from Lae and Mt Hagen for tirelessly unloading the items into stock awaiting distribution.



LOCALS TAKE INITIATIVE TO FIX ROAD

Lumusa, WHP. During a recent duty trip to Lumusa in Western Highlands Province, our staff and volunteers came to a stop when they encountered a group of men with bush knives, Spades, and point crowbars digging in the middle of the road.

The driver stopped the vehicle and some of the staff went to where they were to inspect the situation. While they were walking down, the men came and greeted them with smiles. Out of curiosity, they asked them what they were doing and they said that they mobilized men from the surrounding communities to fix a broken concrete culvert that was making it impossible for vehicles to pass through.

It was definitely something that does not happen every day so the staff further asked them how

the concrete culverts were broken. They said it was broken by supporters of candidates during the 2022 election to stop rival candidates from accessing communities on the other side of the bridge.

The staff and volunteers were astonished by the initiative taken by the surrounding local communities to fix the road themselves. They even went miles to buy cement bags and steel culverts to reconstruct the broken culvert.

The volunteers were so amazed they couldn't wait to lend a hand.

We applaud the local communities for their initiative and service to their community. It is truly humanity in action.



PNGRCS Hagen Branch Volunteer, Lazarus helping out the with some digging



Local men from the lumusa community fixing the road

PNGRCS PROVIDES RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO WURUP COMMUNITY

Mt Hagen, WHP. Christopher Wimp and his family have been living in a temporary shelter for displaced people since January 1, 2023. They fled after a fight broke out between two tribes near their village in Wila, on the outskirts of Mt Hagen City.

mosquito nets, kitchen sets, 10-liter jerry cans, basins, bowls, and buckets to families who have lost their homes in the conflict.

“Given their situation, displaced people are among the main beneficiaries of our help,” said Rodney Ketiga, PNGRCS Mt Hagen branch officer. “We do our best to leave these people with the tools they need to live in dignity and safety.”

On behalf of the beneficiaries, who hail from the Moge Namka clan in Hagen Central District, Christopher Wimp commended the Mt Hagen Red Cross Society and ICRC for providing the necessities that will greatly help the affected community members, especially the vulnerable group of women and children, on enhancing their ability to cope and slowly rebuild their community.



Christopher Wimp (Standing first from left)

“The election related conflict has severely affected the livelihood of our people,” said Mr. Wimp. “Houses were burnt down, food gardens and livestock destroyed. We have lost all our possessions and means of earning a living. Among the civilian populations, children’s education was disrupted.”

After the relief assistance, their circumstances are slowly improving following the distribution of non-food items to the community. The PNG Red Cross Society through the Mt Hagen Branch with support from the International Committee of Red Cross and Crescent (icrc) and International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC), has delivered shelter toolkits, tarpaulins, blankets,



Community members from the Wurup receiving the Relief items provided by the PNGRCS



PNGRCS volunteers from Mt Hagen Branch doing the distribution of NFI's to identified families that were affected by the conflict

PNGRCS DONATES PROVIDE RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO WURUP COMMUNITY

Wurup, Jiwaka. Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society in partnership with the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) through the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) Operation had our Mt Hagen Branch volunteers and staff successfully provide non-food items (NFIs) to communities affected by election-related violence in the Wurup Ward Two (2) Local Government Council area in the Anglimp South Whagi District of Jiwaka Province.

The volunteers led by PNGRCS Mt Hagen Branch officer Rodney Ketiga, distributed shelter items and tool kits to 34 households, benefiting 90 people, including people with special needs and three widows. The aid was much-needed by families

who had fled their homes in Kindeng and taken refuge in Wurup. The community was grateful for the timely response, as it will help them rebuild their lives.

Local councillor Bakri Poia commended the PNG Red Cross Society and IFRC for the initiative in helping the displaced community, as it was the first time the Wurup community received such humanitarian assistance.

The PNG Red Cross Society is committed to ensuring that affected communities can sustain themselves over the long term and fulfill its mission of helping people deprived of their liberty in connection with the conflict.

END OF DREF OPERATION IN HIGHLANDS

Since July 2022, Papua New Guinea's Highlands region has been witnessing multiple incidents of election-related violence and many negative impacts including loss of human lives, destruction of properties and displacements of people.

The Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society, with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) through the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (IFRC), we have been providing vital relief assistance to communities impacted by election-related violence in communities in Jiwaka and Western Highlands Provinces.

We are happy to share that we have distributed non-food items to 588 households and 2521 individuals from 88 different communities including Lumusa, Willa and Wurup in which the distribution was focused. The relief operation which began in November 2022 successfully ended this year in April.

We thank our hardworking volunteers in Mt Hagen and the humanitarian partners especially the International Committee of Red Cross and Baptist Union for working with us to ensure relief items reach the affected communities.



RED READY PROJECT

MAIWARA COMMUNITY IN MILNE BAY UNDERGOES IVCA



PNGRCS Organisational Development Manager and Allison Dage (standing second right) inspecting the activities done by the community members.

Bildad Kadada explaining explaining a activity to community members. Bildad is an exoeriented vounteer and also a council member.

Alotau, Milne Bay. Maiwara community in Milne Bay province can now better understand and identify their risk priorities and issues and how to address them using resources within their community.

Integrated Vulnerability Capacity Assessment (IVCA) is a methodology used to assess the vulnerability and capacity of a community to cope with natural disasters or other crises.

The goal of the IVCA is to help communities identify the key factors that contribute to vulnerability and to determine what resources and capacities exist within the community to address those vulnerabilities. The two days workshop saw 17 participants including key members of the community taking part in the discussions.

One community member, Maba Poella who is also the youth president, said the IVCA workshop was an eye opener for the community as now they have identified and realized the hazards in the community and how to seek help or promote resilience using the resources available in the community.

The IVCA is a workshop under the Red Ready Project which aims to build and promote readiness and resilience within disaster risk communities in PNG. Milne Bay is one of 3 provinces IVCA is being piloted.

BRANCH ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY ASSESSMENT (BOCA) FOR MILNE BAY

Alotau, Milne Bay. The volunteers from Milne Bay Branch went through a 4 day session Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment.

The Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment has been developed as a local assessment tool enabling frontline local branches to improve their efficiency, effectiveness and transparency as humanitarian partners of choice collaborating with local authorities and other local actors, including in disaster management.

The PNG Red Cross through the Red Ready Project has been conducting this assessment to our branches. Even though it was a refresher for the branch there were a lot of new volunteers who took part in the assessment to assess where they are in order to improve and develop their capacity.



Siar community members taking part in the IVCA Workshop

INTERGRATED VULNERABILITY CAPACITY ASSESSMENT FOR SIAR COMMUNITY IN MADANG

Siar, Madang. Thirteen community members from Siar village took part in a Intergrated vulnerability Capacity Assessment Workshop (IVCA) conducted by PNG Red Cross.

The workshop is aimed at helping communities identify the key factors that contribute to vulnerability and to determine what resources and capacities exist within the community to address those vulnerabilities

Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society in its mission to build disaster preparedness and resilient communities, is conducting IVCA workshops for selected communities in 3 provinces in PNG.



Volunteers from PNGRCS Alotau Branch actively taking part in the BOCA workshop



Siar Community members participating in the Community Based First Aid (CBFA) under the Red Ready Project. In the Right picture, participants are seen showing off their First Aid handbook given to them after completing the two day training.

Kawai Watangas (Seated middle) is the PNGRCS First Aid Coordinator and Master trainer who trains other volunteers and runs the First Aid Program

Under the Red Ready Project Papua New Guinea Cross Society continues to build capacity, readiness, and resilience of respond to local disasters. Currently the piloted provinces are, East New Britain, Madang, Oro and Milne Bay Provinces.

PNG RED CROSS RESPONDS TO 7.1 MAGNITUDE EARTHQUAKE IN ANGORAM, EAST SEPIK

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF OPERATION IN ANGORAM, EAST SEPIK

Angoram, ESP. The PNG Red Cross Madang Branch has successfully mobilized logistics and shipped them to provide relief assistance to communities affected by the 7.1 magnitude earthquake that struck Angoram District in East Sepik Province on April 3, 2023.

A team of volunteers from the PNG Red Cross Madang Branch and the East Sepik Provincial Disaster Center have been on the ground for the past week conducting assessments in

Keram LLG and Yuat LLG, the two areas that were most affected by the earthquake



Madang Branch volunteers unloading NFI's to respond to the Sepik Earthquake

The assessments found that 319 households in Keram LLG and 333 households in Yuat LLG were destroyed by the earthquake. The volunteers and officers have been

traveling by boat up the Sepik River to reach the affected communities, as most of them are not accessible by road.

The containers containing the relief items have already arrived in Angoram from the Madang branch of the PNG Red Cross, and the volunteers will be distributing them to the affected communities in the coming days.

The relief items include tarpaulins, food, water, hygiene kits, and other essential items. The PNG Red Cross is grateful for the support of its donors, which has made it possible to provide the much-needed assistance to the people of Angoram District.

RELIEF ITEMS REACH AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

After weeks of transporting relief items from Madang to East Sepik and then to Angoram, the items have finally reached the affected communities.

Volunteers and officers from the East Sepik Provincial Disaster Center used a dug-out motor canoe to reach the communities and distribute the relief items. The Kambrabra people generously provided three canoes to help with the transportation.

The non-food items (NFIs) were distributed to nine wards in Keram Rural Local Level Government (LLG), which were identified as the most severely affected during initial assessments. The distribution was challenging due to shortages of fuel, lack of adequate transport, and the geographical location of the affected villages.

However, the volunteers and officers were able to reach the nine wards and distribute the NFIs. The PNGRCS response team is grateful for the

support received from the headquarter and the donors who helped which has made it possible to provide this much-needed assistance to the people of Keram Rural LLG.

The team is aware that there are still many other communities in need of assistance, and they are working to secure additional NFIs so that they can reach more people. They are also working to improve their coordination with the East Sepik Provincial Disaster Office so that they can reach more communities in a timely manner.

They people from the affected communities were grateful for the assistance provided to them by Red Cross.

Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society is committed to providing as much assistance as possible to the people of PNG that are affected by natural disasters that threaten their livelihood.

Pictures and more information next page....

KERAM RURAL LOCAL LEVEL GOVERNMENT – COMMUNITY DISTRIBUTION

No.	Villages	No. Households	Tarpaulins	No. of Kitchen Sets	Mosquito Nets	Hygiene Packs	Water Containers	Blankets
1	Wom Eten	65	12	20	90	65	65	2 bales
2	Wom	182	35	40	185	160	90	3 bales
3	Ketrol	5	1	2	5	5	5	
4	Kambramba	27	5	8	27	27	27	1 bale
5	Marua	21	4	5	21	21	21	
6	Yanboe	31	6	6	31	31	31	
7	Nanten	19	3	5	19	19	19	
8	Banimata	20	4	4	20	20	20	
9	Raten	25	10	10	20	10	30	1 bale
	Total	370	80	100	418	100	390	7 bales – 128 pcs



PNGRCS Team Youfei and Hegar.Dagen (Team Leader) ESP PDC Officers (Kenuit Camo shirt) and Richard (Boat Operator). Travelling up the Sepik River for Distribution.

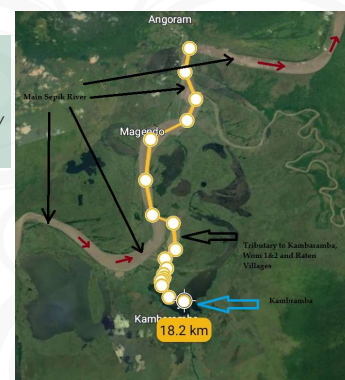


PNGRCS and ESP PDC leaving Kambramba after NFI distribution.



PNGRCS and ESP PDC leaving Kambramba after NFI distribution.

Yellow route depicts travel from Angoram to Kambramba on river crafts. Black line depicts Main Sepik River. Red line Arrow depicts flow of Sepik River. Black Dimensional Arrow points tributary to Kambramba. Light blue 2D arrow distribution point. Source: Google Earth Satellite Image



OUR SUPPORTERS



OUR FIRST AID CLIENTS



Changing Minds, Saving Lives

WHO WE ARE



ABOUT US

- We are an independent organisation that works as an auxiliary to the Government, granting us the role of assisting during any public disaster or need and giving aid to the sick and wounded irrespective of nationality.
- Our legal status was established through an Act of Parliament; the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society Incorporation Act 1976.



Volunteers

We have 700 plus volunteers throughout Papua New Guinea.



Our Branches

We have have 13 Branches in 13 provinces.



Vision

- To be the leading humanitarian organisation in Papua New Guinea enhancing the lives of the most vulnerable in PNG.



Mission

- Enhance the lives of the most vulnerable in PNG by mobilising the power of humanity and delivering services that recognise and built upon our diverse culture and unique environment.



Services and Programmes

- Disaster Management
- First and CPR Training
- Climate Change and Adaptation
- Water, Sanitization and Hygiene (WASH)
- Inclusive Education Resource Center

Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society believes in enhancing the lives of the most vulnerable in PNG by mobilising the power of humanity and delivering services that recognise and build upon our diverse culture and unique environment.

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