

Newsletter

# PNG URBAN YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROJECT



## UYEP BLS program graduates 634 youth trainees

The Urban Youth Employment Project in November and December 2012, trained 634 youths under its basic life skills training program.

The BLS training started on November 26 and ended on December 21 last year where 634 youths underwent training.

The training was conducted by UYEP training contractor, ABU Consult, an international firm based in Germany. Local NCD-based trainers were recruited to conduct one week classroom-based training based on intensive modules.

The BLS training was conducted in five different venues in the city—Don Bosco Technological Institut-



• **BLST in progress at the Don Bosco Technological Institute, Boroko for youth trainees, most had gone through the 40-days of YJC. The trainees will then go into 20-days PET.**

ute (Boroko), City Mission (Koki), CWA (Boroko), United Church-Hanuabada and Girl Guides (Kone).

Modules in the BLST include work ethics, personal hygiene, business, behavior, work place, respect.

## Government target 13,500 benefactors in UYEP

The Government is targeting 13,500 youths to benefit through the UYEP.

Under the project youths will be provided training and placed on jobs with NCD-based employers.

The Project's benefits to youths include:

- Youths will acquire basic knowledge and life-skills for entry into workforce;
- Gain work experience;
- They will learn basic work methods and health and safety protocols;
- Youths will receive counselling services;

- They will obtain a Photo Identification Card (also known as "Youth ID");
- Receive assistance to set up a Savings Account and access to Banking System;
- Obtain Certificates of "Completion", "Attainment" and "Experience" upon completion of BLST, Basic Numeracy and Literacy Test and Work Experience, which will aid youth in finding work; and
- An enhanced capacity to contribute to, and increase household incomes.

### Summary of Progress

- The project's start-up has been slow but now making steady progress towards meeting its objectives.
- A contingency plan is in place to compensate for earlier days.
- Activities which have concluded include training of 634 youth trainees under the Basic Life Skills Training end of last year.
- Ongoing activities include youths acquiring a bank account; immediately engage in employment through the YJC.

### In This Issue:

- BLST turns out 634.. Pg..1**
- Govt targets youths.. Pg..1**
- More time please.. Pg..2**
- Madang ready Pg..3**
- Youth view point Pg..3**
- US millions invest Pg..4**

### UYEP benefits to City youths

- The project is for unemployed youths aged 16 to 30 years.
- Youths enrolled into UYEP programs will be paid training stipends.
- Youths will be provided five (5) days of Basic Life Skills Training followed by work experience.
- Trainees will be given Youth Identification Cards.
- Youth Bank accounts will be set up with Bank South Pacific and enrolled in a SMS Banking Scheme and youths provided mobile phones and sim cards.
- No bank fees paid for 6 months from account opening.
- Trainees will be placed in either YJC (public works) or OJT (on-the-job) with NCD-based employers.

Profile: UYEP youth of the month

## Trainees want more time for BLST—survey

*In November and December last year, just over 635 youth trainees passed through the Basic Life Skills Training (BLST) program. Some of the trainees were asked about their thoughts on the training and generally their perceived views about the project. The thoughts and expressions in this column are honest opinions of the trainees and do not necessarily reflect the viewpoints of the management.*



**Eugene, 24... “BLST was most helpful.”**



**Lydia, 23... BLST was too short.”**



**Susan, 26... “First time work for me.”**

•Lydia Hareka and Susan Hahane come from different ethnic groups; Lydia from Gulf and Susan from Hanuabada village in the NCD. Both are excited about working in the UYEP and both have been engaged in the YJC for the past two months and underwent the BLST. Susan and Lydia said working under the YJC program was good because they earned some money but would have wished BLST be longer.

Last year in November and December just over 635 youth trainees passed through the Basic Life Skills Training (BLST) program. The training was conducted from November 26 and ended December 21, just before the holidays. There have been mixed reactions about UYEP, the BLST and the YJC.

Youth trainees were approached on random and asked their views about the project, and the BLS training in particular. It was most obvious most trainees expressed some level of satisfaction whilst others reserved their



**Gari, 24... “YJC was my first paid job.”**

•Gari and Jason live in the Big H village. Gari is from the hinterlands of Tapini in the Goilala district, Central province has been living in HB for many years since leaving his village. Like Gari, Jason also lives in HB and they agreed the YJC and BLST are good, and hoped the BLST would be more intensive in future. Both Gari and Jason have said they were excited to be part of the program the Government has initiated to address youth unemployment in the city.

thoughts to themselves. However, an expression mostly shared by the youths was: “We have enjoyed working in the YJC program but we would have appreciated if more time was allocated for the BLS training.”

The youths commended the Government and NCDC for their support. Six youths are featured in this Youth Profile column. The youths are optimistic about the project outcomes. They stated that the YJC was good but had differing views about the BLST. Their thoughts included here have been edited.



**Francisca, 24... “My first paid job was in YJC.”**

•Eugene Michael and Fred Sarea, both from the Gulf province have lived in the Ranuguri settlement all their lives. ‘The project is an eye opener for us,’ they said. As like all other youths, both said they could spend most of their time with other youths doing nothing. They said both the YJC and BLST helped the youths to become aware of government programs which are initiated to assist youths find jobs however the BLST should be held longer.



**Fred, 28... “The BLST was short.”**



**Jason, 23... “BLST lessons not clear.”**



**Lohia, 27... “BLST too short time.”**

•Francisca Maa, originally from Hamuhamu village along the West coast of Kerema, Gulf province. She first heard about the UYEP from friends and when the YJC was mooted she teamed up with some of her friends from the Ranuguri settlement to work in the project. Like Francisca, Lohia from Hanuabada Village heaped praise for the for YJC and BLST which has helped both girls.



## Youth leaders call for urban youth project expansion nationwide



•Peter Tonao •Jenny Soo •Robin Hevese •Cr Lady Dibela •Cr. Elis Maso

Madang is interested in implementing the Urban Youth Employment Project. Senior youth leaders from the Madang Provincial Administration visited the Project Management Unit last December and were impressed with the national government supported project currently being implemented by NCDC.

The youth leaders said they would call on their Provincial Government to embrace the project in Madang because it was an important project for the youths.

These leaders joined other community leaders in NCD Cr Maso and Lady Dibela, who had had called for the project to be implemented nationwide because of its benefits for youths.

The three are Peter Tonao, President Provincial Youth Council, Robin Hevese, Provincial Youth Officer and Jenny Soo, an official of the Provincial Youth Council. They were on a fact finding mission into Port Moresby and called into our office at Lakatoi Building. The youth leaders

said youth issues in PNG were national issues and would like the Government give equal attention with a view to starting such programs in the provinces.

The leaders have said to request their Provincial Government to start discussions with the National Government and its core agencies and other International Development agencies for a possible start up of UYEP in Madang and reiterated Madang was ready to embrace this important program for youths.

They believed problems facing youths in the country were similar. "Problems faced by youths in Port Moresby is in a nutshell, the same problems and issues confronting our youths in all parts of PNG," they said.

The leaders echoed the UYEP is a National Government initiative and a national program and as such this project should be replicated in all other provinces.

The leaders also visited the National Youth Commission, UN agencies and other government organizations.

They are satisfied the NCDC with able leadership in Governor Powes Parkop and his NCDC Management would support the project to materialise and become successful to address problems faced by youth in the city. Madang has an effective youth program for a long time and it would be fitting for this project to be implemented, the youth leaders said.

### Fast Track: Youth Talking Point



"I think this project has given us some hope to move on with life."—Lydia, 23.



"We're so excited with UYEP because of the benefits." — Badili Youths.



"Opening a bank account has been made easier for us." —Kairi, 29.



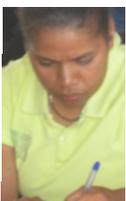
"I never thought I would have a bank account. I'm very thankful to UYEP."— Gari, 24.



"Thanks to UYEP because we now have new mobile phones and new bank accounts." — Francisca, 24.



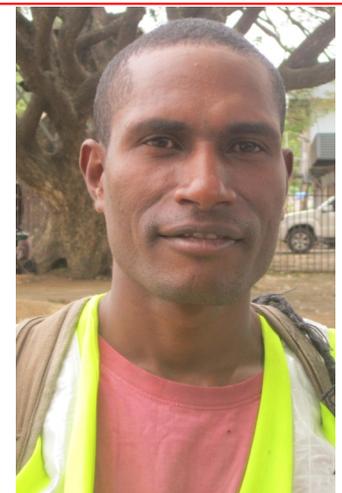
"I thank the project for giving us the opportunity to work and opening our bank accounts." — Eugene, 24.



"I have learned some good things in the BLST. It was like going back to school." — Boroko youth.



"The project is new and just started. I hear opportunities are there so looking forward to it." — Susan, 26.



### 'We're excited to be part of UYEP'—Gulf youths

Lydia Hareka and Sarea Lavai (above) are from Hamuhamu and Iokea villages respectively and now reside in the popular Ranuguri settlement at the back-page of Konedobu in the NCD. Both youths have been part of the youths engaged by the project under its YJC at Konedobu. Lydia left Grade 8 in 2001 and has lived with her mother and four other siblings for the most part of her life at Ranuguri. For this Hamuhamu girl, its has been a dream come true. For Sarea, the YJC has been his first paid job since leaving primary school early in 2000. Sarea says the YJC and BLST have opened a new chapter in his life and would move on from there.

Urban Youth Employment Project  
 Project Management Unit  
 Lagatoi Haus, Ground Floor,  
 PO Box 7270, BOROKO, NCD  
 National Capital District

Tel: (675) 325-3741  
 Email: [enquiries.uyep@gmail.com](mailto:enquiries.uyep@gmail.com)

**Yumi Wok Bung Wantaim  
 Strongim Yut Strongim Siti**



[www.ncdc.gov.pg](http://www.ncdc.gov.pg)

## UYEP to provide skills, training for US\$19.2m

The Urban Youth Employment Project (UYEP) is a Government project managed by the NCDC. The project is financed through an IDA Credit of US\$15.8 million, a Korean Trust Fund grant of US\$0.6 million and additional funding from GoPNG with 10 per cent commitment by NCDC.

NCDC has committed to providing an annual contribution of 10 percent counterpart funding for the project duration; and the Government of PNG has allocated K1 million of its Development Budget in 2011 and 2012. In addition, PNG LNG has contributed US\$900,000 to UYEP.

The project will provide knowledge, skills and work experience to unemployed youth through a classroom-based and on-the-job training.

Selected youths will participate in the Basic Life Skills Training, which focuses on issues such as community service, respecting diversity, health and hygiene, the benefits of saving

and managing conflict, to name a few.

Following a basic numeracy and literacy test, youth are placed in one of two work schemes.

The first is the Youth Job Corps (YJC), a community-based labour intensive road maintenance and rehabilitation/workfare scheme where they are eligible for 40 days of work. The second is five (5) months of On-the-Job Training, an entry-level "mini-apprenticeship" scheme that is supported by a number of key NCD-based employers from the private and public sectors and civil society.

The project aims to promote public-private partnerships in the implementation of market-oriented training, which is demand driven.

Up to current, the UYEP has conducted several Basic Life Skills Training in Port Moresby with over 634 youth trainees trained.

## Feb 4 start for pre employment training (PET) for industrial, business

The Pre Employment Training for PET-Industrial and PET-Business have commenced for youth trainees who have gone through the BLST last year.

The youth trainees were selected after scores for the Basic Literacy and Numeracy test which was conducted at the end of the BLST.

A good number of trainees scored pass marks and those with the highest scores have been selected to attend the one-month PET training. Those youths who did not sit for the test and/or who did not pass the test will go into Youth Job Corp (YJC).

Youth trainees under YJC will be engaged in the public works program and attached to the NCDC Engineering section to undertake works.

## UYEP ELIGIBILITY SCREENING SURVEY (ESS) SET FOR FEBRUARY 18-22 & 25-27

**The ESS for Intake 3 into the Urban Youth Employment Project will start on Monday, Feb 18 to Friday, Feb 23 and continue to the following week Monday, Feb 25 to Wednesday 27. The ESS will be conducted by UYEP contractor Sistemas will take place for youths in North Waigani, Morata, Gerehu, Boroko, Kaugere/Kilakila and Taurama.**



• **Koki Youths under the YJC..... Community Leaders also play a key role in the communities and their support is critical to youths enrolling in the UYEP.**

### ESS DATES & VENUES

- **Waigani Lifeline Centre**  
18, 19 & 20 Feb
- **Morata Vocational Centre**  
21, 22 & 25 Feb
- **Charles Lwanga - Gerehu**  
18, 19, 20, 21 & 22 Feb
- **St Martins Church- E/Boroko**  
18, 19, 20, 21 & 22 Feb
- **Shalom Baptist Kaugere**  
25, 26 & 27 Feb
- **Taurama (to confirm)**  
25, 26 & 27 Feb