Papua New Guinea Social Economic Empowerment for Women in Mining and Petroleum Areas

Improving livelihoods in extractives communities.

Background
The extractive industries sector has been vital to the local economy of Papua New Guinea for over 20 years. Extractives have contributed substantially to government revenues but also face challenging social issues and significant environmental impacts in many areas.

A persistent challenge has been ensuring that extractives benefits reach local communities, including women and children. Research shows that benefits tend to be captured by men, while the impacts of social disruption and environmental harm fall most heavily on women and children.

About the Project
The program aims to improve the livelihood and quality of life for the women and their families in 15 extractives-impacted communities throughout PNG. This will be done through women’s business development training, capacity building, empowerment, and community based advocacy.

The program includes four key components:

1. **Business development training to increase the economic empowerment of vulnerable women and the poorest families in mining and petroleum areas** — this includes identifying who is the community is most vulnerable through a needs assessment; literacy and numeracy training; and micro-business development support.

2. **Community-based advocacy and awareness initiative on gender based violence** — coordinated with local stakeholders already working in this space, it will ensure activities are complementary and support ongoing efforts.

3. **Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Gender Assessment** — this will include an assessment to determine the gender dimensions of artisanal and small-scale mining throughout PNG—how are women involved and impacted by the sector.

4. **Leadership and self-esteem building training for adolescent girls** — this includes targeted training and capacity building for adolescent girls and boys in order to improve empowerment of adolescent girls and improve how adolescent boys and girls relate. It also features innovative activities, such as a photography program, to allow adolescents to share their perspectives.

Locations: Mining communities in 15 locations across PNG.

Approval Date: 26 December 2012
Closing Date: 20 July 2017
Total Project Cost: US$2.07 million
Donors: Japanese Social Development Fund
Implementing Agency: PNG Chamber of Mines & Petroleum

Contact: World Bank Task Team Leader
Katherine C. Heller, kheller@worldbank.org

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