



## UNODC IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

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# PNG ICAC marks anti-corruption day

For the first time in Papua New Guinea (PNG), the newly created Independent Commission against Corruption, in partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Development Programme and the European Union, commemorated the International Anti-Corruption Day (IACD) on 9 December 2022.

The PNG Government has recognised that combating corruption is necessary for national development. The Prime Minister, the Hon James Marape MP, included it among his top priorities in his inaugural address after the recent election.



This was reinforced at the IACD ceremony held in Port Moresby (below) and broadcast online and promoted on national radio. Speakers included the Chief Secretary Mr. Ivan Pomaleu, along with advocates for the fight against corruption from civil society, Transparency International, women's empowerment groups and youth.

UNODC, through the European Union -funded PNG Anti-Corruption Project, is supporting the establishment of the PNG ICAC including through implementation of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption.



## Lae workshop brings key stakeholders for investigative training

Mr. Graeme Gunn, UNODC Anti-Corruption Adviser, PNG, Mrs. Josephine Pitmur, Deputy Secretary, Department of Justice and Attorney General, Mr Thomas Eluh, the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) interim Chairman, at UNODC's Training Workshop for Investigating and Prosecuting Cases of Corruption, a workshop under the PNG Anti-Corruption Project, funded by the European Union, in Lae, Morobe Province in August 2022.



## Interim ICAC sets priority targets for 2023

The interim ICAC set a clear plan for its successful establishment and corruption prevention work. The ICAC identified a strategic road map for the year 2023, with assistance from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) under the PNG Anti-Corruption Project funded by the European Union, and jointly implemented with the UN Development Programme,

“While PNG ICAC is in its interim form, we are establishing comprehensive good practice policies and mechanisms with strong ethical leadership and integrity at the core of everything we do.” said Mr. Thomas Eluh, Interim Chairman of the ICAC.

Following a strategic planning dialogue with UNODC, (above right) the interim ICAC has identified a clear mission, goals



and high-level implementation strategy to fully establish the PNGICAC in 2023.

“Properly establishing a new anti-corruption agency, from investigative procedures to prevention strategies, HR policies to ICT functions, communications activities to financial arrangements, is a formidable task. UNODC is pleased to be providing our global expertise in this area to assist the interim ICAC,” said Mr. Graeme Gunn, the UNODC PNG Officer-in-Charge and Anti-Corruption Adviser.



## Prosecutors to boost integrity

The Office of the Public Prosecutor in PNG is one of UNODC’s key stakeholders in the EU-funded PNG Anti-Corruption Project. Mr Julien Garsany, Deputy Regional Representative South East Asia and the Pacific, met with the Deputy Public Prosecutor, Mr. Raphael Luman, in September 2022 to discuss the partnership with UNODC. This strengthened the technical assistance for prosecutors and other partners in this space, and the ongoing work to support the efforts in the prosecution of fraud and corruption offences in the PNG.

## Commission examines its own ethics, conduct

The ICAC is swiftly progressing the establishment of its office with the interim ICAC Chair, Mr Thomas Eluh, at the forefront working with government bodies and development partners.

A series of key ICAC policies to govern ethics, conduct and communications have been developed with support by the UNODC under the PNG Anti-Corruption Project. The Project is funded by the European Union and jointly implemented by UNODC and the UN Development Programme. These key policies are critical to the establishment of ICAC.

Good practices for induction training for new staff members



have also been addressed.

“The ICAC is at the centre of efforts to combat corruption in our country, and I am working to ensure we adopt best practice policies, procedures and operations. I look forward to the appointments of the ICAC Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners which are the next key steps in ICAC’s establishment,” said Mr. Eluh.

“Under the EU-PNG Partnership for Good Governance, the European Union allocated approximately 100 million Kina for actions aiming at promoting good governance and the respect of the rule of law. I wish to renew the firm commitment of the European Union to stand by the PNG government and civil society to further progress core reforms, including the establishment of the ICAC,” said Mr Jacques Fradin, EU Ambassador to PNG.

As a key integrity agency in PNG, the ICAC needs to be able to demonstrate its own governance and accountability is in the best possible shape.

“We are pleased to be supporting the ICAC’s establishment under the EU-funded project. ICAC is laying a solid foundation for success. We will continue to support ICAC to develop its internal governance as well as its prevention and law enforcement functions,” said Mr Graeme Gunn, the UNODC PNG Officer-in-Charge and Anti-Corruption Adviser.

# PNG officials build prevention expertise

The interim ICAC is adopting proactive approaches to preventing fraud and corruption risks following intensive training and information exchanges in Australia in November 2022.

“The interim ICAC has learned new and innovative methods for identifying fraud and corruption risks, controlling and addressing vulnerabilities in institutions, and understanding how fraudsters operate. I look forward to using the prevention



mandate of the ICAC to build the capacity of other government agencies to assess and address their fraud and corruption risks,” said Mr. Thomas Eluh, interim Chairman of the ICAC.

Five members of the interim ICAC and representatives of the Department of Prime Minister and National Executive Council, the Department of Justice and the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary attended the Australian Public Sector Anti-Corruption Conference and Workshops in Sydney on 15-17

November 2022. Participation was funded by the European Union under the Project on Preventing and Countering Corruption in PNG, and supported by implementation partners UNODC and UNDP.

The event brought together nearly 500 anti-corruption experts from the Pacific region and elsewhere to discuss emerging trends, learn innovative approaches and build professional networks. In addition to the plenary sessions, discussion panels, workshops and smaller meetings at the Conference, the PNG delegation was hosted

by the New South Wales Independent Commission Against Corruption to exchange corruption prevention practices. The NSW ICAC Chief Commissioner hosted the PNG ICAC Chairman (right).

“UNODC is proud to be assisting the establishment and operations of the PNG ICAC under the EU-funded Project. As the custodians of the UN Convention Against Corruption, which dedicates an entire chapter to corruption prevention, UNODC will strongly support the ICAC’s efforts to strengthen corruption prevention.” said Mr. Graeme Gunn, the UNODC PNG Officer-in-Charge and Anti-Corruption Adviser.



## Integrity agencies progress whole-of-society focus

Further opportunities to strengthen implementation of whole-of-society integrity operations in PNG were addressed in September 2022 when Mr. Julien Garsany, Deputy Regional Representative for Southeast Asia and the Pacific of UNODC met with key counterparts under the PNG Anti-Corruption Project in Port Moresby.

The PNG Anti-Corruption Project is implemented by UNODC and UNDP and is funded by the EU.

Meetings and workshops were held with Mr Thomas Eluh, Chair of the interim ICAC, and his team, Commander Steven Francis, Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary, Mr Raphael

Luman, Deputy Public Prosecutor, Office of the Public Prosecutor, Mr Wilson Onea, Acting Director of the Financial Analysis and Supervision Unit, Mr Peter Aitsi MBE, Board Chair of Transparency International PNG, EU PNG officials and other leaders in the fight against corruption in PNG. Mr Garsany’s visit strengthened UNODC collaboration with key anti-corruption law enforcement institutions and civil society in PNG.

“UNODC is ramping up its support to anti-corruption law enforcement and prevention under the EU-funded Project. My meetings allowed our Regional Office to listen to the concerns and needs of our stakeholders and to build on the strong engagement and work done by the UNODC Anti-Corruption Adviser, Mr Graeme Gunn, and his great team,” said Mr. Garsany.

“Under the EU-PNG Partnership for Good Governance, the European Union allocated approximately 100 million Kina for actions aiming at promoting good governance and the respect of the rule of law,” said Dr Razvan Silviu Jora, EU Deputy Head of Delegation.





## Response progressed on wildlife and forest crime

UNODC assisted the PNG Government by conducting a rapid assessment of the criminal justice response to wildlife and forest crime in PNG during September 2022.

The assessment examined the trade of wild fauna and flora (including marine species, timber and other forest products) in contravention of national and international law. The assessment was conducted through desk-based research and interviews with law-enforcement and border agencies including environment, forestry, fisheries, customs, biosecurity, police, anti-corruption and financial intelligence.

The findings were discussed during workshops in Port

Moresby (above left). This work assists the government to assess the effectiveness of the criminal justice response to wildlife and forest crimes, identifies gaps, and provides recommendations and advice for consideration of national policy makers and other stakeholders.

UNODC also supported training of border officials in Vanimo in north-west PNG, close to the border with Indonesia in December 2022 (above right).

In collaboration with the PNG Conservation and Environmental Protection Authority, border officials were updated on the laws and processes for legal trade, and trained to identify species banned from trade, and monitor and report any incidence of illegal wildlife trade.



## Judiciary work with UNODC in fight against money laundering

Judges in PNG worked with UNODC and the Pacific Centre for Judicial Excellence at a one-week anti-money laundering workshop in Port Moresby during July 2022.

As reported by Radio New Zealand, participants included the Chief Justice of PNG, Sir Gibbs Salika, Deputy Chief Justice, Ambeng Kandakasi, Deputy Chief Justice of Solomon Islands, Rex Faulkna and judges from the Supreme and National Courts of PNG and Solomon Islands.

The Chief Justice, in opening the workshop, said the judicial training adds value to judges in their daily work, adding that PNG is assessed against the global standards of anti-money laundering.

Sir Gibbs Salika said PNG's standing as a country when evaluated against international standards and best practices is imperative for continued foreign direct investment and economic growth and development.



# Enti-Korapsen Projek active on RTI Day fighting corruption and improving criminal justice

PNG and the United Nations (UN) celebrated the International Day for Universal Access to Information. At this occasion, a joyful event at Nature Park with dozens of students sharing information and insights on the impact of corruption and the extent of access to information.

The event was part of the PNG Anti-Corruption Project, implemented by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the UN Development Programme (UNDP), and funded by the European Union. It was also attended by the PNG Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), the National Judicial Staff Services, Transparency International PNG, and the UN Office of the Human Rights Commissioner.

Access to information enables the detection and reporting of corruption. It is also critically important for promoting accountability, transparency and effectiveness of government institutions.



Students learnt about innovations the judiciary is taking to use

technology to improve access to justice. The ICAC explained its prevention, education, investigation and prosecution functions to combat corruption in the public sector. Transparency International highlighted the role of civil society in promoting and supporting access to information.



“The ICAC is working hard with UNODC’s support to ensure we are ready to give the best possible service to citizens when we begin full operations. We want all Papua New Guineans, especially the youth and students, to be engaged with our mandate and to understand the importance of our work” said Mr Thomas Eluh, Chair of the interim PNG ICAC.

“UNODC is pleased to be working with PNG to share our global expertise in building criminal justice capacity and establishing anti-corruption agencies”, said Mr. Julien Garsany, Deputy Regional Representative of the UNODC Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific.

## RPNGC boosts fraud & anti-corruption training

Policing efforts around anti-corruption in PNG have received a boost from the European Union-funded PNG Anti-Corruption Project, implemented jointly by UNODC and UNDP. The Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary’s (RPNGC) National Fraud and Anti-Corruption Directorate (NFACD) is collaborating with UNODC to increase its capacity through mentoring, training and other assistance. UNODC and NFACD are working together to identify good practices for investigation planning of corruption cases and asset recovery, as well as to explore options on how these practices can be applied in the PNG context.

“Under the EU-PNG Partnership for Good Governance, the European Union allocated approximately PGK 100 million for actions aiming at promoting good governance and the respect of the rule of law. The European Union stands by the PNG Government to progress core reforms to strengthen law and order, including support to police who enforce anti-corruption laws,” said Mr. Hans Lambrecht, Head of Cooperation of the EU Delegation to PNG.

“UNODC is a proud partner to the RPNGC. The work of the experienced investigators of the NFACD is central to the PNG Government’s vision to strengthen law and order and to combat corruption,” said Mr Graeme Gunn, the UNODC PNG Officer-in-Charge and Anti-Corruption Adviser.



NFACD Deputy Director Timothy Gitua, EU Deputy Head of Delegation Hans Lambrecht, UNODC’s Graeme Gunn, and RPNGC team members open the workshop



# The Papua New Guinea Anti-Corruption Project

## Project overview

The PNG Anti-Corruption Project is a major commitment by the United Nations, the European Union and the Government of Papua New Guinea to tackle corruption. The European Union invested EUR 5.4 million in the project as part of the EU-PNG Partnership for Good Governance. The Project is being implemented jointly by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

## Project outcomes

In collaboration with national partners, and delivered through a wide range of technical assistance, such as expert support, assessments, training, mentoring, awareness-raising and other activities, the project's primary outcomes will be:

1. NACPA progressively implemented and monitored, including through law reform of freedom of information laws (led by UNDP)
2. ICAC established and operational in accordance with UNCAC recommendations, standards and good practices (led by UNODC)
3. The National Fraud and Anti-Corruption Directorate (NFACD), Provincial Fraud and Anti-Corruption Units (PFACU), Office of the Public Prosecution (OPP), capacity to investigate and prosecute corruption enhanced (led by UNODC)
4. Network of community stakeholders in support of anti-corruption efforts mobilized (led by UNDP)

## National partners

National project partners include ICAC, RPNGC (NFACD, PFACU), OPP, the Department of Justice and Attorney-General, Department of the Prime Minister and National Executive Council, Financial Analysis and Supervision Unit, Ombudsman Commission, Public Service Commission, Department of Provincial and Local Government Affairs, Transparency International PNG and other civil society organisations, PNG Media Association, Business Against Corruption Alliance, PNG Chamber of Com-

## Welcome to new EU PNG Anti-Corruption Project staff



Ms. Pealiwan Rebecca Koralyo joined the UNODC PNG team on 22 August 2022 as a National Programme Officer (Anti-Corruption) for the UNODC Program Office in Port Moresby.

Prior to this assignment, she worked at the Ombudsman Commission of Papua New Guinea as a Principal Legal Officer responsible for all litigation matters, inclusive of Supreme Court References on Constitutional and good governance issues, arising from the enforcement of the Leadership Code. Prior to that she was at the Office of the Public Prosecutor in Papua New Guinea and specialized in the prosecution of fraud and anticorruption related matters. She graduated from University of Papua New Guinea with a Bachelor of Laws, and recognized by the Victorian Bar in Melbourne Australia as an International counsel.

**For more UNODC PNG information:**



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