

# Transport Infrastructure Sector: The Department of Works is Working to Improve the Road Network of PNG

The Department of Works is taking a lead role in PNG's road improvement agenda.

The National Transport Development Plan identifies 16 priority roads (over 4000kms) for immediate attention.

Once the 16 roads are in good working order, and regularly maintained, road maintenance will extend to other roads of significance to the economic and social development of PNG.



"A better road system is vital for the development of PNG and my Department is helping deliver a road-system in which we can take pride. Different and sometimes difficult topographies and landownership issues present us with many challenges. It is incumbent on us to implement a road program that improves people's access to facilities such as markets, schools and health services. It is also important that we operate within a fiscally responsible framework". Secretary Joel Luma, Department of Works, February 2009.



**Central Province:** Proper drainage construction is essential during construction and for ongoing road maintenance. Local communities assist construction and essential ongoing maintenance.



New drainage and protection works along the Hiritano Highway in Central Province will prevent flooding.



**East Sepik Province:** The Sepik Highway is transformed from a dangerous and collapsing section of road to a 2-lane sealed Highway, with construction of 11 metre high gabiion walls.



**Sandaun Province:** Ongoing slip repairs and re-gravelling of the Sepik Highway between Mai Junction and Asini in Sandaun Province is upgrading the existing single lane to a full width carriageway.



**Bougainville:** Funding has enabled the restoration of the abutment of the Pururari Bridge. The Autonomous Bougainville Government, the Department of Works and TSSP are working collaboratively in Bougainville to maintain and upgrade the priority road network.



Preparation for the final bitumen surfacing on the Ramu Highway in Madang Province.

The PNG Transport Sector Coordination, Monitoring and Implementation Committee (TSCMIC) has been formed by the National Executive Committee to oversee implementation of the PNG National Transport Development Plan and the Public Sector Reform Strategy. Membership comprises the heads of all transport agencies as well as central agencies.

The PNG– Australia Transport Sector Support Program (TSSP) has been designed to support the work of TSCMIC. Through TSSP, transport agencies are able to access AusAID funding for strengthening of land, sea and air infrastructure as well as public sector management.



Through Community Agreement Contracts the Department of Works employs community groups to carry minor maintenance, providing funds for local communities.



**New Ireland Province:** In the past year 2 Projects have been completed on the Boluminski Highway with more TSSP funding allocated for 2009. These are before and after bitumen sealing.



**Madang Province:** Road slip repair works being carried out on the Ramu Highway in Madang. Many of the country's highways are subject to land slips and these photos show the progress of gabiion basket construction on the Highway from a narrow stretch of road to 2-lanes of traffic.

