PAPUA NEW GUINEA SETTLEMENT UPGRADING PROGRAMME

URBANIZING TREND OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

With an annual national population growth rate of 2.7 per cent and increasing levels of migration from rural areas, Papua New Guinea’s urban centres are characterized by poverty, housing shortages and substandard living conditions. Key urban services and infrastructure such as roads, drainage, water networks and sanitation systems have deteriorated over the years due to poor maintenance and the demands of a rapidly expanding population.

Papua New Guinea has already taken a number of concrete steps to help fulfill the objectives of the Pacific Urban Agenda (PUA). It established an Office of Urbanization and developed the National Urbanization Policy 2010 - 2030, which was endorsed by the National Executive Council. The Office has also partnered with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) on a Cities Alliance funded project, the ‘Papua New Guinea Settlement Upgrading Programme’.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

The overall objective of the Programme is to formulate Settlement Upgrading Strategies at different tiers of government, identify primary and secondary infrastructure for possible funding in Port Moresby and gauge potential climate change impacts through vulnerability assessments. It also aims to build local capacity and strengthen relevant institutions by organizing tailor-made courses, as well as promote knowledge sharing through urban charters, pamphlets, brochures and public awareness campaigns. Furthermore, the programme will help initiate and develop policies, legislation and guidelines to help promote sustainable urban development approaches.

The project is being implemented through the following components:

a) Community-based Settlement Upgrading Action Plans (CSUAPs);

b) Adaptation of the National Capital District Commission (NCDC) City Profiling methodology to help Port Moresby address climate change impacts;

c) City infrastructure investment programmes;

d) Capacity building and institutional strengthening;

e) Knowledge sharing, policy design and toolkit development;

f) Monitoring and evaluation.
Papua New Guinea is among five Pacific countries taking part in the Pacific component of UN-Habitat's global "Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme" (PSUP), funded by the European Union (EU). More information is available at:

http://unhabitat.org/initiatives/programmes/participatory-slum-upgrading/

UN-Habitat is committed to providing technical support to help implement the National Urban Plan through City Profiling and Settlement Upgrading. As part of this process, UN-Habitat prepared the Papua New Guinea National Urban Profile, the Port Moresby Urban Profile, and the Kolopo and Goroka City Profiles.

http://mirror.unhabitat.org/pnu/luItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=3421

In partnership with the NCDC, the Office of Climate Change, the Office of Urbanization and the University of Papua New Guinea, UN-Habitat published Port Moresby’s Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment under the Cities and Climate Change Initiative (CCCI).


UN-Habitat supported the analysis of the key settlements upgrading components (land availability, service delivery, housing conditions and access to finance), and input to the Water and Sanitation Programme of the World Bank Group’s 2014 assessment of Sanitation, Water Supply and Hygiene in Urban Informal Settlements.


In addition, UN-Habitat supported:

The establishment of the “Settlements NGO”, Inclusive Development PNG, Inc.

The establishment of a National Habitat Committee

The review of the Informal Settlement Strategic Plan 2007 – 2011 of the National Capital District Commission

The launch of the National Urbanization Policy (2012)