

TREATY VILLAGE RESILIENCE PROGRAM

South Fly District, Western Province, Papua New Guinea



Progress Report: July-September 2015

For the Strongim Pipol Strongim Nesen (SPSN) Program

September 2015

Prepared by the Reef & Rainforest Research Centre



Summary

The Treaty Village Resilience Program is an AUD\$1.85million pilot program focused on Mabaduan, Sigabaduru, Buzi/Berr, Sui/Parama in the South Fly District of Western Province PNG. The program also receives an additional AUD\$400,000 investment from the Reef and Rainforest Research Centre.

The Treaty Villages are impacted by seasonal flooding, extended drought periods, high water tables, extreme coastal erosion, sea level rise and no roads that present operational barriers to enabling improvements in clean water, sanitation and hygiene. The current severe *El Nino* weather pattern is having significant impact on the villages. However there is a clear reportable division between the communal 'fortunes' of those pilot villages with the Resilience Program and other Treaty Villages. For example new water storage has enabled the Mabaduan School to remain open while the other schools are closing due to water restrictions.

On 6th August 2015, the completion of the training phase of the program was celebrated with a graduation ceremony for the 52 Community Rangers at Mabaduan. The graduation was attended by the Australian Minister for Indigenous Affairs, the Hon Nigel Scullion; the Member for South Fly; the Hon Aide Ganasi; the Member for Leichhardt, the Hon Warren Entsch, the Ward members from all 13 Treaty Villages (Bula to Sui), Australian High Commission Representatives, Treaty Liaison Officer, PNG and Australian government officials, NGOs representatives, community leaders, and the 12 female and 40 male community rangers. Over 1,800 community members also attended the graduation with celebrations continuing well into the early hours of the morning.

The Community Rangers displayed their new skills and capability in: plumbing/building, sanitation, disaster response/ first aid, chain sawing, water-well making, marine rescue and communications/presentation and computing. Community badges, hats and graduation certificates were presented to individual community rangers by Minister Scullion, Aide Ganasi, Warren Entsch and Ward Members. PNG Trainers and the Chaperones were also acknowledged.

The implementation phase commenced on 1 September 2015. Community engagement and education was decentralised to village hubs and the first stages of non-supervised engagement activities undertaken. These activities were supported with mentoring and training in report writing. During this time, Community Rangers implemented practical and educational projects in their own and surrounding villages. We have utilised the Community Rangers actual report in this update.

This phase will be further supported with advanced leadership and public speaking training in November. In preparation for Community ranger leadership training, individual Torres Strait Islanders who have successfully completed similar training will participate and mentor in this leadership training module.

Building on the notable progress to date:

1. Completion of the Programs Training Phase with the graduation of 52 community Rangers.
Successful Community graduation ceremony.
2. Meetings conducted by pilot villages to reach an agreement on WASH infrastructure investment in preparation for the implementation phase. Note that further discussions are required to ensure expectations meet the funding and operational realities.
3. Unsupervised implementation of WASH Community Training by community rangers – with detailed reporting.
4. Initial Pilot Village discussions with leaders regarding ‘food security and economic sustainability. Noting that this will require significant further community engagement.
5. Further installing/repair of water infrastructure resulting in improved resilience of pilot villages in response to the severe *El Nino*. Update of community water storage infrastructure:
 - Mabaduan 600,000 L of new water storage + 2 new wells,
 - Sigabaduru 120,000 L new water storage + new 10,000L tank at school and new 10,000L tank at church
 - Buzi/Berr 160,000 L new water storage + 2 new wells
 - Sui 20,000 L repaired tanks and 2 new tanks

Water infrastructure refurbished and developed is undertaken under the direction of Community elders and leaders – noting representation from each clan group in the community. How this water is shared in the community is also agreed at this time followed by public declarations of the water sharing intent.

Also included in this update is hand written reports from individual Community Rangers who have been first respondent's to medical emergencies in the pilot villages (Attachment A). They make compelling reading.

Project Status

Community Ranger Graduation

The Community Ranger graduation on 6th August 2015 in Mabaduan, Australian Minister for Indigenous Affairs, the Hon Nigel Scullion; the Member for South Fly; the Hon Aide Ganasi; the Member for Leichhardt, the Hon Warren Entsch, the Ward members from all Treaty Villages (Bula to Sui), Australian High Commission Representatives, Treaty Liaison Officer, PNG and Australian government officials, NGOs representatives, community leaders, and the 12 female and 40 male community rangers.

Graduation certificates, hats embossed with their individual community badges and separate badges for their uniforms were presented by Minister Scullion, Aide Ganasi, Warren Entsch and the Ward Members for each pilot village.



The Hon. Nigel Scullion and Warren Entsch presenting Community Rangers with Ranger badges

Following the presentation of certificates, a 'mock' race between two competing community ranger teams was conducted to keep the crowd engaged. The 'mock' race presented the opportunity for the community rangers to show off their skills in well making, safe chain sawing, plumbing, safe building, disaster response, sanitation (building a 'tippy tap'), marine rescue (self-rescuing sailing), 'first on scene' first aid and public speaking and computing.



Community Rangers displaying first aid skills



Community rangers displaying plumbing and building skills



Community rangers displaying plumbing and building skills



Proud female Community rangers with graduation certificates

The pilot villages gave gifts of woven mats and artefacts to Minister Scullion, Mr Entsch and Aide Ganasi in appreciation of the support offered to the Treaty Villages. Leaders from the Treaty Villages that were not included in the pilot project took the opportunity to make representations to the Australian and PNG political representatives.

Water Infrastructure

With the strongest *El Nino* since 1998, the South Fly District is experiencing significant water supply issues. The Resilience program gave the Treaty Villages early warning of the impending drought conditions and modified the implementation schedule to focus on water supply and management issues as part of the in-field training activities. This has resulted in an extra 600,000 L of new water storage + 2 new wells in Mabaduan; an extra 120,000 L new water storage + new 10,000L tank at school and new 10,000 L tank at church in Sigabaduru; and extra 160,000 L new water storage + 2 new wells in Buzi/Berr and 20,000 L and 2 new tanks in Sui. Whilst this quantities are insufficient to fully address the water storage and supply issues facing the pilot villages during the time, it has allow for Mabaduan School to remain open while other schools in the area have closed due lack of water. Sigabadura received a new water tank for the school, Buzi/Ber, Sui and Parama have also reported some advantages from the small changes made to date.

The focus during this period has been the deepening and capping existing wells and digging new wells. There has been 4 new wells dug during this period. Unfortunately due to the drought these wells are yet to yield significant water –most well have dried in the region.

In addition to increasing water storage infrastructure, community education regarding water quality and quantity management would be beneficial. Unfortunately stored water resources were depleted while well water was still available. This resulted in no stored water available when wells dried up. A concerted effort to deliver water quality education to reduce associated gastrological diseases is required.

Community Rangers Unsupervised WASH Implementation

Community rangers have undertaken community engagement and education activities in their own and surrounding villages during September. Community rangers were required to report on their activities; on the number of community members and school children that they engaged with; the achievements and the lessons learnt from this first round of engagement. They were also asked to provide solutions for any problems arising. The community rangers also provide other observations relevant to the program in their collective report. Please see their collective report below.

Prepared by the Community Rangers - Including Unsupervised Wash Implementation Period: September 2015

Mabaduan

Activity outcomes

- 1 Community training and presentations was on WASH and ranger activities.
- 2 Every ranger had a turn at talking during the presentations. Everyone's confidence to speak in public was high. This was attributed to 3 things:
 - a. They were talking to people they knew i.e. Family and friends
 - b. Their positions as Rangers gave them confidence
 - c. They have practiced a lot through the program.
- 3 They had 2 x talks:
 - a. Talk to group 1 and 2 had 200 attendees
 - b. Talk to groups 3 and 4 had 300 attendees.
- 4 The attendees had many questions, which showed the level of community involvement.

At the school the children asked numerous questions and were very enthusiastic. Many of the children expressed that they wanted to be Rangers when they grew up.

During all the presentations there was an overwhelming sentiment of community support.
- 5 The rangers dug 2 x wells. The first well is 2 meters deep and already seeping water, this well is being used. The second well has not yet struck water.
- 6 Rangers made Gyn tripods for the construction of wells. This provided additional safety as well as assisting in spoil removal.

Lessons learnt

- 1 Ran out of fuel during the second presentation. This could be because they were sharing fuel with Siga.
Fix: Each ranger group should be given 1 x 5l can of fuel.
- 2 Ranger attendance during well digging was not consistent. Some Rangers did more work than others.
Fix: Ranger duty roster.
- 3 The community expressed that the half dug wells were dangerous especially to children. Temporary fences have been built around the holes.
Fix: Complete wells ASAP.
- 4 There was an alcohol related disturbance during a presentation. The presentation was at 1700.
Fix: Have presentations earlier.
- 5 The camera battery went flat during the work program.
Fix: more batteries issued or recharge batteries.

Buzi-Berr

Activity outcomes

- 1 A well site was selected by Australian SDA members and the Rangers are confident that they will find water.
- 2 Presentation was very successful. 100+ attendees.
Topics were: WASH, First aid and Ranger operations.
- 3 Rangers made Gyn Tripods at both Buzi and Berr to assist in construction of wells. This provided additional safety as well as assisting in spoil removal.
- 4 The village elders gave positive feedback in regards to their work in the community.
- 5 The new skills that the Rangers are displaying is giving the community confidence in the ranger program.
- 6 Buzi and Berr have dug 2 wells. Buzi has dug 3m and Berr 10m. Both are still dry.

Lessons learnt

- 1 The tools that were in Berr were supposed to be transfer to Buzi. Because of a low tide they could not get the boat out with the tools. They were transferred by foot which took 45 minutes as opposed to a 3 minute boat ride.
Fix: Better planning around tides OR have individual tool sets.
- 2 Shovels and spades were not the best tools for digging the well and the mattock was left in Berr due to the boat being stuck.
Fix: Better planning around tides OR have individual tool sets.
- 3 No leather gloves.
Fix: More gloves.
- 4 Comms are difficult between Buzi and Berr.
Fix: Test UHF radio coverage.
- 5 Team attendance: some Rangers turned up late for work.
Fix: Senior ranger and roster.

Siga

Activity outcomes

- 1 Teachers and children helped carry cement powder, sand and aggregate to build 2 x tank stands at the school.
- 2 Attendance was good at the presentations. 2 x 400.
- 3 First tank stand turn out well, no patching was required.
- 4 Patched a hole in a plastic tank. Local community is very impressed with the Rangers skill sets.
- 5 The rangers helped an injured man and stretchered him for an hour to get help.

- 6 2 x tanks moved to Siga from Paho island, by lashing them to banana boat and towing it with ranger boat. One tank already plumbed in and the second will be completed next week. This is an additional 20,000 L.

Lessons learnt

- 1 The camera would not work. Error message.
Fix: Camera has been replaced (broken camera colour red will be returned to the shop).
- 2 3 x Rangers missed 1 day of work. They had good reasons.
- 3 2 x deaths in the community interrupted the work plan.
- 4 Work started late as Rangers were late turning up for the brief.
Fix: Leadership training and roster.
- 5 Sand, stone and aggregate was a long way from the work site.
Fix: More wheel barrows.

Parama

Activity outcomes

- 1 Presentations on hygiene, snakebite and dog health were very successful
 - a. School presentation 100 attendees
 - b. Community presentation 200+.
- 2 Community supported the rangers by helping set up the presentation.
- 3 Public praise for the Rangers and admiration for the new skills that they are bringing to the community.
- 4 This is the first ranger work done in Parrama which was exciting for both the Rangers and the community.
- 5 Teacher and school kids appreciated the tippy taps. Other villagers are now making their own tippy taps.

Lessons learnt

- 1 On return to the village the Rangers were dropped off at low tide by Anton's boat which increased walking time to the village by 45 minutes.
Fix: Better planning by rangers re tides.
- 2 During the presentation the generator ran out of fuel.
Fix: Each community have their own fuel.
- 3 Didn't have a camera for some of the work because they shared it with Sui.
Fix: New camera.
- 4 Ranger presentation was late due to late breakfast.
Fix: Senior Ranger and leadership.
- 5 It was hard to work sharing tools with Sui Rangers.
Fix: More tools.

Sui

Activity outcomes

- 1 Good community response to Ranger work.
- 2 Pulled the unrepairable Southern Cross tank down.
- 3 Rangers worked hard and well as a team.
- 4 Community members helped as volunteers with some of the work.
- 5 Rangers installed 2 x tanks to replace the unserviceable Southerncross tank, adding an additional 20,000L to village capacity.

Lessons learnt

- 1 Snake bite Powerpoint would not operate on the computer so the Rangers used demonstration to teach.
Fix: Rangers check presentations before leaving base.
- 2 Too many attendees at the presentation for the space provided.
Fix: Change the venues or have multiple presentations.
- 3 Not enough concrete to finish the job.
Fix: Get more concrete.
- 4 Not enough fuel for generator.
Fix: Each groups should get 5 L tin.

Summary

Common Problems	
1	Sharing of tools makes things difficult. <i>Fix:</i> Each ranger group has its own set of tools.
2	Running out of fuel during presentation. <i>Fix:</i> Each ranger group should have 5L.
3	Rangers turning up late for work. <i>Fix:</i> Senior Ranger and roster times.
Note:	Female rangers are performing many first aid and child birth outside ranger hours with no pay. There may be an avenue that we could explore with PNG Health, World Vision and the likes to get them paid for this work.
Note:	Siga: if all their work is completed ahead of time. They would like to assist the community with the "Community relocation program". Part of the work is: Cutting down trees where the roads will go through, digging up stumps, measuring up house blocks for the different family group under the guidance of the local member.

Pay issues	BSP- Bank card and visa card issues. Money not being transferred by BSP for long periods of time. <i>Fix:</i> Pay rangers the whole amount in cash
Dorro	Has opened an Australian NAB account, not sure of legal implications
Note	10 bank accounts were opened, all the girls have bank accounts now except Aida
Rescue Sea State 2	On the early evening of the 24 Sept the three ranger vessels where returning from Daru when they came across a 21 foot banana boat in distress, due to engine failure in rough seas. Nine adults and seven children with 2 X 44 gallon drums and other stores were on-board. The adult males were on the outside of the vessel in the water trying to stabilize the boat to prevent it capsizing while the women were frantically waving to the ranger vessels requesting assistance. The passengers from the broken boat were transferred throughout the three ranger vessels to shore and then the broken boat was towed to Tura Tura to safe waters.
Addition employment gained	Ranger Kuki Awi of Sui has gain additional employment, resulting directly from the training he has received through the ranger program. Kuki has secured employment as a guide to the South Fly lumber company working both on the mainland and Islands in and around his home area. Kuki applied for the extra work using his ranger certificate as evidence of the training for WaSH, first aid, etc within the region.
West Papua	Rangers report Indonesians have been using West Papua people as traders in: Barra, Jewfish Bladders, shark fin, Tobacco, Rice. Vessels used: 23 foot Banana boats, with twin 40 horse power motors. Running on a mixture of fuel and then kerosene. Rangers have had encounters with these boats. When the West Papua vessel spots the ranger vessels on the water they turn around immediately and withdraw back westwards towards West Papuan waters. Rangers believe the ranger vessels have had a positive effect in reducing illegal trade and fishing with their presence in and around the area. Gardu Bunn-DAFF (Male) Sima Gebulma- Boarder Force (Female)
Border Force DAFF TSRA	Based on Boigu. Rangers visiting Boigu to drop off an emergency patient were greeted by these two members of government agencies. Both commented on how happy they were that there was a ranger program in the Western Provence and that when they are on official business, it would be good if they were in uniform. <i>Note: there is no reason for the rangers to be in Boigu on official business, or be using the ranger boat in Australian waters, apart from the casualty evacuation of emergency patients.</i> TSRA rangers have also greeted the rangers positively in Boigu and Saibai during emergency drop-offs and say they are looking forward to being able to work with the rangers in the future.
Ranger Cameras	Cameras- Nikon Coolpix. Common fault, not ruggedized enough for the salt water environment. We are putting new batteries in the camera and its is saying " Battery replacement required" Panasonic Lumix DMC-FT30 (16.1 meg , water proof 8m, dust proof and rechargeable batteries) <i>Fix:</i> \$193.00 <i>Note:</i> These have been tried and tested within the L&S ranger programs in Australia

First Respondents and Medical Emergencies

The Community rangers are required to prepare individual reports detailing their activities with regard to first aid and medical emergencies. A number of their hand written reports have been included in attachment A and make sobering reading. These reports are written in English (a second or third language) which masks the actual extent and efforts of the individual contributions to the situation. The examples cover births, abnormal births, snake bites, accidents and attempted suicide.

The Future

The community rangers are the future leaders of the pilot communities. The skills acquired during the training phase of the program are focused on strengthening a culture of self –reliance and building a culture of safety standards and infrastructure maintenance.

Mapping a pathway to future economic sustainability with contemporary skills and capacity is a significant challenge. The South Fly District does not attract the political investment priorities that other more prominent and ‘mineral rich’ districts attract. To this end the Treaty Villages are unlikely to experience large scale government investment into infrastructure and future economic development. Fishery resources, art and artefacts, limited adventure and bird life tourism and the proximity to Australia and Indonesia are the primary assets of the region.

Traditional trade between Australia and the Treaty Villages, has been significantly constrained due to Australia’s necessary quarantine restrictions. There is potential for the trade of fruit and vegetable, fisheries and art and artefacts to the Torres Strait, if sufficient biosecurity safeguards could be met. This clearly would disallow open person to person trading, however the potential exists for centralised product treatment prior to formal exportation into Australia through the Torres Strait.

Exploration of the full extent of the resources available in the Treaty Villages, combined with further training and capacity building in supply chain standards, food safety and biosecurity would be essential for economic resilience of the Treaty Villages. Threatening any efforts towards economic resilience is the precarious state of civil society in the South Fly District. The decline in societal services particularly associated with education, personal safety (law and order) and gender equity presents the Treaty Villages with a substantial challenge in their efforts to reinforce and build their communities.

Heading: Emergency Performed Child birth ~~about~~ 8-05-2015

The first emergency performance for the trainer female Rangers was done to the young mother who was assisted in the labour and gave birth to a baby in the village though they did not completed their training and they were appreciate by the community chairman on behalf of the community. Though they were under training but they performed more better in community.

Internal Bleeding 14-05-2015

The second emergency performance, was the assistance of internal bleeding of six (6) young mothers same all from Sun Village. The Ranger Assist them with fuel and were taken to Jaru General Hospital for further medical Examination. Where they were treated.

Child birth 2nd 08-2015

The two ~~Female~~ Female Rangers performed on the Emergency performance to Assist one of the young mother from Sun Village on the child birth. The male Rangers performed on putting up small tent and putting up the blind ~~blat~~ ^{petition} around the tent. Then the young mother was taken inside with the female Rangers where they performed to Assist.

EMERGENCY PERFORMED

During the second deployment I Ranger Aith Gidama had attempt to the first aid on Secondary survey.

There was a sick lady couldn't support her self. when I went I found out that the casualty was not breathing well, not talking, not moving, and I found out that the pulse were not functioning well. ~~I~~ when I finish. ~~with~~ Ranger Jeck Robinson was in charge of the transport. They took her to Saibai around 1:00 o'clock in the morning, and she passed away at 3:00 o'clock in the morning. They bring the dead body back at 8:00 o'clock.

Ranger: Lucy Papua
Mabudawan

Attempt Suicide.

On the 6th of July at 7.00 pm a teenage girl who drunk diesel ^{and} which fell unconscious. I attended to the incident 5mins later. I called her name if she can response to me. I told her to squeeze my hand. I checked her pulse. Her pulse rate was normal 65 ^{beats}/min. The only thing was she didn't open her eyes, I ^{kept} keep on calling her name to open her eyes suddenly she slowly opened her eyes. I gave her a glass of milk to drink and layed her to the side. After that she could vomit all the staff out. I pushed my finger in to check nothing was left in her mouth. I told her to relax and also told her whenever she was ready to have her bath.

Emergency Performed

During the second Deployment break I Ranger Melinta-Gabiti from Sigabachuru village had applied First Aid treatment to 5 year old boy.

The small boy was bathing in the salt water and was stinged by the blue bottle Jelly fish on the leg. The mother carried him to the shore and she was trying to put sand and apply kerosine on the leg and I stoped her.

I applied fresh water and soapy water on the leg and after that I told the mother to take him to the Aid Post for further treatment.

Agob-Siga Emergency Performed

Hot Water Burn :

This incident occurred in Siga at the third deployment break of the community trainee rangers who were at the break for two weeks whilst on the break the incident took place to our young couples in the community newly married with a little girl only sixteen months old. It happened to be that a mother was boiling a pot of water on the fire containing about three litres. As the water was steaming to reach the ~~temperature~~ temperature up to the boiling point of 100°C this poor little girl was also playing beside the fire. The mother was busy preparing to dye brooms when in a blink of an eye the little girl moved the iron which the pot was sitting on it above the fire. Suddenly the steaming pot moved towards the little girl and the hot water poured onto her burning the upper left side of the back below the neck. A shocking moment the mother yelling for help grabbing her little baby, however the poor little girl was in a severe pain screaming and crying non stop when it took about forty-five minutes before the trainee rangers had arrived. The ~~casualty~~ ^{casualty} already had blisters developed on her skin. The trainee ranger then did their primary surveys and then applied a tynth pads soaked in cold water for several times which ~~helped~~ ^{helped} the casualty from screaming and crying and went off to sleep. The trainee rangers then did their secondary surveys from head to toe was all good. The others were in charge of the transport and communication arrangements to Saibai. As soon as possible the ~~casualty~~ ^{casualty} was then taken to Saibai Primary HealthCare Centre and was then treated. When the treatment was over the casualty was returned home and was on treatment for four days which the rangers did every-

11/1

morning changing^{the} dressings. Finally the trainee rangers checked the little girl and she was good again after two weeks time.

Main charecters invovled in the story:

Naran-Tumia, Badal Jeibi, Aite Gidama - Incharge of the casualty
Geiu-Apang.

Mathew-Nama, Toby. Warapa - Incharge of transport/communication

Written By: Dobrag Done