



# Papua New Guinea

## Church Partnership Project

### Location

Papua New Guinea

### Partner Church

United Church in Papua New Guinea

### The Situation

The people of PNG face a number of social issues such as violence, ill health as well as a lack of infrastructure and training. In the Southern Highlands tribal violence continues to cause death and destruction of property as unresolved conflicts escalate out of control. This tribal fighting has forced many trained teachers to leave their positions in United Church schools in the region and a number of the schools have been burnt down. Similarly access to health care in PNG is very limited and as a result HIV/AIDS is a major issue with the World Health Organization categorizing the situation in PNG as epidemic.

### The Project

As part of an Australian government, AusAID funded program seven PNG churches and their seven Australian Church partners are working together to strengthen PNG churches ability to provide basic services to their communities. Under this program UnitingWorld partners with the United Church in Papua New Guinea to implement peace building activities, microfinance, teacher training, HIV/AIDS awareness, mobile health clinics and communication on social issues. With support and planning from UnitingWorld our partner church is responsible for implementing these activities.

### Achievements

In 2008, 17 graduates finished teacher training and have returned to their villages to commence teaching and 40 women received livelihood training and assistance to establish a small business.

In addition to this two voluntary HIV/AIDS testing and counseling centres have been established and two peace workshops have been held.

Also in 2008 two Peace Building coordinator, a Human Resources Manager, National Health secretary, HIV/AIDS Co-ordinator and 4 regional HIV/AIDS Co-ordinators have been employed.

### The Future

The project aims to strengthen the local Church's institutional capacity for development and improved services to local communities in the areas of health, HIV/AIDS and education.

### Get Involved

We invite you to get involved with the project by supporting the work financially, praying for the success of the project and receiving regular updates.

### Contact UnitingWorld

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