

Port moresby rural microgrids

The remote communities of Fly-Kiwai Local Level Government (LLG) in South-Fly District of Western Province, are finally seeing tangible progress in their quest for better infrastructure and improved living conditions, as the long-awaited construction materials for the Rural Service Delivery Project (RSDP) have reached their destination from Port Moresby to Daru.

This development marks a significant milestone for the Fly-Kiwai communities, who have endured a six-month-plus delay waiting for the essential building supplies to be shipped.

Ideal Hardware, a Port Moresby-based supplier contracted by the subproject communities with assistance from Project Management Unit (PMU) of the RSDP, played a pivotal role in ensuring the materials were loaded and dispatched from Motukea Wharf last week. The supplies are now enroute to respective wards, bringing new hope to the ten (10) communities eagerly anticipating the start of their subprojects.

Unlike many other LLGs participating in the RSDP, the Fly-Kiwai communities opted for a focus on infrastructure projects rather than a broader mix of initiatives like solar lighting or water supply systems. The challenging geographical and logistical circumstances of this remote area necessitated a robust approach to infrastructure, resulting in the selection of ten (10) different construction projects aimed at bolstering community services.

"This is a momentous occasion for us. We understand the unique challenges faced by these communities, and to see the materials finally on their way was a great step forward," said Ted. "These subprojects will bring much-needed improvements to the lives of the people in Fly-Kiwai."

The Western Province is known for its difficult terrain, making transportation time-consuming and costly. The lengthy wait for supplies underscores the reality of working in one of Papua New Guinea's most remote LLGs.

Nevertheless, the determination of the local leadership and project stakeholders has been unwavering. Mr. Abba Sorame, the Provincial Project Coordinator for RSDP Western Province, has been instrumental in keeping the communities engaged and informed throughout the waiting period.

His efforts, combined with the support of the Community-Driven Development Sub Committee (CDDSC) members, ensured that the spirit of the project remained strong despite the setbacks.

"We are extremely grateful for the continuous support from the RSDP and the hard work of Mr. Sorame," said a CDDSC representative. "Our communities have been patient, and we are now excited to see the subprojects finally moving forward."

The eight infrastructure projects set to be constructed in Fly-Kiwai LLG are expected to address critical needs in the area, including improved community centres, schools, and health facilities. These projects are not only vital for improving access to essential services but also serve as a testament to the resilience and collaboration of the Fly-Kiwai communities.

The RSDP, implemented by the Department of Provincial and Local Government Affairs (DPLGA), aims to empower rural communities by providing them with the resources and autonomy to identify and implement projects that best meet their local needs.

For the people of Fly-Kiwai, the focus on infrastructure reflects their priorities and the pressing need to build a foundation for future development. As the materials make their way to the wards, the anticipation among the communities is profound. Once the materials arrive, the focus will shift to the rapid mobilisation of construction teams to begin work on the subprojects.

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