

Welcome to the second new ATprojects 'Appropriate Technology News'. This newsletter brings together all the other newsletters produced by ATprojects in the past in one easy to access publication.

We welcome your feed-back on the new format and the content. Just send your comments and any ideas you have to help us improve this newsletter to: atproj@online.net.pg



Participants at the recent 'knowledge sharing workshop'

KNOWLEDGE SHARING WORKSHOP

Through our on-going research ATprojects aims to continue to develop a greater understanding of home care issues and what other practical implements may be needed by a PLWHA and their caregivers. And we understand that if we wish to do this in a way that really reflects the current and future needs we must involve the end-users in the development of ideas and the products themselves.

The only way to do this is by a process of allowing the end-users to become part of the design and review process. This 'best practice' approach cannot only contribute to the development of further products, but will maintain PNG's position as one of the few countries advancing in this area of practice based support for PLWHA and their caregivers.

Last month ATprojects ran the latest Knowledge Sharing Workshop that invited and 20 PLWHA and their caregivers to attend. The workshop was a huge success and was facilitated by Mr David Faunt.

The information collected during the workshop will now be reviewed by ATprojects technical staff and will be used to help direct our program.

40 RURAL HEALTH FACILITIES NOW HAVE SOLAR LIGHTS

The project is in honour of Nichola Goddard, a Papua New Guinean born Canadian, who was killed in combat while serving with the Canadian military in Afghanistan, has now installed solar lights units to over 40 rural health facilities.

The general objective of the project is to improve the quality of infrastructure in health care facilities in rural PNG. Infrastructure improvements will focus on issues related to facility lighting. To address this issue, solar powered LED lighting systems will be installed in the rural aid posts, health centres and other rural health facilities throughout the country. It is presumed that bringing light to aid posts and rural health care centres in parts of the country that have no access to electricity will contribute in part to an improvement to the quality of health care provided in PNG.



ATprojects BUILDS TOILETS IN REMOTE SCHOOL

Keto Community School, between Simbu and Eastern Highlands provinces, opened new toilets and water tanks in a colourful ceremony last month. This was made possible thanks to ATprojects (with support for Oxfam-NZ and WaterAid-Aust), who with the school community built six toilets and installed two water tanks. With the new facilities, students will no longer have to walk 10 minutes to a nearby forest to go to the toilet. Headmaster Bobby Kawage said: "Many similar projects have been done in other districts, but we are grateful ATprojects has come to our aid in providing such things to this remote school." ATprojects Co-Director Steve Layton said it was not the first time that ATprojects had helped remote communities. He said he looked forward to future projects with the school. He urged the students and parents to take pride in their new facilities, and to look after them.

A TRAINING VENUE WITH A DIFFERENCE

At the National Appropriate Technology Centre we have a training venue that is a little different. It doesn't provide hotel type accommodation, western style food or easy access to shops, clubs and bars that may distract your course participants. It does however provide inexpensive shared accommodation, good PNG style food and an environment that is safe, quiet and promotes learning. It also provides your participants with the opportunity to see and use a range of technologies that are being promoted by ATprojects.

Located about 20 minutes outside of Goroka (and a 25 minute pleasant walk to the Mt. Gahavisuka National Park), the centre can accommodate 24 people (we can fit in a few more!), with a large classroom / meeting area and spacious dining area. Set in the heart of beautiful surroundings the building demonstrates many of the technologies and materials used at the centre. For example the building is supplied with electricity 24 hours a day by the centre's micro hydro power plant. If required it is also possible to hire our well equipped workshop to support the more practical aspects of a training program.

Or information on how to book your stay contact us at: atproj@online.net.pg

ANOTHER SMALL BUSINESS IDEA FROM ATPROJECTS

If you are looking for a small business to start in your village, here's an idea. For a small investment (K180.00) you can purchase a fibreglass mould and start making cement crosses. Each cross costs about K6.00 to make and can be sale of at least K40.00! So invest now and get in the cross making business, and remember everyone dies sometime.

Or information on how to get you mould contact us at: atproj@online.net.pg



SOLOMON ISLANDS VISITS CENTRE

Recently a staff member from 'Live & Learn' in the Solomon Islands spent a week at the National Appropriate Technology Centre looking at the range of projects being carried out by ATprojects. Apart from visiting the Centre he was also able to visit a number of rural based projects. The picture below shows a 'Solomon/PNG' team assembling a set of ATloo frames.



NEW CONTACT DETAILS

For sometime now ATprojects has been unhappy with the level of service being offered to us by Telikom, apart from limited mobile coverage, our land lines have not be working now for over 3 weeks.

So we have now charged over to Digicel and our new contact detail are:

Fax Number: 732-3606

Telephone Numbers:

Miriam Layton, Co-Director, 7224-4691

Steve Layton, Co-Director, 7224-4690

Ajay Layton, Projects Manager, 7293-0982

Shirlee Dindillo, Kokoda Manager, 7236-6608

Hariha Frank , Accounts, 7178-9537

Cora Moabi, Co-Directors Assistant, 7292-0616

Philemon Karema, Building Projects, 7187-5930

Peter Yakos, Solar Projects, 7180-6147

Molly Lavo, FHI Project, 7205-7376

National Appropriate Technology Centre

Satellite Telephone: 0563-9890-13862 [PNG]

Int-63-9890-13862

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FINANCING PROJECT - SEFP

Brighter future bilong yumi

Last Month ATprojects was visited by staff of SEFP and this is what we found out

HOW CAN THE SEFP HELP YOU?

The SEFP makes it easier to invest in a renewable energy future by providing low interest and long-term loans so you can purchase renewable energy equipment today. The money you would normally spend on kerosene, petrol or diesel can instead be used to pay off your renewable energy system.

WHY RENEWABLE ENERGY?

Cheaper: Money spent on kerosene over 1 to 2 years for lighting is enough to buy a small solar home system.

Safer: Kerosene and petrol cause many house fires, burns and deaths every year in PNG.

Healthier: Smoke from burning kerosene, petrol and diesel damages your lungs and can contribute to cancer.

Improved livelihoods: Better lighting encourages children to study, allows evening reading, enhances social interactions, increases home based enterprise and generally extends the productive and enjoyable hours in a day.

Access to power can provide many benefits, including entertainment (radio, TV, DVD) refrigeration, water supply, communication, electrical appliances and many more. With the SEFP, you can start investing in a renewable energy future today!

SUPPORTED TECHNOLOGIES

The SEFP supports three renewable energy technologies: solar photovoltaics (PV), pico-hydro, and using coconut oil as a diesel fuel alternative for generating electricity.

SOLAR PV

Solar PV uses the energy of the sun to make electricity. Typically, a solar home system consists of a solar panel, charge controller, battery, wiring and lights. Small systems are generally only used for lighting and make an ideal replacement for kerosene lamps. Larger systems with an inverter can power TV's, DVD's, refrigerators, pumps or any other kind of electrical appliance.

COCONUT OIL FUEL

Some diesel engines can be run on straight coconut oil instead of diesel. Coconut can be produced using manual methods or with machines. Important considerations before running an engine on coconut oil include type of engine, ambient temperature, quality of oil and how the engine is used. The SEFP only supports the use of coconut oil for electricity generation and does not support biodiesel production.

PICO-HYDRO

Hydro power uses flowing water to spin a turbine that is connected to an alternator to produce electricity. Pico-hydro is typically below 5kW of power. A 2kW system could provide sufficient lighting for 20 houses. Alternatively, it could provide lighting to a few houses and power for a refrigerator, TV, stereo, etc. Pico-hydro can be easily installed in small rivers where a waterfall of 2m or more is present or where a river flows down a hill or mountain side.

PARTICIPATING FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

The SEFP aims to partner with multiple banks and financial institutions in PNG so that customers have more choice and flexibility in accessing financial assistance. Please contact the SEFP Coordinator to receive an updated list of all participating financial institutions.

PARTICIPATING RETAILERS

SEFP loans are only available for good quality renewable energy equipment that meets certain industry standards. For solar systems a catalogue has been developed that lists participating retailers and the solar products approved under the SEFP. A copy of the catalogue is available from participating financial institutions. Alternatively, please contact the SEFP Coordinator to receive an updated list of all participating retailers, as well as information about the other renewable technologies supported by the project.

Contact details:

SEFP Coordinator, PNG Sustainable Energy Ltd
PO Box 503, Port Moresby, NCD, 121
Ph: 321-2222 Email: sefp@pngsel.com

THINGS TO REMEMBER

If you are thinking about applying for a bank loan remember the following:

Banks are 'businesses', they are there to make money for their shareholders and not as some say to help you! Shop around, check out which bank is offering the lowest interest rates on loans. Also check out the level of service offered at the bank, remember you are the customer and the bank wants your money, so make sure you get the best service available.

