



AUSTRALIA'S SUPPORT TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA TO DELIVER THE 2017 NATIONAL ELECTION

The Papua New Guinea – Australia Partnership

- The Australian Government has a long-term partnership with the Papua New Guinea Electoral Commission (PNGEC) to strengthen electoral processes in Papua New Guinea
 - » including an institution-to-institution twinning program between the PNGEC and the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC).
- Australia is supporting the PNGEC to deliver the 2017 National Election, with assistance provided through the AEC, the International Foundation for Electoral Systems and the Australian Civilian Corps.
- At the request of the Government of Papua New Guinea, Australia's support is focused on:
 - » election operations and logistics
 - » ICT systems strengthening including the transmission of results
 - » improving the electoral roll
 - » development of training programs on polling and counting for the 30,000 election workers
 - » voter awareness activities
 - » election-related training for the media
 - » provision of mobile phones to polling supervisors to improve communication
 - » training to respond to critical incidents during elections.
- Australia has partnered with the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates Commission and the Australian National University to provide training for Papua New Guinean women on electoral processes, campaigning and fundraising.

- The Australian Government has also assisted the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary to train senior operational officers in election policing and human rights.

Australian Defence Force support

- At the request of the Government of Papua New Guinea, the Australian Defence Force (ADF) is providing practical logistics support through the PNGEC for the election, including:
 - » air assets to deliver election materials (2,697 boxes weighing a total of 100,664 pounds have been delivered to 18 locations in PNG)
 - » transport of some PNG security personnel.
- The ADF will not be involved in providing election security or transporting completed ballot papers.

Observation

At the invitation of the Government of Papua New Guinea, the Australian High Commission is sending up to 70 staff to polling booths across PNG to observe the elections

- » Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs the Hon. Julie Bishop MP has requested four members of parliament to participate in observation.
- In addition, Australia is supporting independent observation to be carried out by the Australian National University and Transparency International PNG (TIPNG)
 - » ANU will partner with the University of PNG and other civil society organisations
 - » TIPNG will aim to collect monitoring information from most districts using about 400 local volunteer observers.