



IPA

InvestPNG

December Issue #12

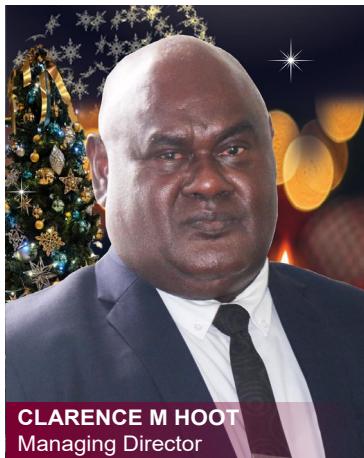


Business News

Investment Opportunities

Updates from the IPA

MD's Christmas Message



CLARENCE M HOOT
Managing Director

Hello readers'

Welcome to the final edition of the Invest PNG newsletter for 2025.

As we approach the end of another remarkable year, I'd like to express my gratitude for all your commitment, dedication, and collaboration throughout this year.

The year has been a testament to everyone's resilience, dedication, and collective efforts in transforming Papua New Guinea into a vibrant hub for investment.

First and foremost, I want to thank the hardworking management and staff of the Investment Promotion Authority for their unwavering commitment. This year began with a milestone event, marking the

signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Autonomous Bougainville Government to collaborate on advancing work toward the decentralisation of investment promotion and business registration powers for Bougainville. This move is a vital step in empowering Bougainville to foster its economic development autonomously.

We also successfully facilitated several foreign trade and investment missions from a number of countries including Fiji, Solomon Islands, New Caledonia, Israel, India, Vanuatu, Australia, New Zealand and Japan.

The country also witnessed another milestone event which saw the launching of the PNG-Indonesia Business Council this year, marking a historic milestone in strengthening economic ties between the two neighbouring countries. PNG's economic transformation over the past 50 years has emphasized the importance of unity, collaboration, and partnerships with regional and global stakeholders to drive sustained economic growth. Establishment of work has also started on the PNG/Fiji Business council and PNG/India Business Council.

This festive season is a time for reflection, celebration, and renewed optimism. Despite the challenges faced, we have made significant strides in advancing our na-

tion's development agenda. Our efforts have resulted in increased investment flows, new partnerships, and a stronger foundation for sustainable growth.

As we celebrate Christmas and look to the new year, let us remember the importance of unity, perseverance, and hope. The future of Papua New Guinea is bright, and together, we can continue to unlock the vast potential of our land, our resources, and our people.

May this holiday season bring joy, peace, and prosperity to you and your families. Let us return in the new year with renewed energy, innovative ideas, and a shared vision for a prosperous Papua New Guinea.

We look forward to your continued support next year as we continue to serve the interests of the business community in PNG and abroad.

On behalf of the Board, management, staff of IPA and my family, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2025.

Thank you and Happy Holidays!!

Clarence M Hoot
Managing Director

NEWS

Investment Week ends on high note

The Investment Promotion Authority was among other Government agencies that attended the PNG investment week in Sydney, Australia from December 7th to the 11th.

IPA's participation at the event is usu-

ally to promote investment opportunities and investment trends in the country to stakeholders and players in the resources sector.

This year we featured products from Bougainville at the IPA booth and served

Goilala coffee to the expo visitors.

The event which was themed "Stronger Together, Investing for the Future" is a flagship global investment forum that brings together Government, Industry and international investors to unlock-

Continue on to next page.....





opportunities across the nation's most dynamic growth sectors.

The event is hosted by the PNG Chamber of Resources & Energy (PNGCORE) and supported by a number of distinguished group of sponsors.

A number of events were held during the week long event, including the PNG Regulators Forum on ease of investing, the PNG Climate Investment summit,

PNG Investment Leaders summit, PNG Resources & Energy Project summit, PNG Financial resilience and Sovereign Wealth Forum, PNG Infrastructure Investment Summit, and the PNG Exploration forum.

The IPA Managing Director moderated at Regulators Forum. He also presented on the Investment Climate and gave highlights on FDI flows and directions.

IPA promotes Goilala coffee



Pictured is IPA's Deputy Board Chairman Mr. Phil Franklin at the IPA booth with Member for Goilala Hon. Casmiro Aia, Goilala District Administrator Titus Girau, Goilala coffee farmer and IPA staff member.

As part of promoting local products the IPA organised for the Goilala coffee to be served at the IPA booth at the 2025 PNG Investment Week in Sydney. Feedback was good as visi-

tors stopped by at the IPA booth to have a taste of one of PNG's finest coffee from Goilala, Central Province.

Tips & Traps

Viewing details and documents for a business entity

If you have filing authority over an entity then you always have full access to that entity's entire information free of charge.

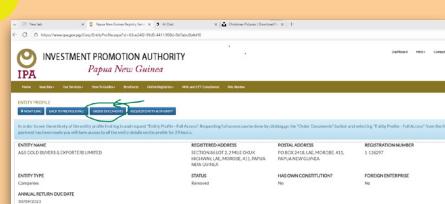
If you wish to research other entities, clients of the registry have the ability to see full details for business entities, and then order documents relating to the entity.

Steps:

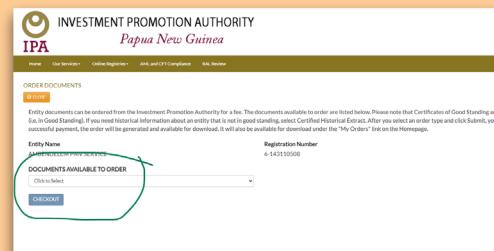
- 1 First you have to search the entity. Type the name of the entity as shown in the screen shot below and click on it to view the entity details.



- 2 Order the documents. See screen shot below



- 3 In order to see the entirety of an entity record a fee must be paid (there are various ways to pay, see illustration belo. Documents available for purchase can include: View Company Profile, Certificate of Good Standing, Certificate of Good Standing- Long Form and Certified Historical extract.



Investment Promotion Authority participates in Japan-Pacific Islands Business Partnership Seminar



The Investment Promotion Authority (IPA) proudly represented Papua New Guinea among other Pacific Island nations at the Japan-Pacific Islands Business Partnership Seminar.

The event was hosted by Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), marking a significant step towards enhancing economic ties between Japan and the Pacific region.

The seminar forms part of METI's ongoing strategic initiative aimed at

strengthening economic cooperation with Pacific Island countries. As part of this effort, METI has been conducting a comprehensive study to develop country-specific master plans that facilitate Japanese companies' expansion into the island nations. This initiative is supported by the fiscal 2023 supplementary budget, under a forward-looking co-creation project targeting engagement with the Global South.

In cooperation with the Pacific

Islands Centre, METI organized the seminar to present an interim report on its study and share valuable findings. The event gathered government officials, investment promotion organizations, and representatives from Japanese companies, fostering an environment for dialogue and collaboration.

Other participating Pacific Island nations included Fiji, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu. Each country delivered presentations highlighting their current economic situations and emerging investment opportunities, providing a comprehensive overview of the region's potential.

Japanese companies also played a significant role in the seminar, with six firms presenting their future plans and investment strategies in the Pacific Islands. A dedicated networking and business matching session further facilitated connections between government representatives and private-sector stakeholders from both Japan and the Pacific.

The event proved to be a valuable platform for information exchange, strengthening partnerships, and exploring new avenues for economic cooperation. The participation of the IPA underscores Papua New Guinea's commitment to fostering stronger economic ties with Japan and the wider Pacific region.

IPA Board Chairman highlights 50 years of partnership between PNG and Japan

The Board Chairman of the Investment Promotion Authority (PNG), Mr Leon Buskens, delivered an inspiring introductory speech at the PNG-Japan Business & Investment Conference, emphasising the enduring partnership between Papua New Guinea and Japan as they celebrate 50 years of diplomatic relations.

In his address, Mr. Buskens extended a warm welcome to delegates and participants, acknowledging the significance of the milestone anniversary. He highlighted that PNG recently marked its 50th year of independence, coinciding with half a century of diplomatic ties



with Japan—a relationship rooted in early cooperation even before formal

diplomatic recognition. "Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) began providing Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) to PNG in 1974, a year before our independence," Mr. Buskens noted. "This longstanding partnership reflects our shared commitment to development, trade, and mutual prosperity."

The conference's theme, "50 Years of Partnership: Forging the Next Chapter in Trade, Investment, and Shared Prosperity," encapsulates the journey of collaboration between the two nations. Mr. Buskens emphasized that while achievements over the past five decades are commendable, there is immense potential to deepen economic, developmental, and diplomatic ties moving forward.

He elaborated on PNG's aspirations to leverage Japan's expertise in technology,

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skills, and sustainable development to advance the country's resource sectors through downstream processing and manufacturing, fostering a mutually beneficial growth trajectory.

Following recent high-level engagements, including the Japan Economic Mission in February 2024 and the PNG Prime Minister's visit to Osaka for the 2025 World Expo, the conference aims to build upon these dialogues. Mr. Buskens underscored the importance of fostering new partnerships, strengthening existing relationships, and translating discussions into tangible business agreements.

He acknowledged the active participation of Japanese investors and companies, including longstanding players such as Toyota Tsusho, Sumitomo Forestry, Taiheiyo Cement, Sojitz, JBIC, and Eneos Corporation. Despite chal-

lenges like foreign exchange fluctuations and logistical issues, PNG's government remains committed to creating a conducive environment for investment, with updates expected from IPA Managing Director Mr. Hoot.

Mr. Buskens also highlighted significant opportunities in financing and expanding LNG exports, particularly through the Papua LNG project, and praised Japan's ongoing contributions to PNG's infrastructure and social development—citing projects like Jacksons International Airport, the Port Moresby General Hospital, and the Lae Nadzab Airport.

The conference marks a pivotal moment in PNG-Japan relations, celebrating past achievements and charting a course toward shared prosperity in the years ahead.



**KNOW
ABOUT** 



What is Patent?

Patent is the term used to describe the protection over an invention. Such a protection is only limited to the *"technical function"* of an invention and does not extend to any other external feature.

What constitutes an invention?

An invention is the term used to describe a device or a machine or a process that is created by an individual or a group for use to solve an existing technical problem. A technical problem refers to shortfalls in performance of a device, machine or a process but not all types of creations can be considered an invention. There are some that are considered as "Non-Patentable Inventions".

What is the Effect of Patent Protection?

Patent protection means that the invention cannot be commercially exploited (can be manufactured, used, distributed, exported or sold) without the patent owner's consent. For third parties to use, sell, import or manufacture the protected invention in Papua New Guinea, one must seek permission from the inventor or owner through assignment or licensing arrangements.

What are Non-Patentable Inventions?

Non-Patentable inventions refers to those inventions that cannot be protected under patent due to their origin, nature or implications on moral values and beliefs. Some examples include:-

- scientific, mathematical and business methods, scheme, rule or concepts,
- diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods used on animals or humans,
- discoveries of materials or substances already existing in nature
- plant or animal varieties or essentially biological processes for production of such
- any invention considered contrary to public order or morality and that which is seriously prejudice to the environment.

Types of Claims that Cannot be Accepted for Patent Registration.

Applying for Patent Protection in Papua New Guinea.

Patent protection can be obtained by protecting your inventions through filing of a complete application in any country of the applicant's choice.

In Papua New Guinea, you can file a National Application through the Paris Convention Route or you can file an International Application through the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Route.

Please visit the PNG Intellectual Property Office website for more information: www.ipo.gov.pg

From prime beans to queen bars

Revitalising Papua New Guinea's leading chocolatier

Queen Emma Chocolate is Papua New Guinea's leading domestic cocoa processor and chocolate maker. For years, the company faced real constraints, including low production capacity, inconsistent cocoa bean supply from across the country, persistent smoke-tainted bean contamination at the factory, and limited overseas business ties. These issues did not only hold back the company; they also held back farmers and Papua New Guinea's cocoa sector.

That started to change when the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), as part of the EU-STREIT PNG Programme, and Queen Emma aligned around a practical goal. They aimed to lift production quantity and quality, secure reliable supply from the Sepik, and open more doors in international markets. The partnership focused on the basics. This included supporting farmers to produce better, fine-fermented beans, supporting the company modernise its machinery and workflow, and assisting both sides to meet the standards that overseas buyers expect. As Queen Emma's General Manager, Ms. Karina Makori, explains, "The biggest impact has come from the work done in the cocoa value chain by the EU-STREIT PNG Programme to teach, train and equip farmers with tools, better dryers, knowledge, improved road and transport access; all these interventions have contributed to improving and lifting up the quality standards of cocoa in the Sepik and supply to the Queen Emma factory."



Queen Emma General Manager and a leading Sepik Cocoa Producer attending a cocoa show in New Zealand with FAO support under the EU-STREIT PNG Programme. ©FAO-STREIT/Rabi G. Rasaily

Inside the factory, the FAO support is expanding and modernising critical stages of processing. Twelve types of new machines are being delivered to upgrade capacity and quality. This investment support, valued at USD 2.8 million, doubles output and enables consistent, higher-grade production of cocoa ingredients and chocolate. With better equipment, Queen Emma expects steadier output, sharper quality, and the ability to meet orders on time and in full. These upgrades also position the company to work toward food-safety certifications demanded by specialty buyers.

On the supply side, the partnership strengthened direct links with Sepik cocoa producers. This allows the factory to source well-fermented, smoke-free beans at reliable volumes. These business ties with producers also



Queen Emma chocolate bars enchanting the children of Papua New Guinea. © supplied by QE



Queen Emma chocolate bars are ready for shipment to markets. © supplied by QE

reduce supply risks and build longer-term relationships with cocoa

farming groups that share a vision of steady, quality-led growth. It also means farmers can sell to a domestic PNG-owned buyer that is actively investing in quality and market access. As the supplier network matures, producer groups such as Mupa, Juar, Ramangs, and Esse Mart, all empowered by FAO under the EU-STREIT PNG Programme, began supplying more regularly. Since the start of 2025, these four groups have delivered about 24 tonnes of dried cocoa beans to Queen Emma, valued at over PGK 750,000, tightening the connection between village-level production and national value addition.

Reputation in export markets matters. The partnership moved to lift international visibility and recognition for Papua New Guinea's cocoa. With EU-STREIT PNG's backing, Queen Emma attended major events and trade shows in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, and beyond. These appearances introduced the PNG-owned brand to specialty chocolate makers, helping the Queen Emma team better understand buyer expectations and identify practical pathways to secure overseas orders. "This partnership has greatly supported Queen Emma to

partake at international chocolate festivals and trade events. This has led to networking and building sales as we connect with new foreign buyers and also increase our learning and knowledge," Karina explains. Between January and August 2025 alone, Queen Emma exported about PGK 5.6 million in products, reflecting the step-up in market access.

The commercial results are encouraging. Over the past years of collaboration, Queen Emma's chocolate category, traditionally a small line, has shown strong potential. Production volume, sales revenue, and the number of export clients have all doubled. New customers have emerged across the region, from boutique chocolatiers to niche ingredient buyers who value Papua New Guinea's cocoa flavour and shorter shipping times within the Pacific and East Asia. With global cocoa shortages shifting some demand closer to home, consistent quality from Papua New Guinea has become even more attractive. Queen Emma's positioning is clear, to focus on premium ingredients and niche chocolate markets while steadily erasing the "smoky beans" history that once tarnished Papua New Guinea's reputation.

Women's Economic Empowerment Expo



The 2nd Women's Economic Empowerment Expo which was held in Lae, Morobe Province on the 12th to the 14th of December, 2025 ended on a high note.

The expo is part of a series of events that are organized by the SME Corporation (SMEC), the Lae SME Incubator Hub and managed by Tok Stret Consulting Limited.

These events are specifically designed to support women-led micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

The theme of the expo is "Sapotim Meri, Kirapim Bisnis, Strongim Femili, Kirapim Kauntri" (Support Women, Start Business, Strengthen Family, Grow Country).

The primary goal is to foster women's empowerment by providing pathways to government and non-governmental financial support, networking opportunities, and information sharing.

Key activities and features of the expo series include, over 300 stalls featuring

products and services such as local arts and crafts, fresh produce, tailoring (trendy 'kolos'), horticulture, and creative arts.

Stakeholders like the Investment Promotion Authority (IPA), Internal Revenue Commission (IRC), and the Centre for Excellence in Financial Inclusion (CEFI) participated and guided business formalization and financial literacy.

LEGAL UP-DATE

PNG's Progress in AML/CFT Compliance

PNG successfully addressed a number of key issues identified in previous evaluations on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorism Funding (AML/CTF) matters, which included essential legal reforms, strengthening financial regulations, and enhancing interagency cooperation.

These efforts were aimed at countering unfavourable assessment ratings and demonstrating substantial progress to avoid being placed on the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Grey List.

The IPA is part of the national coordinating committee (NCC) on AML/CTF matters in PNG. A total of twenty-three (23) agencies are members of the Committee.

Each committee members have a certain number of action items under the Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) to address the deficiencies found in the PNG Mutual Evaluation Report (MER) 2024. Seventy-three (73) action items need to be addressed during the observation period, which commenced from October 2024 and ends in October 2025.

Despite the positive recognition of its advancements, PNG was placed on an expedited reporting process due to remaining deficiencies that require further improvement.

Moving forward, PNG will collaborate closely with AUSTRAC and other stakeholders to implement a Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) designed to address the identified weaknesses and recommended action items from the MER. This collaboration is deemed crucial for strengthening PNG's AML/CFT framework and mitigating the risk of grey-listing. The APG Plenaries that have been held over time also provided member countries, including PNG, with opportunities to engage with donor agencies for technical assistance in addressing AML/CFT matters.

Following the adoption of its MER, PNG will enhance its reporting process to deliver more frequent and detailed updates on its progress in addressing the identified deficiencies.

Bussy Honey's Organic Expansion

FARMING, HARVESTING, AND SUPPLY FOR LOCAL MARKETS

Investment Proposal

Bussy Honey is a leading local organic honey producer in Simbu Province, Papua New Guinea, with a vision to enter offshore niche markets by supplying not only high-quality organic honey but also other fresh organic products. The business is owned and operated by a husband-and-wife team, who have established a strong presence in the local market through partnerships with major clients such as CPL Limited, other prominent retailers, provincial and national government offices, and the broader domestic market. Despite its success, the company faces a key challenge: limited capacity due to a lack of funding for advanced processing equipment, machinery, and technology. To enhance production and meet growing market demand, the company aims to invest in additional beehives, tools, smokers, frames, wax foundations, bottles, containers, and a vehicle for efficient product transportation. This expansion, coupled with advanced technology and know-how, would enable Bussy Honey to support local communities, improve production efficiency, and scale its operations for both domestic and international markets.

Project Strengths

Bussy Honey is positioned to capitalize on the high global demand for organic honey, driven by consumer preferences for natural and sustainably sourced products. Its focus on organic production aligns well with this market trend, offering potential for premium pricing in both local and international markets. The company's expertise in value addition through downstream processing, such as bottling, enables it to differentiate its products and tap into higher-value segments. Additionally, Bussy Honey's existing infrastructure and skilled workforce create a strong foundation for scaling production, while the planned investment in advanced technology and expanded capacity presents a significant opportunity to enhance productivity and market reach. This strategic focus not only promises increased production efficiency but also strengthens the company's ability to support sustainable practices and community development in the region. Currently, Bussy Honey operates with farming, harvesting, and processing equipment valued at approximately USD 20,000, and benefits from a skilled team of specialists who are well-versed in the industry. The business is run on land owned by the company, ensuring stability and continuity.

Company Name

Bussy Honey and Integrated Farming

Year of establishment-

2022

Sales

12.0K USD

Project Sector-

Manufacture of other food products

Physical address

Matri Degene, P. O. Box 192, KUNDIWA, Simbu Province, Papua New Guinea., Kundiawa, Chimbu, Papua New Guinea

Projected Annual Sales

29.4K EUR

Products or services resulting from project

Honey; natural

Opportunity Type

Establishing a Joint Venture

Project Location

Matri Degene, P. O. Box 192, KUNDIWA, Simbu Province, Papua New Guinea., Kundiawa, Chimbu, Papua New Guinea

Projected Employment

10

Total Investment (Funding Gap)

245.0K EUR (220.0K EUR)

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON RESERVED ACTIVITIES LIST

Under the Investment Promotion Act 1992 (IP Act), the Investment Promotion Authority (IPA) is required to review the list of economic activities reserved for citizen investment. This list is known as the Reserved Activities List (RAL). Reviews of the RAL must be undertaken at least every three years in accordance with the IP Act. The IP Act provides criteria that the IPA must consider in the review.

Please note that the RAL is different from the Reserved Occupations List (ROL) which limits the issuance of work permits for non-citizen workers. The ROL comes under the purview of the Department of Labour and Industrial Relations.

On 6 June 2025, IPA released a consultation paper with the proposed RAL. The paper outlines IPA's rationale for the inclusion of new activities, retention and consolidation of existing activities, and the removal of other activities. The consultation paper is available on the IPA website at www.ipa.gov.pg

Please note that suggested additional activities under the current review may be considered in future reviews, in accordance with the IP Act criteria.

As deadline of 21st November 2025 has lapsed, any comments for next review is welcomed. Please email to RALreview@ipa.gov.pg.

QUESTION TIME

How do I know when to renew my Business Name?

At the time of registration the system will automatically generate the business registration number and its expiry date. You will see the expiry date at the bottom of the certificate right under the seal and the signature of the Registrar of Companies.

The expiry date has been boxed in red in the image below.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2026 Regulators Summit

To be held at Unitech,
Lae Morobe Province

Contact:
Daroa Peter on daroap@ipa.gov.pg



YOU SAID IT... EMU HEREVA

PNG-Japan Investment Conference.

“

The PNG - Japan Investment Conference in Tokyo was well organized by your IPA team.

Stakeholder

”

We have covered the globe and we're expanding.



Do you have a general question about the regulatory side of running a business or have a query on investment promotion or Intellectual Property rights?

If so, email your question to: [click](mailto:beverlyp@ipa.gov.pg)

beverlyp@ipa.gov.pg

We will publish a selection of questions and our answers in each issue of *Invest PNG* newsletter.

PUBLICATION

The *Invest PNG* newsletter is produced by the Public Relations Team of the IPA.

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 Your Investment,
 Our advice”**

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