LOCAL CHALLENGE PROJECT 2020: Accelerating the SDGs

MINIPON CHAPEL – PAULINUS BONMINI
TARAKBITS, WESTERN PROVINCE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PROJECT PARTNERS:
LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF EMOUNTAIN, MOUNTHABIT TRIBAL AND WESTERN PROVINCE
CECIL COMMISSION OF MOUNTHABIT TRIBAL AND WESTERN PROVINCE

PROJECT TEAM:
Ganarii, R. (Project Manager), Tari, L. (Director), Tari, L. (Team Leader), Famamam, S. (Team Leader), Tari, L. (Team Leader), and Tari, L. (Team Leader)

PROJECT PURPOSE:
To accelerate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Western Province of Papua New Guinea

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
The project aims to construct a chapel in the village of Minipon, which is situated on an island that is accessible only by boat. The construction of the chapel was a response to the need for a place of worship and community gathering in a remote area.

CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED:
The construction of the chapel was a challenge due to the remote location and the need for specialized materials. The project team had to overcome logistical difficulties to transport materials and ensure the chapel was completed within the allocated time.

SDGs CONSIDERED:
1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities

TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT:
$5,000

STATUS: IN PROCESS

ONE WORKING DAY FOR TWO BAGS OF CEMENT

PROJECT OVERVIEW:
The island of New Guinea is split up by an artificial border separating the states of Papua New Guinea from West Papua. Tribes, clans and families are divided by this border but still cross irregularly. On the Papua New Guinean side in the Western Province, refugees and migrants of West Papua received help in UNHCR refugee camps. Today, the Diocese of Daru-Kiunga provides health and education services at the former camps and the rural villages close to the border.

As the population is predominantly Catholic, every village has its own chapel. In Minipon, one of the border villages, a new chapel was built in cooperation with the local community and the Diocese of Daru-Kiunga. Paulinus Bonmini, a migrant from West Papua and carpenter, was primarily responsible for implementing the project. The Diocese’s project office planned the chapel, aiming to give this simple spiritual building a special meaning and quality by design. This project involved unskilled members of the Minipon community to encourage capacity building.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:
The project partnership between the local church, Catholic Diocese of Daru-Kiunga, and indigenous grassroots communities aims to strengthen grassroots development capacities. Skilled refugees are employed by the Diocese, involving migrants and other vulnerable groups and minorities in local development and governance.

Unskilled members of the communities are engaged to encourage capacity building. Technical assistance of volunteer professionals builds on indigenous knowledge and grassroots processes, demonstrating climate-adaptive designs and alternative technology based on indigenous knowledge and traditional tenure.