



“Kutubu Local Level Youth council host Consultation Workshop”

Friday 23rd February 2024 – The Kutubu Local Level Youth Development Council (KLLYDC) successfully completed a consultation workshop with youth leaders representing 18 wards within Lake Kutubu Rural Local Level Government (LLG) of the Nipa-Kutubu District of Southern Highlands Province. Funded by the Santos Foundation and facilitated by The Voice Inc. (TVI), the consultation allowed for the youth council and ward representatives to formalize a Constitution for the KLLYDC and work on a Five-Year Development plan capturing youth activities within the LLG.

The week-long consultation ended on Friday the 16th of February with the first phase of a four-phased approach co-led by TVI and KLLYDC. The Department of National Planning & Monitoring (DNPM) and the National Youth Development Authority (NYDA) were also part of the consultation, where they provided support to KLLYDC in aligning the plans to key national policies.

“This was an important milestone to accomplish, especially by the young people in the Nipa-Kutubu district. The involvement of young women in this dialogue is a key step in ensuring that women’s voices are heard, and their issues addressed through a coordinated approach.” said Gender Programme Manager, Tovi Amona of Santos Foundation.

The KLLYDC Constitution details the membership, objectives, and functions of the youth council. It was completed by the young leaders who collectively endorsed and formally presented to NYDA. Through the consultation workshop the group also identified issues and potential solutions. Strategies were developed and framed into the Five-Year Development Plan. The youth council will now engage closely with its various stakeholders and partners to further refine the Five-Year Development Plan.

“The Voice Inc is privileged to be able to facilitate this process. Our work within Nipa-Kutubu commenced in 2019 with our initial engagement with what was then the Oil Search Foundation. TVI produced the Future Bilong Yumi report which captured the voices of young people within the company’s impact area. We are committed to the work in Kutubu and intend to continue to support the KLLYDC in 2024”, said Maliwai Sasingian, Executive Director of TVI.

Speaking at the closing of the consultation, KLLYDC Chairman David William, thanked all partners who had contributed to the successful week-long workshop. “Thank you to our partners Santos Foundation, The Voice Inc, Department of National Planning & Monitoring and the National Youth Development Authority for having the heart for the youths of Kutubu.”

Planned activities for the next five years will commence with the KLLYDC conducting a youth survey in 2025, to capture the population data of young people across all 18 wards within the Lake Kutubu Rural LLG. This process will allow the KLLYDC to ascertain their youth population and carry out their activities effectively.

The KLLYDC was established through a partnership between the Santos Foundation, Nipa-Kutubu District Development Authority (NKDDA) and the National Youth Development Authority.

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