



2021 Papua New Guinea-Australia Alumni Conference

Leadership and Innovation in Papua New Guinea's New Normal

Conference session theme three: Business, industry and enterprise in the new normal

The resilience of businesses was tested during the COVID-19 pandemic. Those who could find innovative ways to operate or diversify streams of business and had the resources to do so were able to maintain operating in the new environment. Many small businesses, local businesses targeting international markets and large-scale businesses meeting the regional and global market chains at higher levels were hit hard and largely affected. For PNG 80% of the population participate in the informal sector of business within local markets and those in main trading centres such as Port Moresby, were affected as the Government shut down local markets and movement of goods across various routes of transportation. The Government of PNG announced business stimulus packages managed through the National Development Bank (NDB) to assist small businesses to remain operational during these economically challenging and uncertain times.

Through the conference, alumni can provide strategic commentary and analysis to business stimulus packages that may effectively work for PNG in the new normal. Alumni can share local business models that are forecasted to work in the new economic climate created by COVID 19 and innovative strategies or solutions to keep business operational in PNG under the new normal.

Presentations under this theme must meet the following criteria:

1. Must be from alumni within business, public, or private sector actively contributing to the business development or SME enterprises in the country.
2. Share firsthand experiences of alumni adjusting to the new normal within the business sector particularly as entrepreneurs or in specialist key positions within the Private or Public sector driving business and economic advancement in the new normal.
3. Share adaptative and innovative strategies taken to ensure business continued in the new normal.
4. Highlight how technology was utilised for business in the new normal.
5. Propose specific domestic business stimulus package solutions in the new normal based on global evidence, domestic economic climate and experiences of alumni.

Abstracts submitted should have a maximum of 350 words. Presentations need to cover research papers, shared ideas and experiences that may contribute to a dialogue on the theme. Presentations will be limited to either 15 minutes or 5 minutes (based on presentation type) and five PowerPoint slides and all presenters must produce a pre-recorded session as a back-

up should there be an interruption in live streaming the presentations. Select presentations will be made available on all PNGAAA social media platforms.

A rigorous selection of participants will be made by the conference panel according to the proposed presentation's contribution to the highlighted sectors. Selected presentations will be made available on all social media platforms of PNGAAA.

Thematic presentations may be delivered in the following ways:

1. Live and/or prerecorded presentations (15 minutes)
2. Lightning presentations (5-minute talk)
3. Posters presentations (digital poster sessions)
4. Digital video presentations
5. Display presentations

The online conference program will include:

1. Presentations (key address and break out session presentations)
2. Interactive displays (digital posters with electronic tags, videos and displays) that can be accessed through all PNGAAA social media platforms.

Participants will be able to e-vote the best presentations and provide feedback on selections.