

# Panguna Mine Legacy Impact Assessment (PMLIA)

## Summary of Progress: 2022

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### Background

- In September 2020, the Human Rights Law Centre (HRLC) representing 156 residents of Dapera, Enamira, Java, Kobalu 1 and other villages downstream of the Panguna mine (Complainants) lodged a complaint with the Australian National Contact Point for the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (AusNCP) against Rio Tinto (the Complaint).
- One of three requests in the Complaint is for Rio Tinto to fund an independent environmental and human rights impact assessment of the mine site by a team of qualified local and international experts to map impacts – in particular those posing serious risks to public health and safety – and to develop recommendations to address these.

### Achievements for 2022

#### Multi-stakeholder Oversight Committee (OC) established and operational

- Independent Facilitator engaged and Stakeholder representatives confirmed to the OC
- South and Central ABG Parliamentary Committees endorse PMLIA
- Process road map and Standard Operating Procedures defined and OC induction session completed
- Six meetings held with OC resolutions and action items in progress
- Process launched, with Keynote remarks and endorsement from the Honourable President of Bougainville
- Technical sub-committee formed

#### Secretariat established

- Community Engagement Lead, Project Lead, Finance and Administration Lead recruited and contracted.
- Project Site Office opened with systems in place and Policies in place, including budget, local content strategy, a complaints mechanism and staff management systems
- Working relationships with stakeholders and suppliers in place
- Annual summary report and internal budget report completed

#### Engagement and communications measures in place

- Community dialogue Program designed and first round of engagement completed successfully
- Launch events and media releases successfully produced with a draft communication strategy under development
- Website up and running, housing key information for public access

#### Primary contractor engaged and IA commenced

- Process road map (2022-2024) in place, with clear evidence of achievement against targets
- Desk study completed through which high-risk areas were noted and specific follow up investigation is underway
- Primary Contractor tender process successfully conducted and Tetra Tech Coffey contracted to complete phase one of the IA

- Tetra Tech Coffey successfully completed preliminary risk assessment workshop and the first inspection/planning field visit to the impact area
- Bougainvillean service providers and project personnel engaged

#### PLAC established

- Independent funding company established to manage payments to Tetra Tech Coffey, the Secretariat and limited number of service providers

### Focus for First Quarter 2023

#### January

- Finalisation of Communication Strategy for 2023, including Preparation of Video logs for use in community dialogue sessions
- Review and strengthen policy and information sharing frameworks, including health and safety protocols

#### February

- Community dialogue preparation session for facilitators
- Technical Sub-Committee meeting to review Tetra Tech Coffey fieldwork plans
- OC meeting #7 to approve Tetra Tech Coffey fieldwork plans
- Conduct of Community Dialogue Round 2
- Second Tetra Tech Coffey inspection/planning field visit

#### March

- Commencement of first major (1 of 3) field investigation campaign