

ISSUE 3 · JANUARY - MARCH 2024

NICTA IN PERSPECTIVE

Official Newsletter of the National Information and Communications Technology Authority (NICTA)



National Information & Communications
Technology Authority

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UAS Secretariat moves to New Office



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CEO's MESSAGE

NICTA-WHO ARE WE

OUR MANDATE

NICTA is an independent regulatory authority established by the NICT Act 2009. NICTA is the primary regulator of the ICT industry in Papua New Guinea with specific focus on telecommunications, radio communications and broadcasting

OUR PURPOSE

Our purpose is to advance the objective of the Act in relation to the development and availability of ICT services to meet social, commercial, cultural and industrial needs of Papua New Guinea and to facilitate development of the industry through implementing the regulatory framework consistent with principals set out in the act.

OUR VISION

ENABLING A CONNECTED INCLUSIVE
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Drawing from our mandate and purpose , we forsee all Papua New Guineans having access to affordable and high quality ICT services .

OUR MISSION

FOSTERING TRANSFORMATION BY EFFECTIVE
ICT REGULATION AND ENABLING UNIVERSL
ACCESS

We will take lead in regulating the ICT sector in Papua New Guinea whilst promoting strong and strategic partnerships with stakeholders.

OUR CORE VALUES

Our values are principles and beliefs that govern our day-to day behaviour, internally as employees of NICTA and externally with our customers and stakeholders

**Our VALUES are INTERGRITY,
COMMITTMENT, INNOVATION,
RESPECT AND COLLOBORATION**



Welcome to the first edition for this year, 2024!

As we begin this year, we reflect on the achievements of 2023, notably the first ever Pacific ICT Ministerial Dialogue and the 16th Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APT) Policy and Regulation Forum for the Pacific (PRFP). Significant regulation consultations were concluded last year including NICTA's participation at the World Radio Conference -WRC23.

2023 was a year of transformation for NICTA despite the many significant challenges. So, for this year, I stated in my welcome statement to all NICTA staff, let us be reminded of what we can do for our country.

For this year's first quarter, NICTA's Universal and Access Service (UAS) Secretariat moved office, the first NICTA Board Meeting and the commemoration of National Women's Day were all distinguished events.

The annual Safer Internet Day Campaign ran through half of this quarter. A campaign aimed at encouraging safe use of the internet, focused on the school aged and young adults.

January this year, we also welcomed new recruits who are now filling up important roles in the organization and are part of NICTA's Executive Management Team.

In concluding the overview of this issue, I wish you Happy Reading!

Kila Gulo -Vui
Chief Executive Officer

UNIVERSAL ACCESS & SERVICE [UAS] SECRETARIAT MOVES TO RANGEVIEW PLAZA

Speech Delivered by Minister for ICT, Honourable Timothy Masiu, MP on the occasion of UAS Office Opening on Friday 1st March 2024

I wish to thank the three mobile operators, Digicel PNG limited, Telikom Limited and Vodafone for their mobile network coverage throughout PNG.

This is despite the many challenges that are faced by the operators in the provision of their services.

The UAS team, currently has 8 members in the team. This number will increase by the end of this year by about 50 percent as the Secretariat looks to build its capacity to deliver on its mandate.

This growth in staff numbers has bought about the need for additional office space which is why this new office space is being opened. This team build-up is required to deliver on the approved UAS Projects that are tendered out annually.

These projects are approved by the ICT Minister before being advertised for ICT operators to bid. As an example, the total value of approved projects for 2024 is K32.294M.

The procurement process has now commenced with awards expected during the year for implementation, some of these projects will rollover to next year.

Some of the Projects for this year includes new mobile towers to extend mobile internet to unserved and unserved areas mainly in rural PNG and will bring connectivity to about another 145,000 people.

Another project approved is the International Mobile Equipment Identity Register to track and find out where a mobile device is currently located and to block the connecting to the networks and basically disabling the phone.

Other projects include broadband connectivity to extend key government through digital connectivity, emergency communications and capacity building.

It is equally important that the function of NICTA must be clearly distinguished from the function of UAS secretariat.

NICTA regulates the ICT industry through the issuance of licenses and resources such as numbering and spectrum.

UAS secretariat must focus on identifying unserved and underserved areas in the country, mobilize funding and coordinate the implementation of UAS with all ICT operators to ensure connectivity reaches all parts of PNG.

That is why it is important that UAS secretariat must have its own office and undertake its duties independently of the regulatory functions performed by NICTA.

In this regard, I will propose that UAS secretariat must have its own Corporate Plan to deliver on Government's policy objectives on UAS.

This will compliment your new office to provide a conducive environment for UAS Board, Secretariat and staff to engage internally and externally to deliver on its core mandate of bringing connectivity to our citizens wherever they are.

On this note, I challenge UAS Secretariat Staff to make the best use of this facilities to progress your statutory responsibilities.

There has to be accountability and transparency in what you are doing, and most important, we need to see the progressive reports on impacts of UAS program such as the unserved and underserved communities that are connected and benefiting. These reports must be widely published.

There are parts of the country that still needs connectivity, and by connectivity I am referring to 4G coverage where our people will have access to internet on their smart phones that will enable them to engage in e-commerce, e-learning and range of other e-services that the Department of ICT is now spearheading .

We need a Master Plan that maps out the unconnected parts of PNG, the number of people in those areas that are unconnected and let us develop a short to medium and long term plan to bring connectivity to these areas.

By 2027, all parts of the country where there are people living, should have connectivity.

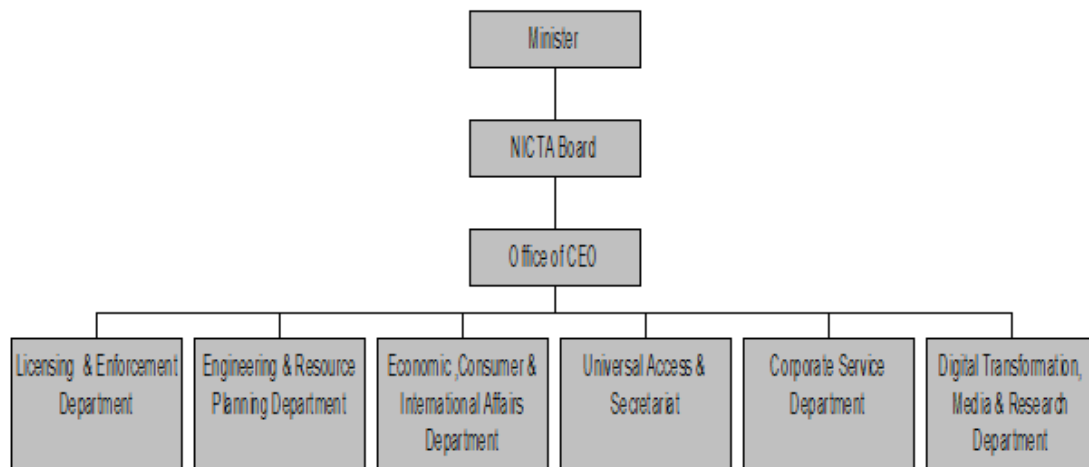
With that, ladies and gentlemen, I want to congratulate NICTA CEO and your staff for the hard work in setting up the Office.

I also want to thank the UAS Board for your guidance towards making sure UAS secretariat have a Office of its own and the UAS secretariat for this milestone achievement.

Thank you and God Bless PNG.



NICTA ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



SIX MANAGEMENT POSITIONS FILLED

Since approval by the NICTA Board of a new organization structure in December of 2022, NICTA has gone on a major recruitment drive to engage new talent as well as promote existing talent across the whole organization.

The restructuring and recruitment is primarily to accelerate progress towards achieving ICT targets set out under the recent Digital Government Act 2022.

Six key management positions filled and announced by NICTA CEO on January 10 2024.

Management Positions filled are;

Director Economics Mr. , Consumer & International Affairs-
Mr.Polume Lume
Manager International Affairs-Mr.Dominic Moros
Director Universal Access & Secretariat.Mr.Charles Ofoi
Manager Rural Projects UAS- Mr.Warren Suti
Manager Resource Planning-Mr.Steven Anda
Manager Finance - Mr.Richard Matanga
Manager Human Resource. -Mr.Jethro Andrew

Out of the six (6), Mr.Ofoi and Mr.Matanga were scouted externally while the rest were recruited from within NICTA.



AN HANDSHAKE TO SEAL THE CONTRACT



SAFER INTERNET DAY 2024 CAMPAIGN

PRESS RELEASE- TUESDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2024

Today we again celebrate Safer Internet Day.

This advocacy aims to create both a safer and a better internet, where everyone is empowered to use technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively.

The campaign aims to reach out to children and young people, parents, teachers, educators and social workers, as well as industry, decision makers and politicians, to encourage everyone to play their part in creating a better internet.

By celebrating the positive power of the internet, the Safer Internet Day slogan of “Together for a better internet” encourages everyone to join the movement, to participate, and to make the most of the internet’s potential to bring people together.

The events of the recent past where we saw looting and destruction in Port Moresby and some parts of the country is directly related to the misuse and abuse of the positive use of the internet.

The Department of Information and Communication Technology social media monitoring desk has data that shows the increased use of the internet through the social media platforms of Facebook, Whatsapp and Instagram, Tiktok and others inciting people to mobilize and loot and that spread across the country from the situation in Port Moresby.

I issued a warning that I would use my powers under law to restrict the use of some platforms of the internet if this trend continue whereby there is abuse of the internet.

With a global, community-led approach, Safer Internet Day encourages everyone to come together and play their part. There are many ways to do this:

- Children and young people can help to create a better internet by being kind and respectful to others online, by protecting their online reputations (and those of others), and by seeking out positive opportunities to create, engage and share online.
- Parents and carers play a crucial role in empowering and supporting children to use technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively, whether it is by ensuring an open dialogue with their children, educating them to use technology safely and positively, or by acting as digital role models.
- Teachers, educators and social workers can help to create a better internet by equipping their pupils and students with digital literacy skills and by developing their critical thinking skills, which will allow them to better navigate the online world. They can empower them to create their own content, make considered choices online, and can set a personal example of positive online behavior.

continued next page



SAFER INTERNET DAY 2024 CAMPAIGN

Industry can help to create a better internet by creating and promoting positive content and safe services online, and by empowering users to respond to any issues by providing clear safety advice, a range of easy-to-use safety tools, and quick access to support if things go wrong.

Decision makers and politicians need to provide a culture in which all of the above can function and thrive – for example, by ensuring that there are opportunities in the curriculum for children and young people to learn about online safety, ensuring that parents and carers have access to appropriate information and sources of support, and that industry is encouraged to self-regulate its content and services.

They must also take the lead in governance and legislation, and ultimately ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and young people through effective child protection strategies for the digital world.

Everyone has a responsibility to make a difference online. We can all promote the positive by being kind and respectful to others and by seeking out constructive opportunities to create and connect. We can all respond to the negative by reporting, inappropriate or illegal content and behaviour online. In commemoration of Safer Internet Day 2024 today, it gives me great pleasure to also announce on behalf of the PNG Safer Internet Committee (PNGSIC), the release of the new look “Parents Guide to being Cybersmart” publication. The said Guide is intended to provide advice to parents of children of all ages as part of engaging families on the importance of online safety.

Further, I commend and encourage the collaborative efforts of both local and international key stakeholders, facilitated by NICTA through the PNG Safer Internet Committee (PNGSIC), in localising and carrying on the all too important work of promoting a more responsible use of and safer internet for the benefit of our communities.

Happy Safer Internet Day and God bless Papua New Guinea!

Hon. TIMOTHY MASIU MP
Minister for Information and Communications Technology



SAFER INTERNET DAY 2024 CAMPAIGN



Safer Internet Day (SID) 2024 is an annual campaign aimed at promoting safer online habits including highlighting the risks and opportunities of online safety use. NICTA became member to this campaign initiative in 2019. The day is organized by the Insafe/INHOPE network of European Safer Internet Centres (SICs) with the support of the European Commission.

The annual SID campaign is delivered by the Consumer Affairs (CA) Branch supported by Public Relations.

Given that the CA branch is dealing with an ever -increasing number of online safety related issues including cyberbullying, image -based abuse, adult cyber abuse scams, cybercrime and the like, the SID campaign serves as a platform to advocate on these and other key issues within our local communities. The SID awareness serves to promote safer online habits, whilst also drawing the public's attention to the potential risks and opportunities of their online activities.

Led by the Consumer Affairs Branch, this year the annual SID Campaign consisted of a list of activities including.

1. Radio Awareness in the form of talkback & jingles
2. In-House Awareness
3. Social Media campaign
4. Press Release
5. New Look Parents Guide
6. NICTA School Ambassador Workshops

The campaign was supported by partners including, Ministry of ICT, Department of ICT (DICT) PNG SAFER INTERNET COMMITTEE (PNGSIC), the Australian Government's Economic and Social Infrastructure Programme (ESIP)



Help children to be safe online

Parents and caregivers can support children of all ages to have safe and positive experiences online



Top cyber smart tips for parents

- Always consider your child's age, gender and maturity and how this may impact their safety online. Factors impacting safety online can be specific based on the child's age and gender, and whether they have a disability.
- Learn how to set parental controls and limit access to adult content.
- Disable in-app purchases on your child's phone.
- Ensure your child knows to be cautious about sharing their details online.
- Turn off location settings when using social media sites on smartphones.
- Create a family media agreement with tech-free zones such as cars, bedrooms and mealtimes.
- Help your child learn to filter information online and navigate fact from fiction.
- Check that personal information you share during SIM card registration will be well protected.



Protect your child's privacy online

Use privacy settings and review them frequently

- Sit down with your child and go over their social media privacy settings.
- **On Facebook:**
 - the safest privacy setting to use is 'Only Me'
 - check your app settings to see what is being shared with each app.
- For new devices and websites, follow privacy directions during initial set up.
- Remind children to be aware of what information they are agreeing to share before they start using apps, websites or devices.

Use two-factor authentication

- Two-factor authentication increases your security because it allows you to authorise only certain devices to access an account.

Delete old accounts and update your passwords

- Delete any old, unused online accounts.
- Update passwords regularly and choose strong passwords.

Online behaviour

- Make sure children understand the basics of good online behaviour, including the impact and potential repercussions of posting or commenting online.

Protections for children

- Some legal restrictions help protect your child's consumer privacy and ensure they use age-appropriate websites and applications. For example, the *Lukautim Pikinini Act 2015* elaborates on measures to ensure children's protection and privacy. It stresses the importance of parental/guardian consent when using or sharing a child's image or information.
- Parents' awareness of their obligations under the legislation will help them to support online safety.



Protect children from image-based abuse

Image-based abuse can include the non-consensual sharing of images, including the illegal distribution and sharing of 'nudes' i.e. naked images. Children are vulnerable to being pressured into sending images of themselves when they are engaging with strangers online. This practice is a violation of domestic law, and a serious threat to the privacy of children.

If a child is below the age of 18, the sharing of their private image is always a crime. Actions for parents include:

- Talk to your child about the nature of online images: they can never be completely removed from the internet so should never be sent to anyone. Consider explaining to children that sharing their own image may be a crime if they are under 18.
- If your child's privacy has been violated, submit a request with the relevant website, or contact an e-safety authority to try to have the image removed. Screenshot for evidence.
- Consider accessing a counselling service as this experience can be highly traumatising for children.



Helpful TIPS!

Internet safety and preventing cyberbullying

Take an interest in your child's online world. Learn how to use the devices, apps and technologies used by your child.

Ensure that children with disabilities can benefit from all that technology can offer such as accessible formats, but do so safely and with the proper support they might need. Remember that the needs of children with disabilities can be diverse.

Set reasonable limits. Help children learn to make responsible decisions about using technology by establishing guidelines and exerting control when necessary.

Get to know your child's online friends. Help your child learn the difference between a real friend and a friendly stranger. Instruct children never to meet online friends.

Talk with your child if you suspect they are being bullied. Changes in your child's behaviour and attitude may signal that they are being bullied at school or online. Victimised children are more likely to have difficulty sleeping, headaches, nervousness, stomach aches and make excuses to avoid going to school.

Help children to speak up when they are being victimised or witness someone else being victimised online.

Show your child you love them and will protect them. Children who are bullied are at risk of mental health problems such as depression, anxiety, diminished self-esteem and social withdrawal.



Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is bullying with the use of digital technologies. It can take place on social media, messaging platforms, gaming platforms and mobile phones. Parents play a critical role in preventing and responding to cyberbullying.

If your child experiences cyberbullying:

- Contact the site administrator to have bullying content removed.
- If bullying is coming from a school student, report it to their school. Schools are encouraged to protect students and can help stop bullying.
- Talk to your child about getting support if they are very upset.
- Report any serious threat to police. A threat made online is against the *PNG Cyber Crime Code Act 2016*.
- Set parental limitations on phone and internet access of children under the age of 18.

Ensure that children and young people know:

- How to ignore bullying messages and block unwanted contact on email, social media, chat rooms, games and other programs.
- To keep a record of bullying messages so you can report it.
- How to help a friend if they are being bullied, and to tell a responsible adult.
- Not to bully others.

Further information

www.facebook.com/pngsaferinternet-committee

www.rpngc.gov.pg/advice-services/cybercrime-awareness



NICTA Board Chairman, Noel Mobiha with NGI Police hierarchy during the commissioning

An audit by a team from the Engineering and Resource Planning Department into Police Call Centers few years back has now led to the set-up of new and refurbished call center for East New Britain Province.

Over the years the Emergency short codes including for Police have become unusable due to lack of basic setup to handle calls and dispatch. Consistent with NICTA's mandate of ensuring efficient use of Numbering Resource, the Engineering and Resource Planning Department implemented a basic call center setup for ENB police. The Objective is to promote and encourage the use of Emergency Short Code 112.

The team working on this project has expressed satisfaction at the turnout of the East New Britain Call Centre. Resources provided for the ENB Call Centre include the system and software plus handsets.

The advantage of this system is that it can receive calls simultaneously and it keeps an electronic copy of all calls that come in.

Data is recorded and all handsets have a digital display. The team will now be moving to other two centers in the country to implement similar projects.

NICTA Board Chairman, Noel Mobiha joined the Engineering and Resource Planning Team to officiate at the commissioning of the Call Centre.



NATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2024

The National Women's Day was recently adopted in PNG from the United Nations (UN) International Women's Day (IWD) to be observed annually with the main objective to recognize women and girls for their achievements with no regard to divisions whether national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic or political promoting gender equality and social inclusion in the country. It is also a time to celebrate the positive work of women and girls in the public service and across the country.

It was fitting for NICTA as an organization to observe this day as it is consistent with the aspirations of the International Girls in ICT Day (GICTD) which NICTA is spearheading in the country as well as in line with the national priorities of the government of achieving gender equality and investing in the empowerment of women and girls in all aspects of development as well as leadership and decision-making.

COMMEMORATION OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY - MONDAY, 25TH MARCH 2024

In commemoration of National Women's Day 2024 at NICTA, a low-key but significant event was organized by the International Affairs Branch and the HR Division.

The program featured two guests in their line of duty have led aspirations of the day and talked about the theme "Count Her In: Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress".

The guest speakers were, Ms. Elly Kale, National Program Specialist from UN Women PNG and Ms. Jane Ilam, GEDSI Team from Economic and Social Infrastructure Program (ESIP).

Both speakers talked about the work their organization is doing in the country on women empowerment and related issues. Insights were also shared on the GESI (Gender Equity & Social Inclusion) Policy and how NICTA can adopt that.

Female staff also shared their achievements and professional development gained over the years with NICTA. It was a day of reflection and celebration for NICTA women and also their male counterparts.

The program enhanced staff understanding and perceptions of this important agenda and related matters.



STAFF CORNER

MEET UAS FUND MANAGER



words & picture by; Koru Leva (trainee)

Can you tell us more about yourself?

My name is Ruth Nelson and I am from Hula in Central Province. I am a mother of two boys and I am now work as the Fund Manager with the Universal Access & Service (UAS) within the National ICT Authority (NICTA).

Prior to joining NICTA, I worked with the Department of Treasury. I have a background in Finance and Economics. I have graduated from the Queensland University of Technology with a Masters in Applied Finance.

This year will be my fourth (4th) year with this organization.

What do you like about NICTA?

An outsider coming into NICTA, ICT is a very interesting place to work simply because its new and there's a lot in terms from the way the world is moving its because of technology and in a few years' time technology can fill up the space of where it is now.

Any interesting experience you want to share with NICTA?

I like being with the UAS because I have a passion for development and working with the UAS team is really an enjoyable journey for me. The process of a project is something i look forward to, from initiation the process when everything is new and exciting and its nice feeling when you see the final outcome.

BITS & PIECES

ABOUT UAS

Prior to the liberalization of its telecommunications market in 2010, Papua New Guinea had one of the lowest telephone penetration rates in the world. Following the introduction of competition within the mobile market, access to communications services has drastically improved. However, with more than 70% of the population living in the rural areas, most Papua New Guineans had yet to have access to basic communications services.

Recognizing this deficiency, the Government legislated the Universal Access and Service Fund (UAS Fund) in the National Information and Communications Technology Act 2009 (the Act). The UAS regime gives effect to the Government's vision of connecting the country through Information and Communication Technology (ICT). Amongst others objectives, the UAS regime seeks to facilitate improved access to basic communications services. Equally important, the UAS aims to improve affordability of these services and provide reliable telecommunications infrastructure to rural and remote Papua New Guinea.

The UAS is administered by the UAS Secretariat within the National ICT Authority (NICTA) and reports to the UAS Board.

The UAS regime's objective as defined in Section 90 of the National Information and Communications Technology Act 2009, amongst others, is to promote the long-term economic and social development of Papua New Guinea by funding approved UAS Projects that will encourage the development of ICT infrastructure and improve the availability of ICT services within Papua New Guinea, including in rural communities.

taken from NICTA website. To learn more about the UAS refer to the website.

photo captions!



CAPTION: Director Corporate Service, Mr.Jackson Kariko handing over a NICTA gift bag to a guest



Caption : NICTA Board Member, Caroline Greenway greets Minister Masiu



CAPTION: Molina Kapal speaking during the National Women's Day comemoration



CAPTION: NICTA CEO & NICTA Board Member John Cholai



Caption : Minister Masiu officiating the opening of UAS Office with cake cutting

Media Statement

15th January 2024

ICT MINSTER MASIU ISSUES STERN WARNING ON ABUSE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

The government has warned it will not hesitate to shut down social media applications and sites if there is continuous abuse and misuse of social media spreading fake news, misinformation and disinformation in the country.

Minster for Information and Communication Technology Timothy Masiu issued the warning today citing significant evidence of serious abuse of social media spreading false information that led to destruction of properties in Port Moresby and parts of the country resulting also in deaths.

“I have a statutory power under the National Information and Communication Technology Act 2009 too restrict access to social media sites and applications if this continues. The Ministry of ICT has observed a sharp spike in the use of social media from Wednesday 10th of January 2024 and many are misinformation and disinformation and we are now 10 days effective from today for people to adhere or face a complete shutdown of social media sites and applications for the duration of the State of Emergency.”

He said discussions on social media that incite violence, destruction, spread of false information or confidential government information, opinions that are wrong or sends false information or are hearsay and defamatory will be monitored and legal action taken immediately.

Minister Masiu said national security, public emergency and public emergency and public safety is critical to a secured nation and happy and safe country and urges all to work together to bring back normalcy to the country after a week of mayhem and destruction especially in Port Moresby.

“I have instructed the agencies under my ministry to strengthen monitoring and report any abuses of social media to the police cybercrime unit to begin investigations, arrest and prosecution and also take down fake accounts and sites.”

He said Papua New Guinea is a civilized country and citizens must abide by rules and laws and every citizen has a duty and obligation to ensure we progress to be a better country.

He said he has also consulted with the ICT industry to ensure the safe and secure use of the internet and to work closely with my ministry and the regulator NICTA to ensure a safe and secure internet for our nation.

Hon. TIMOTHY MASIU MP
Minister for Information and Communications Technology.

NICTA Home Ownership Scheme

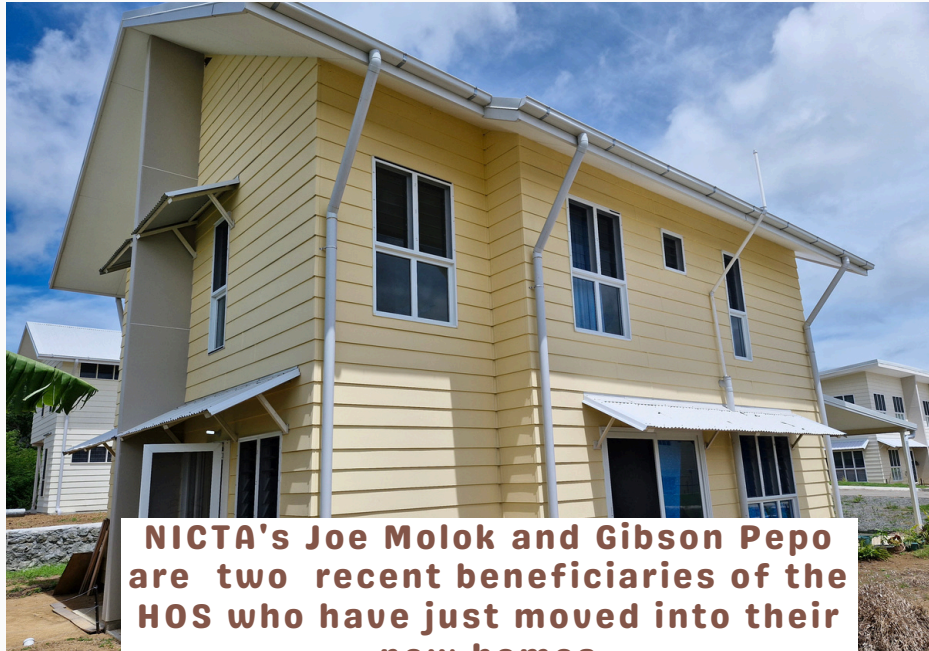
NICTA's home ownership scheme has been in full implementation in line with guidelines set out under its Home Ownership Scheme Policy initiative.

This vision came about as a measure to move away from paying rental accommodation for its staff. wants to see its employees in their own houses within a reasonable period of time.

The establishment of NICTA Home Ownership Scheme (HOS) now allows for all National permanent employees to be eligible to apply.

Under the HOS, benefits for participants include financial and administrative assistance.

Six more staff are currently participating in the HOS



NICTA's Joe Molok and Gibson Pepo are two recent beneficiaries of the HOS who have just moved into their new homes



Mr. Pepo's 3-bedroom High -Set Home in Graceville ,Port Moresby

" For me I would say its first of its kind .It gives myself and my family , especially my wife and my kids the confidence that we need , we have nothing to worry about.

I can be out on duty travel knowing that my family is secured at home.

With this opportunity, it is a life changing opportunity for me to take part and seeing my family happy. You know we just moved in to our new house and every time I go home to my family, I can see the joy that is being radiated through their smiles and it gives me great pleasure. I see the confidence in my family's face every now and then and this gives me satisfaction to do best for NICTA.

My wife always thanks me and especially my employer NICTA for this opportunity where we can own a place and raise our children. It's a blessing for us.

As I watch the loan balance decreases every year, it encourages me to do more and put more efforts in work.

This is also encouraging us engineers not to leave NICTA, the benefits are too good and we are always grateful to NICTA.

An encouragement to fellow colleagues is to push for it, if you have your mind and heart in it and want to own a home, make use of the opportunity while you can." **Gibson Pepo**

Gibson Pepo is Engineer Spectrum Planning with the Department of Engineering and Resource Planning. The 38 year old father of four says there is more stability within family now that they have a place to call their own .



**Joe Molok –Senior Type Approval Inspector .
He is currently 1 of only two ship surveyors in
NICTA who do inspections on ship radio
communications.**

Having completed all necessary paper work and now owning this house, I now know my children's future is secured. I have been living in rental property all my life and this is just too good to be true knowing my children are secured and I am secured.

It gives me confidence and there is a great sense of stability owning a house. I have given my best to this organization for the development of our country Papua New Guinea and there is nothing more rewarding than owning my own house.

Your paragraph textI would like to encourage my colleagues who have not yet participated in this , please make use of this opportunity as you can never find this elsewhere.

The NICTA HOS is less paper work and is straight forward, I believe this is the best that is available. The support from NICTA HOS Secretariat and the committee is very helpful to staff. It's a very smooth process if you follow all the requirements.

I would like to thank NICTA for this opportunity and I call on colleagues to grasp this opportunity that is available. You will not find a better opportunity so while this is available , please make use it".JOE MOLOK

Joe and family have moved into their 3 bedroom 2 story duplex in Edai Town, just outside Port Moresby.



"One of my personal goals has been to own a home. So, when I came to Port Moresby, I made it my priority to grasp the opportunity that is available through NICTA's Home Ownership Scheme (HOS).

Being one of the only two certified ship surveyors, my job takes me away from home most of the time. My job requires me to stay long hours out doing inspection on ships radio communications.

NICTA GIRLS IN ICT TERTIARY SCHOLARSHIP

This year would be the ninth (9th) year since the NICTA Girls in ICT Tertiary Scholarship had its first lot of scholarship signed.

The NICTA Girls in ICT Tertiary Scholarship is a fully funded scholarship targeting females and aims to encourage more females to take up ICT as a career.

In line with the International Telecommunications Union's (ITU) agenda to encourage more girls to take up ICT as a profession, NICTA has been running this program since 2015.



NICTA GICT Scholarship 2024!

Call for applications for 2024 scholarships opened on the 20th of December 2023 and closed at the end of January this year.

This is done through newspaper publications, NICTA social media page (Facebook) and NICTA website and ran for a period of 8 weeks.

The application round is normally facilitated by the Human Resource Branch and the International Affairs Branch.

First screening and shortlisting of applications commenced in February of this year.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Since the scholarship targets school leavers, call for applications is opened at the end of academic year and closes end of January.

This gives sufficient time for potential scholarship recipient to send in applications as by that time, a school leaver wanting to apply for the scholarship already knows whether she had secured a placing at a university.

The eligibility criteria are as follows.

- School leaver - must have completed grade 12 at the time of call for applications.
- Achieve a Higher School Certificate (HSC) 'B' grade average in a science major stream.
- selected or accepted for a first-degree program in Electrical and Communications Engineering, Computer Science ,IT or an ICT related course at any NICTA recognized institution in PNG

2024 SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

Four scholarships for this year are now into its final stages.

shortlisting has been completed and winners will be announced in quarter two (Q2) this year.



NICTA Scholarship Committee in Lae, Morobe Province during the sign-on for new scholars in 2023

Q1 OF 2024 IN PICTURES





National Information & Communications
Technology Authority

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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Lae



2nd Floor ,Morobe Haus
3rd Street, Lae, 411
Morobe Province



(675) 471 17231

Hagen



First Floor -Gabina Haus
Section 5, Allotment 8,Unit 5
Mount Hagen Drive -Mt.Hagen 281



(675) 5422 434

Kokopo



Level 1, New Agmark Building,
Porchley Street, Kokopo 611
East New Britain Province.



(675) 9815 150