

REPORT ON THE LAUNCHEON CEREMONY



SEPTEMBER 2016



Figure-1:©DSI.2016-Young girls in traditional attire-Kairiku in Central Province and Simbu Province. Mr Albert Ine'e-Master of Ceremony and Secretary-P-939-SBA in the background on the grandstand

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Figure-2:©DSI,2016-Hela Wigmen featuring PSUP Principal Consultant-Peter Simbakua in PNG Suit



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ABBREVIATION

- CCP-Chief Physical Planner of Papua New Guinea
- DSI-DS International Inc.
- IPA-Investment Promotion Authority of Papua New Guinea
- NCDC-National Capital District Commission
- NCD-National Capital District
- OoU-Office of Urbanisation
- P-939-SBA-Portion 939 Southern Zone Block Holders Association
- PSUP-Participatory Slums Upgrading Program

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The overwhelming success of this launcheon ceremony at Portion 939 is attributed to number of people, groups and organisations as follows;

- Financial members of P-939-SBA who have contributed generously in cash and kind towards the launching since the planning, preparation and the actual event of launch.
- The tireless effort of the Launching Committee under the leadership of Mr. Gerard Sui who made the event possible despite many uncertainties and challenges
- The Executives of P-939-SBA under the leadership of Mr Micheal Ume as the Chairman who made many personal sacrifices and made this colorful event happened
- The many volunteers within the Portion 939 Community for clean-ups and decorations
- The volunteer cultural groups particularly Kairuku Singsing group for colourful presentation and entertainment as well as building/erection of the grand-stand
- The Enga Women Singsing Group for exotic decoration and magnificent performance which was very entertaining and lively
- The unique wigmen from the Lake Kapiago area in the Hela Province for an extraordinary kundu dance performance which brought crowd the alive each time they take the stage
- The Mange Singsing Group from Morobe Province who made surprise appearance and entertained the crowd with thriller
- Presence of the Young Persons Ambassador-Mr Stargroth Amean-Full-back of PNG SP Hunters
- The dwarf group from Turf Club with unique style of dressing and dancing and
- DS International Inc. for sponsoring the inner-decoration of the grand-stand, the launcheon banners and compilation of this Report

STATEMENT BY MICHEAL UME-CHAIRMAN P-939-SBA

BELETED 41st INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY AND WELCOME TO PORTION 939 LAUNCHEON REPORT.

We founded this Association in the month of October 2014 with only ten members at my residence. **The main purpose is to promote, advocate and work towards securing land titles of our members in Portion 939 as stated in the Association's Constitution.**

It has grown rapidly over the last two years. We have on record more than 160 financial members which represent a majority -90 % of Portion 939 block-holders. Portion 939 Southern Zone Block-Holders Association is fully registered & incorporated Association with IPA with self-accounting status.

The Principal consultant and author of many Settlement Upgrading Reports, Policy and Project Plans in the Country, and including Portion 939 Project , **Mr.Peter Simbakua** hails from this Association. We are so happy to report back today that the journey was not easy, and yet we have achieved a lot in the short period of time. This will not be possible without the interest, support and commitment from Executives and key partners which I shall acknowledge as follows;

- Hon.Governor of NCD-Hon.Powes Parkop for his leadership and foresight
- Office of Urbanisation for his Policy leadership
- UN Habitat for technical corporation in PSUP Program
- Office of Chief Physical Planner of Papua New Guinea for sub-division plan
- Department for Community Development & Religion for NEC Directive
- National Capital District Commission for administrative leadership and
- DS International Inc.-for policy and strategic advises since the inception of the Association

We have undertaken the following activities ;

- Block-listings for all the settlers in Portion 939
- Pick-up surveys and mapping
- Detailed Household Survey per UN Habitat Standard

- Portion 939 was approved by UN Habitat and Office of Urbanisation as one of the pilot sites in NCD/PNG
- Participated in numerous meetings organised by Office of Urbanisation, NCDC and UN Habitat since 2015
- Participated in the sub-division planning by Office of Chief Physical Planner of PNG
- Portion 939 Settlement Project Plan documented by Office of Urbanisation/UN Habitat-courtesy of the Principal Consultant & DS International Inc. and
- We note the accommodation of the NEC Directive on community-based-rehabilitation (CBR) centre for disability program and the North-East District Hospital in the sub-division plan. This is a milestone achievement.
- Portion 939 Project is not just something ordinary but a model and symbol of hope of the hopeless settlers citizens of NCD and PNG

Hence on this note, we are so gratefully to you all our valuable partners, our Hon Governor and Government of PNG through the leadership of Prime Minister Peter O'Neil who has issued a statutory declaration to accommodate all settlers to the extend of forfeiting land, sub-divide land and issue titles. Hon.Governor and Prime Minister, we are indeed the first to fully comply with this directive and therefore invite you to support and deliver this as the model for PNG in NCD.

The proceedings in the content of this Report captures one of yet a rare celebration ever to be staged within Portion 939 where primary outcome was self-satisfaction evident in everyone's faces.

Enjoy reading this Report and look towards working with you all.

MICHEAL UME (Mr)

Chairman

1. INTRODUCTION



Figure-4:©DSI.2016-Hela wigmen Singing Group from Lake Kapiaga making appearance for the launcheon ceremony

Portion 939 Southern Zone Block Holders' Association was formed in October 2014. The fundamental purpose was for mobilisation and organisation of settlers to work towards securing land and land titles for the piece of land they occupy currently. This community Association is being incorporated with the Investment Promotion Authority (IPA) in 2015.

The Association has been fully supported by **DS International Inc.** a non-profit-organisation that is fully dedicated to human development. The organisation is the main advisory group to the current program on **'Participatory Slums Upgrading Program'** or **PSUP** that is being implemented in PNG by Office of Urbanisation and UN Habitat.

The concept is being embraced by the National Capital District Commission as well and is developing pilot projects in the City. One of the sites is Portion 939 located in the 9 Mile-Bomana area in which this Association hails from.

Hence the partnership between the community Association and DS International Inc. serves as a mechanism to meet the fundamental goal of securing land and land titles, secure livelihood of the current settlers/ families in Portion 939 and positively contribute to human development of Port Moresby City and Papua New Guinea.

The content below captures the proceedings and highlights of the grand launcheon of the P-939-SBA on the 29th of September 2016.

2. BACKGROUND



Figure-5:©DSI.2016-Enga Women Singing Group making appearance into the launching arena for the ceremony

The community Association is one of the other three Associations in Portion 939 participating in the pilot project under the Participatory Slums Upgrading Program or PSUP. Settlement is the common name used in PNG instead of slums as it is referred in PSUP. The Portion 939 is a vacant State land of about 47 hectares formerly leased to Turf Club and is adjacent to the current Morobe Block at Nine (9) Mile in NCD

The Project is one of the three Pilot Projects in PNG under the 'Participatory Slums Upgrading Program' or PSUP undertaken in collaboration with UN Habitat Office in PNG, the Office of Urbanisation, the Office of Chief Physical Planner, Department for Community Development & Religion, Department of Health, National Capital District Commission (NCDC) and North-East Electorate Administration.

The Project aims to maximise the benefits of sustainable urbanisation and distributes development opportunities equitably amongst residents of Port Moresby City especially the disadvantaged and marginalised people in the urban settlements including Portion 939.



Figure-6:©DSI.2016-Members of the Turf Club Dwarf Group entertaining the crowd during the launcheon ceremony

The benefit each beneficiary citizens will enjoy include;

- I. Clear land titles
- II. Durable Houses with adequate space
- III. Improve water and sanitation facilities
- IV. Access to Health, Education and other vital services and
- V. Increase economic opportunities
- VI. Safe, inclusive, resilient and sustainable urban environment



3. PURPOSE



Figure-7:©DSI.2016-Hela wigmen Singing Group in action during the launch

The launch of the Association underpinned formalities which serve a function of **legitimacy, advocacy and recognition** of all works, achievements and implementation of the Project done in partnership between *DS International Inc., National Capital District Commission, Office of Urbanisation and UN Habitat.*

4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & APOLOGIES



Figure-8:©DSI 2016-Delegates of P-939-SBA and DSI flanked by members of Hela Wigmen Singing Group in-front the Grand Stand

4.1. INVITE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The following dignatories and partner Organisations were acknowledged for receipt and noting of the Associations launcheon program;

- Hon. Powes Parkop-Governor of NCD
- Mr Mex Kep, ML-Executive Director of Office of Urbanisation
- Mr Vincent Pyati-Country Manager, UN Habitat
- Ms Josephine Gena – Board Chairlady, DS International Inc.
- Mr Henry Sape-Chairman, 8 Mile Settlers Association

In attendance were the following dignitaries and invited guests;

- Mr Jolam Bart- Board Director DS International Inc.
- Peter Simbakua-Principal DS International Inc. and principal consultant PSUP
- Pamela Simbakua-Administrator-DS International
- Mr Philip Kopeap-Delegate of DS International to 8 Mile Settlement
- Mr Raymond Nain –Chairman Law & Order Committee-8 Mile Settlement
- Mr Micheal Ume-Chairman, Portion 939 Southern Zone Block Holders Association
- Stargroth Amean- Youth Ambassodor- Full-Back PNG SP Hunters Club
- Mr Brendon Oii – Delegate of DS International Inc. to National Housing Corporation Flats-Gordens Suburb

4.2. APOLOGIES

Mr Leo Kulumbu-Deputy Secretary, Department for Community Development & Religion and special envoy to DS International Inc., and Ms Josephine Gena-Chairlady-Board of Directors, DS International Inc.

5. DECORATION AND ENTERTAINMENTS

The grand-stand was built by Kairiku Cultural Dancing Group. The outer stand decorations was sponsored by members of the community Association while the

inner-grand-stand was sponsored by DS International Inc. The banners on the main entrance into Portion 939 adjacent to the Vitis Industries, entry to launching ground and banners in front the grandstand was sponsored by the Organising Committee of the community Association and DS International Inc.



Figure-9:©DSI.2016. Mr Albert Ine'e – the Secretary of P-939-SBA and Master of Ceremony in facial decoration style resembling style of a Mekeo Traditional Chief

The official entertainment groups were;

- Kairiku Cultural Dancing Group
- Lake Kopiago (Hela) Dancing Group
- Enga Women Dancing Group

- Morobe Dancing Group and
- Turf Club Dwarf Group

Other children and adults were also dawned in their traditional and other unique attire and fashion dedicated to this luncheon occasion. The master of ceremony and the Secretary of the launched Association, Mr. Albert Ine'e had his face painted in a local Mekeo-Chief style and officiated at occasion from the start to finish in grand style/fashion.



Figure-10:©DSI.2016-Kairiku singing group leading the procession during the luncheon ceremony

6. OFFICIAL SPEECHES

The following were the excerpts of the speeches officially delivered at the luncheon.

6.1. CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH

The Chairman Mr Micheal Ume opened his speech by thanking the invited guests and acknowledged receipt of invitation to Hon. Powes Parkop, Governor of NCD, Mr Mex Kep, ML-Executive Director for Office of Urbanisation, Mr Vincent Pyati-Country Manager for UN Habitat and Ms Josephine Gena-Board Chairlady of DS International Inc.

He commenced by stating that the Association known as Portion 939 Southern Zone Block Holders' Association was formed in October of 2014 for the purpose of promoting interest of the Block Holders of Portion 939 and their members in securing land titles and improve access to social services and economic activities.

In addition, he highlighted some of the milestone achievements to date as follows;

- The Association was formed, registered with IPA and is self-accounting
- Block-listings within 939 Portion was completed
- Individual Household Survey within Portion 939 were completed, report compiled by DS International and submitted to UN Habitat
- Approval of Portion 939 as a pilot site for PSUP in NCD and PNG by Office of Urbanisation and UN Habitat
- Approval for sub-division planning of Portion 939 by the Chief Physical Planner of PNG
- Portion 939 Sub-Division Plan was developed by the Office of Chief Physical Planner of PNG
- Hosted number of settlement visits by UN Habitat and PSUP partners and
- Attended number of meetings organised by Office of Urbanisation, NCDC and UN Habitat under PSUP

Furthermore, he concluded by acknowledging all technical advises and assistances provided by DS International Inc. in accomplishing above milestones

Annexed is the original statement of Mr Micheal Ume.

6.2. VICE-CHAIRLADY'S SPEECH

Ms Agatha Peng, the vice chairlady delivered her speech on behalf of women and children. Like the Chairman, she began with an acknowledgement for all dignitaries who were invited but didn't make it and those who were present. She made specific reference to different classes of citizens living in Portion 939 Settlement such as pensioners, retired public servants, widows and persons with disabilities. This address was unique given the fact that skills, experience and value of such groups of persons to community and society are barely recognised. In particular the negative images and connotation attest to settlement environment often camouflages innocence and good citizenship values of such group of people.

She lighted issues and many of the daily struggles women and their families were being faced with both within their homes and within the settlement environment such as;

- Domestic violence

- All forms of violence against children
- Violence against elderly persons
- Substance abuses and alcohol related violence which make settlement environment unsafe and insecure for majority especially women and girls
- Unlicensed and unregulated liquor shops and trade stores/tucker-shops which creates easy access of liquor and an oasis of social illnesses
- Limited opportunities for livelihood skills training and development and
- Need of inclusion of facilities for children in early childhood education, market, police station, hospital and other socio-economic facilities

6.3. DISABILITY REP SPEECH

Mr Adrian Egembari, an executive member of the local Association is visually impaired (blind) is a representative of persons with disability within Portion 939. He began with an acknowledgement of dignitaries and an applause to the Executives of the local Association for providing a space for persons with disabilities. He expressed his gratitude to Government on the Disability Policy and particularly the NEC Directive for allocating land space for community-based-rehabilitaton (CBR) facility within Portion 939. He said that persons with disabilities were a class of people with unique abilities which we should count on rather than focusing too much on their disabilities. He concluded by commending Mr Simbakua for his inclusive leadership within Portion 939 and disability sector in Papua New Guinea.



Figure-11:©DSI.2016-Mr Adrian Egembari-Disability Rep with his elder daughter on the grand-stand during the launching ceremony

7. SIGNING OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN DS INTERNATIONAL INC. AND PORTION 939 SOUTHERN ZONE BLOCK HOLDERS ASSOCIATION

7.1. REMARK BY PRINCIPAL OF DS INTERNATIONAL INC.

Mr Peter Simbakua, the founder and the Principal of DS International Inc. and principal consultant of PSUP in Papua New Guinea, opened his remarks by congratulating settlers in Portion 939 for forming the local Association-Portion 939 Southern Zone Block Holders Association in pursuing land titles for their families.

The fact that they turned out in numbers to witness the launch of their Association was a show of confidence in themselves and what they believe in. He stressed the importance of believing in themselves and must never panic if they do not see political and bureaucratic leaders around in such occasions. He informed them that

their invites were reliably delivered to various authorities and that the launch of their Association was noted and it has proceeded as planned.

He gave them confidence by quoting the preamble of **PNG Constitution** which stated that **“WE THE PEOPLE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA – UNITED IN ONE NATION ...AND THAT ALL POWERS BELONG TO THE PEOPLE-ACTING THROUGH THEIR DULLY ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES”**

What transpired in the floor of Parliament in passing of the *Bills* was a show of this very power of the people at work which he said was a dummy and that they themselves would accordingly in the same manner passed the *partnership instrument* after the public reading by the Secretary of the Association.

She said the instrument gives them the *competency* and *capacity* to pursue their collective interests vested in their Association. They shall be at ease since this partnership would enable them to reach relevant authorities and development partners. He concluded by stating that the **“ANSWER”** for the usual question of **“WHATS NEXT?”** after any launching of such was in the **“MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING”** which they witnessed the signing thereafter.

7.2. REMARK BY DELEGATE OF DS INTERNATIONAL INC. TO EIGHT MILE SETTLEMENT

Mr Philip Kopeap delivered a brief statement of solidarity as one family of settlers fighting for the same course. The concern which the settlers of Portion 939 had was the same concern amongst the 8 Mile Settlers. He said the lessons learnt at Portion 939 PSUP Project would help in the similar Project at 8 Mile Settlement. He wished them every success.

8. READING OF THE PARTNERSHIP INSTRUMENT- THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)

The Secretary of Portion 939 Southern Zone Block Holders Association and the Master of Ceremony, Mr. Albert Ine'e, took the honors of reading the MoU to the public. That gave the public the opportunity to know the content of the Document which was endorsed by the Executives of the local Association and officiated at that occasion.



Figure-12:©DSI,2016-Mr Albert Ine'e-Secretary of P-939-SBA & Master of Ceremony doing the public reading of the articles of MoU as a practise of good governance, transparency and accountability

9. SIGNING OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

After the above formalities the signing ceremony officially took place between delegated officials of Portion 939 Southern Zone Block Holders Association and DS International Inc. For and on behalf of DS International Inc. (First Party) were the Chairlady of the Board-Ms Josephine Gena and witnessed by Mrs Pamela Simbakua-Administrator for DS International Inc. while for and on-behalf of Portion 939 Southern Zone Block Holders Association (Second Party) were Chairman-Mr Micheal Ume and witnessed by Secretary-Mr Albert Ine'e. The signing ceremony was completed when the common-seal of the Parties were affixed on the 29th Day of September 2016 at Portion 939, 9 Mile-Bomana, Port Moresby.



Figure-13:©DSI.2016-Mr Jolam Bart-A member of Board Directors of DSI signing the MoU during the launch



Figure-14:©DSI.2016-Mr.Albert Ine'e – Secretary of P-939-SBA signing the MoU while the Chairman-Mr Micheal Ume looks on

10. CONCLUSION

The launching of P-939-SBA was a symbolic expression of the community's very strong *desire, willingness and commitment* towards securing a piece of land within Portion 939 land area for themselves, their families and generations to come. Indeed this is a fundamental pillar and a requisite in the *PSUP* program. Such preparedness, effort and commitment shall be rewarded and completed by Government, donors and other development partners.

In summing up the launch has strategically contributed towards on-going advocacy for PSUP Program in PNG/Portion 939 PSUP Project in particular, advocacy for legitimacy in terms of Project development mandate and legal interest of the PNG citizens in Portion 939 towards securing allotment titles for their families and the ultimate recognition of the ongoing efforts of advocacy and legitimate interest and capacity in the Project which will fulfil public interest, public good and public wellbeing which is a cause of national interest.



Figure-15:©DSI,2016-Mange Singsing Group from Morobe Province performing during the launching ceremony