



NATIONAL FISHERIES AUTHORITY

“Effectively Managing our Fisheries and Marine Resources
for Sustainable and Equitable Benefits”



Telephone: (675) 3090444
Facsimile: (675) 3202061
Email: nfa@fisheries.gov.pg
Website: www.fisheries.gov.pg

NEWS RELEASE

NFA opens new facility in Kokopo

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The Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources, Hon. Dr. Lino Tom, MP, opened a new fisheries facility in Kokopo on Tuesday 26 October, 2021.

He firstly acknowledged the Japanese Government under their Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation (OFCF) for partnering with NFA to deliver the facility.

The fish processing facility includes a project vehicle, ice making machines and coolers at a central location in Kokopo for locals to sell and buy fresh fish. It will greatly benefit people in terms of accessibility and market convenience.

“We want to empower our coastal people who depend entirely on seas to make a living.

“NFA has been embarking on supporting SME’s in the coastal fisheries provinces with its objective of empowering locals through community base projects such as fish market like this and jetties.

“One of the key result areas in our Fisheries Strategic Plan is to empower our ordinary citizens to go into the commercial space in the coastal fisheries.

“Our goal is to transform PNG from coastal state to a fishing state. That’s the vision in driving our strategic plan forward,” said Minister Tom.

The NFA’s Acting Managing Director, Mr Noan Pakop in addition said that the opening of the fisheries facility signifies a new directive and implementation of the strategic plan.

“Fisheries sector in the country depends largely on tuna through the Vessel Day Scheme (VDS),” said Mr Pakop

He clarified that the revenues from VDS should translate down to community level and such project like the fish markets and jetties in the coastal areas, and aquaculture in the highlands region would benefit more from the tuna revenues.

He added that NFA is beginning to implement its Fisheries Strategic Plan and the future for fisheries in the country looks bright.

“Two of the key result areas of the strategic plan are allowing our people to participate in the fisheries and take ownership, and the other is food security,” said Pakop.

He elaborated that the opening of the facility is a good example of NFA going straight into the implementation of the Fisheries Strategic Plan.