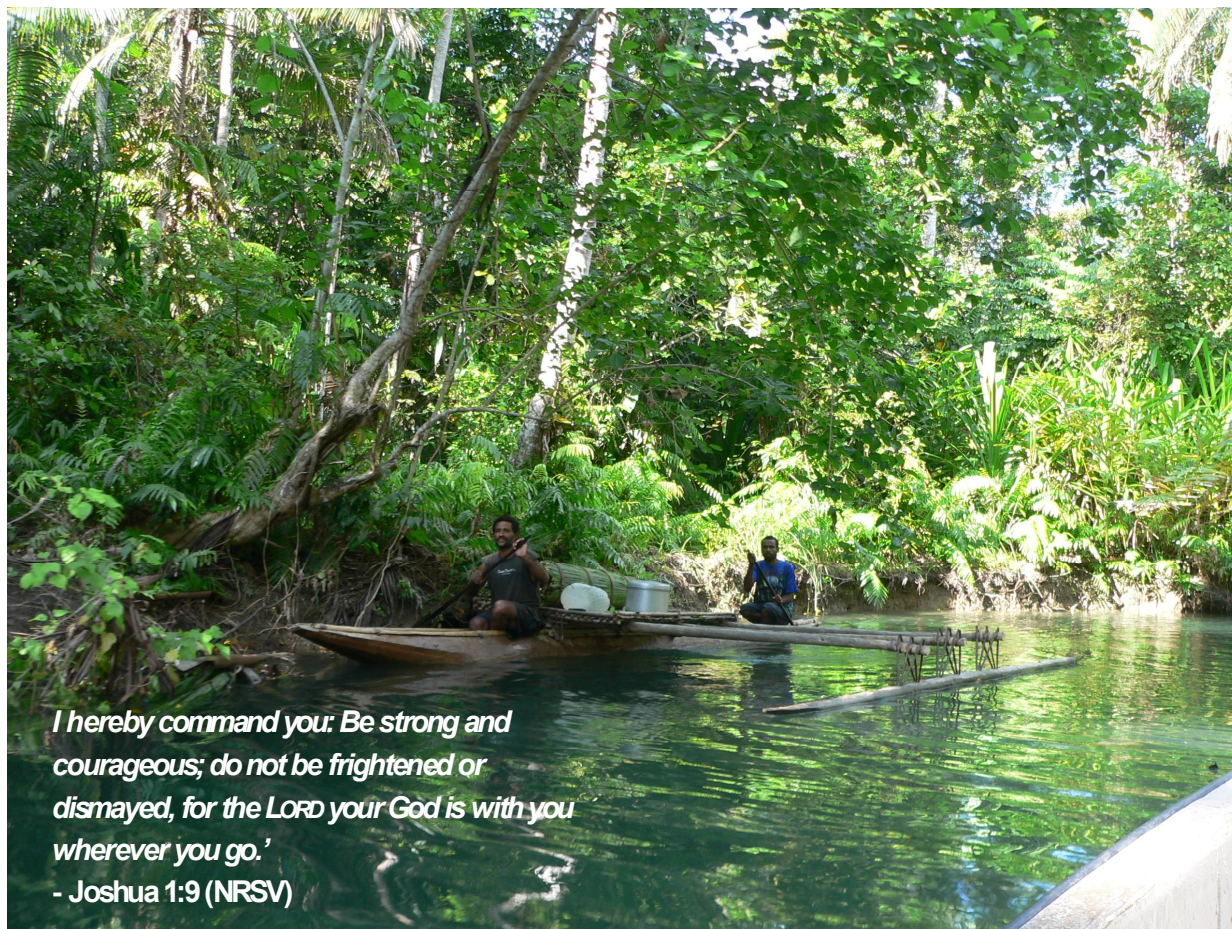


REHABILITATION IN ORO PROVINCE – Papua New Guinea



I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.'
- Joshua 1:9 (NRSV)

Distributing supplies in Oro Province, papua New Guinea ©Nik Kirby/ABM 2008

In total we are trying to raise \$45,000 in 2009

In November 2007, Cyclone Guba hit the Oro Province on the east coast of PNG and destroyed homes, farms, fresh water supplies and lives. Immediately after the disaster, ABM focused on distributing essential food, medical supplies and shelter to isolated communities and villages. For the people affected by the disaster, the road to recovery is long and today they are still in need of assistance to rebuild their lives.

During the cyclone, many villages in the region were flooded and land turned into muddy fields. Reports from Anglican Response to Oro Disaster (AROD) reveal that even after many months, the mud is still prevalent and the local people have problems planting crops for food or to earn a living from. Plants that are growing are often poor in quality and size, and while waiting for a successful crop, villagers are still in need of relief food supplies to sustain them. Many of the households are home to large families, most of whom lost homes and possessions.

The installation of water tanks and wells is a very important part of the project. Due to the floods, streams and river systems were contaminated This led to an outbreak of water-borne diseases such as typhoid and other related illnesses like diarrhoea, stomach aches, sores and rashes. Young

children and the elderly are most affected, and women bear the burden of having to travel long distances to collect clean drinking water.

ABM is committed to rebuilding the communities in the Diocese of Popondetta through our programs which helps them to replant their gardens, rebuild their homes and their lives. Funding for this project will also cover costs for the provision of relief supplies, transportation and logistics, trauma counselling, dinghy fuel and running costs.

- **Project started – 2007**
- **Project completion – 2010**

- **\$200** will plant a garden for a family
- **\$4,000** will fix water supply systems



Prayer Points:

- Pray for the families who are trying to rebuild their lives after Cyclone Guba destroyed their homes and livelihoods.
- Pray for the implementation of more water tanks and wells so that villagers will have access to clean water for drinking and washing.
- Pray for crops to yield good quality produce to feed the many families in need.

Other Resources: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/pp.html>

Kirsty Robertson - Papua New Guinea Program Manager (until 20 February 2009)

It was travelling to Costa Rica as a volunteer with Youth Challenge Australia in 1997 when Kirsty realized that she is happiest when she feels she is making a contribution. It was also on this trip that she met her husband and since then they have lived, worked and travelled to over 30 developing countries.

Kirsty's area of specific interest is anthropology and she has a Masters of Applied Anthropology from Macquarie University. In her work she often observes how cultural preservation can come into conflict with development. She also has a Bachelor of Economics (double major in International Economics) from Sydney University that she completed in 1998.

Kirsty had worked for church and non-church agencies in international development for six years when she joined ABM in January 2007. Her current role at ABM focuses on HIV/AIDs and she is challenged by the way culture, especially power, and gender roles manifest in the transmission of this disease.



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OUR VISION ABM wants to see people everywhere experience the wholeness of life God offers in Jesus Christ, and to this end support our partners as they participate in God's mission.

OUR PROFILE ABM is the national mission agency of the Anglican Church of Australia. We work with Anglican Church Partners to develop and provide for the spiritual, social and material needs of people, both overseas and within Indigenous communities in Australia. We help the Anglican Church and the wider community realise and respond to the call for each of us to be a part of God's hope for the world.