

# CARITAS IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

## Y7-8 LESSON PACK



**Capital:** Port Moresby

Seashells were once the currency in Papua New Guinea

77% of Papua New Guinea is covered in tropical rainforest

**Currency:**  
Kina (PGK)

**Prime Minister:** James Marape

**Population:** 8.78 million

Papua New Guinea has the same monarch as New Zealand – Queen Elizabeth II

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand has continued to respond to a number of natural disasters in Papua New Guinea. A water supply system is being developed in Bitokara (West New Britain). Support has been given to women and children in Wabag promoting their rights and protection through training for parents. Lujan Home for Girls, in Vanimo, has been supported with funding for food provisions. Support has continued for the climate migrants from the Carteret Islands to Bougainville.



## CARITAS IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA CARITAS I PAPUA NEW GUINEA

### HISTORY

We have partnered with Caritas Papua New Guinea since **2002**. Since then various programmes have been implemented covering a range of issues from food insecurity, gender violence and treatment of women to addressing threats from oil palm plantations, climate change, and natural disasters faced by landowners.

The successful Sustainable Agriculture and Community Programme was completed in **2016**. Living conditions for 4,000 rural Papua New Guineans were improved in ten villages in West New Britain, Manus and Bougainville. This was a benefit to areas vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand is continuing to look for ways to support the needs of people in Bougainville and Kimbe in the future.



### CURRENT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Currently, in Bitokara (in West New Britain), Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand is helping to develop a water supply system to serve eight villages, a health clinic, two schools and community facilities.

This water system will help establish a reliable water supply with safe and clean water which will benefit the communities involved as well as the local health clinic with medical needs.

Caritas continues to support the rights and protection of women and children in Papua New Guinea. In Wabag, a programme is being funded which helps teach positive parenting techniques, as well as training various community members in advocacy practices.

Caritas also helps groups like the Lujan Home for Girls in Vanimo, through providing money to purchase food for the girls and young women at the home.

Work is also continuing to support vulnerable parts of Papua New Guinea to recover after natural disasters.

### COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

Women and girls won't have to walk long distances, through rough and steep terrain to collect water.

Children won't be as tired during the day at school as not having to travel to collect water for their families.

Overall hygiene and well-being of families will improve through using fresh water collected in tanks.

This community programme will have a wider improvement beyond the villagers involved.

### QUICK STATS

- ✓ Over **200** plus families will receive new cyclone proof roofs and potable water at their homes.
- ✓ **100** water tanks that can hold **9,000L** will be installed.
- ✓ **2** schools will have potable water and toilets.

## STORIES AND RELEVANT RESOURCES

### HE PŪRĀKAU ME ĒTAHI RAUEMI HĀNGAI



#### Story A: Carteret Islands and Tulele Peisa

In 2017, we introduced you to Ursula Rakova and her people from the Carteret Islands. Ursula is the Director of Tulele Peisa, a Non-Government Organisation (NGO) which means ‘Sailing the waves on their own’. The Carteret Islands are part of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (ARB). These atolls and islands are home to 2,700 people. Due to unusual and severe weather patterns, coastal erosion, flooding, loss of food sources and disputes over land, the local Carteret Islanders have found life very difficult. You may remember viewing the [PowerPoint](#) on her story in 2017.

Ursula is continuing to work with her group Tulele Peisa to help Carteret Islanders adapt to the changing environment. When we met Ursula in 2017, she told us how the Catholic Church had made land available.

Eight families had relocated in 2009 and since then they had set up housing and land to grow food crops, cash crops, trees for food, timber and ecosystem restoration in Tinputz, Bougainville. This community is working hard to continue building a new life on the mainland, giving back and protecting Mother Nature.

Since 2017, Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand has continued to support Ursula and the Carteret Islanders. Emergency funding was given in late 2018 to help fund mini food forest costs and to help with legal fees.



Ursula is continuing to work at finding ways to help benefit her community. She and the Bougainville Cooperative are looking at developing their chocolate industry and locating manufacturers to help produce their chocolate. And in the Carteret Islands themselves, locals are continuing to plant mangroves to help combat the rising sea levels.

The journey of the Carteret Islanders is not over and will continue... despite the rising sea!



## LESSON OUTLINE ANGA AKORANGA

### LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will...

1. Begin to see the effects of climate change on the Carteret Islands
2. Describe how they would feel if they had to leave their home forever



#### SETTING THE SCENE

Locate Papua New Guinea on a map. Brainstorm what the students already know about Papua New Guinea and the effects of climate change in the Pacific. Determine its borders and how many islands that make up the country. Ask students if they remember anything from the Lent 2017 unit focused on climate change in the Pacific? Find the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (ARB) on the map and point out that this is the focus today.



#### VIEW

Watch the series of videos about Tulele Peisa, Ursula Rakova and the people of the Carteret Islands from the previous page. You may choose to share **Story A** too. Ask the students to take note of the struggles that they are facing. Get the students to share their views and the impact that climate change is having on these people.



#### RESEARCH

Complete a Google search of 'Tulele Peisa and Ursula Rakova' and find out what she has been doing since 2017 in her campaign for her people from the Carteret Islands.



#### ACTIVITY

Choose two of the worksheets from the [Papua New Guinea Module](#) introduced in 2017. Use these sheets to consider how you would feel if you were put in the same situation as the Carteret Islanders.

- Home Sweet Home Worksheet
- How I feel Worksheet
- Leader and Role Model Worksheet



#### DISCUSSION

As the students complete the worksheets, discuss how it makes them feel reflecting on the challenges faced by Ursula and her people. Is it right that climate change is forcing them to leave their home and their place, their history, their home? What hope is Tulele Peisa and Ursula bringing to the Carteret Islanders?



#### VIEW

Find a range of images using a Google search on climate change damage. Ask students to identify any common elements and effects that are present in the images.



#### ACTIVITY

Complete **Worksheet 21** to write a diary entry or a poem about leaving your home due to climate change or another environmental issue. Consider the emotions that you and your family may have, the challenges and issues you would have to overcome. You may wish to share this with the Caritas education team via email [education@caritas.org.nz](mailto:education@caritas.org.nz)



#### REFLECTION

Take a moment of stillness and reflect on the challenges being faced daily by the people in the Carteret Islands. Think of one way that you can help the Carteret Island people.



#### ACTION

Pick a task from the *Laudato Si'* column in the **Action Plan** and complete.



#### KARAKIA

Pray regularly for the climate migrants in the Carteret Islands that their whole population is relocated quickly to mainland Bougainville. On small strips of paper, write a single line prayer asking for others to live more responsible as stewards to protect the gift of creation that God has given us.

## WORKSHEET 21 WHĀRANGI MAHI 21

Write a diary entry about leaving your home due to climate change or another environmental issue. Consider the emotions that you and your family may have, the challenges and issues you would have to overcome. You may wish to share this with the Caritas education team via email [education@caritas.org.nz](mailto:education@caritas.org.nz)



A series of horizontal lines for writing a diary entry, contained within a rounded rectangular frame.