



Undertaking Research in Papua New Guinea

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General Information

Foreigners wishing to carry out research in Papua New Guinea must obtain a Special Exemption: Researcher/Academic Visa. The current practice of the Papua New Guinean Government is, in many instances, to issue research visas for an initial period of **two months**. Researchers who wish to carry out research and field work for a longer period and are granted only an initial two months must apply for an extension of their research visa after they arrive in Papua New Guinea. Applications for research visas, like all visa applications, should be submitted to the nearest PNG embassy, high commission, or consulate. Where there is no overseas PNG mission, initial research visas may be approved and issued through an Australian Embassy. However, a research visa will not be issued until the National Research Institute (NRI) has advised and recommended to the Papua New Guinea Immigration and Citizenship Service in Port Moresby that the research proposal is acceptable to, and has been acknowledged by, the relevant authorities in Papua New Guinea. Initial Researcher/Academic visas will not be issued in-country.

The National Research Institute is the only overall research visa issuing authority in Papua New Guinea. The National Research Institute will liaise with other national institutions, and technical review committees, where necessary, to effect project approval and appropriate research affiliation before recommending the issuance of a research visa. The exception is medical research visa applications which are vetted by the PNG Medical Research Advisory Council. All foreign researchers should direct their applications for research visas to:

**The Research Visa Liaison Officer,
The National Research Institute,
P.O. Box 5854, Boroko, NCD. 111.
PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

**Fax: (675) 326 0213; Phone: (675) 326 0300/0061;
Email: jrobins@nri.org.pg or gkaipu@nri.org.pg**

PNG Overseas Missions

(Details correct as of July 2011)

The following directory provides details of those Papua New Guinean overseas missions which can accept applications for, and issue research, film-making, and journalist visas. All approvals of applications and subsequent processing are carried out by the Papua New Guinea Immigration and Citizenship Service (PNGICS) in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. The transmission of approved research visas is effected by the PNGICS.

Australia	
<p>Canberra</p> <p>H.E. Mr. Charles Lepani, OBE High Commissioner PNG High Commission 39-41 Forster Crescent Yarralumla ACT 2600 P. O. Box E432 PARKES, A.C.T. 2600</p> <p>Tel: 00-612-62 733 322 Fax: 00-612-62 733 732 Email: kunducbr@hotmail.net.au</p>	<p>Brisbane</p> <p>Mr. Paul Nerau Consul-General PNG Consulate Level 11, Suite 8, 320 Adelaide Street P. O. Box 220 BRISBANE QLD 4001</p> <p>Tel: 00-617 3221 7915 Fax: 00-617 3229 6084 Email: pngcg@kundubne.org</p>
<p>Sydney</p> <p>Mr. Mataio Rabura Consul-General PNG Consulate General Level 2, 222 Clarence Street Sydney. NSW. 2000 P.O Box 12273 Sydney South</p> <p>Tel: 00-612-9283 9020/2070 Fax: 00-612-9283 5424 Email: pngcg@kundusyd.org</p>	<p>Fiji</p> <p>H.E. Mr. Peter Eafeare High Commissioner PNG High Commission Credit House (3rd Floor) P. O. Box 2447 SUVA Fiji</p> <p>Tel: 00-6793 304 244 Fax: 00-6793 300 178 Email: kundufj@connect.com.fj</p>
<p>Belgium</p> <p>H.E. Mr. Peter Maginde Ambassador Papua New Guinea Embassy Avenue De Tervuren 430 Floor) Woluwe St. Pierre 1150 BRUSSELS Belgium</p> <p>Tel: 00-322 779 0826/0769/0609 Fax: 00-322 772 7088 Email: kundu.brussels@skynet.be</p>	<p>United Nations</p> <p>H.E. Mr. Robert Aisi Ambassador/Permanent Representative PNG Embassy Permanent Mission of PNG to the UN 201 42nd Street, Suite 405 NEW YORK 10017</p> <p>Tel: 00-1-212-557-5001 Fax: 00-1-212-557-5009 Email: png-@un.int</p>

Republic of Indonesia	
Jakarta H.E. Peter Ilau Ambassador-designate PNG Embassy Panin Bank Centre (6 th Floor) Jalan Jendral Sudirman 1 Jakarta 1-270 Indonesia Tel: 00-6221-725 1218/1225/1742 Fax: 00-6221-720-1012 Email: kdujk@cbn.net.id	Jayapura Mr. Simon Namis A/Consul-General PNG Consulate General Jalan Argapura Raya P.O. Box 1947 Jayapura 99116 Indonesia Tel: 05-629674 31250 Fax: 05-629675 31898 Email: kundujj@jayapura.wasantara.net.id
Japan H.E. Mr. Gabriel Dusava Ambassador Papua New Guinea Embassy Mita Kokusai Building 3F 313 4-28 Mita 1-Chome Minato-Ku TOKYO, Japan Tel: 00-813 3710 7001 Fax: 00-813 3710 7040 Email: png.tokyo@png.or.jp	Republic of Korea H.E. Mr. Bill Veri Ambassador Embassy of Papua New Guinea We've Pavilion Building 58 Doosan-Dong Jougno-gu SEOUL 110-858 Republic of Korea Tel: 00-822 2198 5771 Fax: 00-822 2198 5779 Email: ambassador@kunduseoul.com
Malaysia H.E. Mr. Veali Vagi High Commissioner PNG High Commission No. 11 Jalan Linkungan Uthant Ampang, 55000 Kuala Lumpur Malaysia Tel: 00-603 4257 5405/9260 Fax: 00-603 4257 6203 Email: kundukl@streamyx.com	New Zealand H.E. Mr. Bill Dihm High Commissioner PNG High Commission 279 Willis Street P. O. Box 197 Thordon Wellington New Zealand Tel: 00-644 8050 444 Fax: 00-644 385 2477 Email: pngnz@globe.net.nz
People's Republic of China H.E. Mr. Christopher Mero Ambassador Papua New Guinea Embassy 2-11-2/F Tayuan Diplomatic Building Sanlitun BEIJING 100600 People's Republic of China Tel: 00-8610 6532 1243/709	Republic of Philippines H.E. Mr. Christian Vihuri Ambassador Papua New Guinea Embassy 3rd Floor, Corinthian Plaza Building, Paseo de Roxas Corner, Gamboa Street, Makati City, MANILA Philippines Tel: 00-632 811 3465/3466

Fax: 00-8610 6532 5483 Email: kundubj@95777.com	Fax: 00 632 811 3468 Email: kundumn@pngembmnl.com.ph
Solomon Islands	United Kingdom
H.E. Mr. Brian Yombon-Copio High Commissioner P. O. Box 1109 HONIARA Solomon Islands Tel: 05-677 205 61 Fax: 05-677 205 62 Email: kunduhon@solomons.com.sb	H.E. Ms. Winnie Kiap High Commissioner PNG High Commission 14 Waterloo Place LONDON SW1R 4AR United Kingdom Tel: 05-4420 7930 0922 6 Fax: 05-4420 7930 0828 Email: kunduldnhc@btconnect.com (official email) Kunduldn3@btconnect.com. (PA's email address)
United States of America	India
H.E. Mr. Evan Pake Ambassador Papua New Guinea Embassy 1779 Massachusetts Suite 805 WASHINGTON D.C. 20036 United States of America Tel: 00-1-202 745 3680 Fax: 00-1-202 745 3679 Email: info@pngembassy.org visaofficer@pngembassy.org www.pngembassy.org	H.E. Mr. Tarcisus Eri High Commissioner PNG High Commission The Ashok 50-B Chamokpuri NEW DELHI 110021 India Tel: 91-11-2614 5909/5911 Fax: 91-11-4601 2812 Email: kundund@yahoo.com

Research Proposals

Research proposals that are submitted to the National Research Institute should include:

- A detailed project proposal in non-technical language, if possible, and a bibliography of literature concerning the topic;
- details of home academic institution, sponsorship, and funding;
- details of research methodology, province(s) in PNG where research will be carried out, and travel and research schedules;
- a brief review of literature that is relevant to the research topic;
- an assessment of the relevant and ethical implications of the proposed research for Papua New Guinea, and for any community which is the object of study;
- an up-to-date curriculum vitae for each researcher;
- an indication of the PNG High Commission, Embassy, Consulate or Australian Diplomatic Mission through which the visa (s) will be issued;
- two references from experts in the relevant discipline and/or host institution;
- a signed copy of the 'Conditions and Guidelines for Researchers in Papua New Guinea' (see Download Form);

- for a research period in excess of three (3) months, for first-time researchers in PNG, a police clearance, an AIDS/HIV test, a medical examination record, and a radiological report are required; and
- for a period of less than three months, these clearances and reports are not required.

Researchers will be advised of receipt of their proposals, and will subsequently be advised when a recommendation for visa issuance is made to the Papua New Guinea Immigration and Citizenship Service, in Port Moresby. Subsequent advice from the PNGICS that the visa(s) has been transmitted to the appropriate overseas high commission, embassy, consulate or an Australian Diplomatic Mission will be forwarded to the researchers.

Institutional Affiliation

Research proposals are vetted by the National Research Institute in order to determine which national research institution should be most appropriate and responsible for affiliating the researcher or research team. The National Research Institute, through one of its Research Pillars — Wealth Creation, People, or Institutional Strengthening — will normally affiliate those researchers whose disciplines are well represented in the Institute. Alternatively, a copy of the research proposal, along with a request for approval of the affiliation, will be sent to another recognized research institution in Papua New Guinea. Where a researcher already has affiliation with an institution in Papua New Guinea, written confirmation should be provided. The following institutions are recognized as appropriate bodies for research affiliation in the areas listed:

Agriculture	Dept. of Agriculture, PNG University of Technology, FMB Lae (Tel: 675) 4734451; Fax: (675) 4734477 Email: enquiries@ag.unitech.ac.pg or The National Agricultural Research Institute, P.O. Box 4415, Lae (Tel: (675) 475144; Fax: (675) 4751450; Email: narihq@nari.org.pg)
Appropriate Technology	Appropriate Technology and Community Development Institute, University of Technology, FMB Lae. (www.unitech.ac.pg)
Archaeology and Material Culture	PNG National Museum and Art Gallery, P.O Box 5560, Boroko, NCD. (Tel: (675) 3235890; Fax: (675) 3251779; Email: pngmuseum@global.net.pg)
Biological Science and Natural Science	School of Natural and Physical Science, P.O. Box 320, University of Papua New Guinea, NCD; (Tel: (675) 3267387; Fax: (675) 3260369; Environmental Science and Geography, UPNG (Tel: (675) 3267216 or PNG National Museum and Art Gallery, Natural History Division, P.O. Box 5560, Boroko, NCD. Tel: (675) 3230602; Fax: (675) 3251779
Earth Sciences	Dept. of Geology [or] Geography, Box 320, University, NCD, (Tel: (675) 3267387; Fax: (675) 3260369), or Geological Survey of Papua New Guinea Dept. of Mineral Policy and Geohazards Management, PMB Port Moresby (Tel: (675) 3215888; Fax: (675) 3215893)
Forestry	PNG Forest Research Institute, P.O. Box 314, Lae (Tel: (675) 4724188; Fax: (675) 4724357); or Dept. of Forestry, University of Technology, PMB Lae (Tel: (675) 4734651; Fax: (675) 4734669; Email: enquiries@fo.unitech.ac.pg)

History and Anthropology Linguistics	Dept. of History, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, P.O Box 320, University of Papua New Guinea, NCD (Tel: (675) 3267626; Fax:(675) 3267187) Dept. of Language and Literature, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, P.O. Box 320, University of Papua New Guinea, NCD (Tel: (675) 3267626; Fax: (675) 3267187)
Marine Scientific Research	Motupore Island Research Centre, P.O. Box 320, UPNG (Tel: (675) 3252774; Fax: (675) 3254645)
Medicine and Human Biology	Institute of Medical Research, P.O. Box 60, Goroka, EHP. (Tel: (675) 7322800; Fax: (675) 7321998; Email: general@pngimr.org.pg); or UPNG Dept of Community Medicine, School of Medicine and Health Services P.O. Box 5623, Boroko, NCD. (Tel: (675) 3112626; Fax: (675) 3250809)
Music	Institute of PNG Studies, National Cultural Commission, P.O Box 1432, Boroko, NCD. (Tel: (675) 3254644; Fax: (675) 3250531)
Documentary Film	National Film Institute, P.O Box 795, Goroka, EHP. (Tel: (675) 7322897; Fax: (675) 7322938)

Some researchers may wish to be affiliated with other national government departments or non-government organizations with a direct interest in the proposed research. However, this normally requires some prior arrangement with the agency concerned.

It should be noted that proposals for medical research are vetted by the PNG Medical Research Advisory Council, rather than the National Research Institute, and the visa approval process is then handled by the Institute of Medical Research, P.O. Box 60, GOROKA, EHP, Papua New Guinea.

Also, film-making proposals are vetted by the National Film Institute. The visa approval process is handled by the National Film Institute, P.O. Box 795, Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province, Papua New Guinea.

(Tel: (675) 732 2897; Fax: (675) 732 2938; email: visas.nfi@global.net.pg)

Affiliating institutions normally require, as minimum conditions of affiliation, that the researcher(s) should introduce themselves on arrival in PNG, to the National Research Institute, and should present a written report and/or seminar at the institute before their departure.

Affiliating institutions have no official obligation to assist researchers with accommodation, transportation, telephone calls, mailing costs, or other services.

Provincial Approval

As well as institutional affiliation, researchers intending to conduct field work outside the National Capital District must also obtain the approval of the relevant provincial governments. The National Research Institute will negotiate this approval, and will forward a copy of the proposal, along with a request for provincial approval, to the officer responsible for research in the relevant provincial administration. Researchers should bear in mind that provincial authorities may take some time to respond to these requests, and should normally allow at least two months for this process to be completed. It may be necessary to ask NRI's Research Visa Liaison Section to make follow-up enquiries on a regular basis, as provincial approval is essential before research visas will be approved and a project can commence.

Researchers who plan long periods of field work in Papua New Guinea may take the opportunity of first visiting the country on a reconnoitre visit, in order to facilitate the institutional affiliation process with the National Research Institute. Those who do not have this opportunity are advised to communicate directly with the National Research Institute and to refrain from communicating with affiliating institutions or provincial governments in order to reduce the risk of confusion.

It should be noted that many provinces have definite research policies and guidelines, and some are inclined to withhold approval of a foreign research application which is perceived as being inconsistent with these policies. Some provinces also charge fees, over and above visa charges, and NRI's research facilitation and management fees.

Provincial governments also normally require, as a condition of their approval, that the researcher(s) should introduce themselves on arrival in the province, and should present a written report and/or seminar to relevant provincial agencies before their departure.

Technical Approval

Some categories of research projects may require technical approval from established academic committees before recommendation for visa issuance is conveyed by NRI to the Papua New Guinea Immigration and Citizenship Service, and then subsequently to the relevant High Commission, Embassy, Consulate, or Australian Diplomatic Mission.

The **Marine Scientific Research (MSR) Committee** has the technical role of reviewing and assessing marine scientific projects such as marine geological expeditions, as well as living and bio-technical marine resource research programs and cruises. This process is to ensure conformity with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) which is in force in Papua New Guinea, and the Conditions and Guidelines for conducting Marine Scientific Research in Papua New Guinean waters.

The **Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC)** is responsible for the technical review and assessment of biological projects, through the PNG Institute of Biodiversity (PINBIO) network, for commercial projects, and the Species Working Management Group for general academic biological research. This process is to ensure conformity with the Fauna (Protection and Control) Act, the Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations, and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) of wild fauna and flora. DEC is responsible for the control and management of this legislation and provides the appropriate permits, as required. A duplicate set of voucher specimens must be deposited at the University of Papua New Guinea or the Natural History section of the PNG National Museum and Art Gallery.

The **PNG Forest Research Institute** is also responsible for the approval of flora specimens for export. Duplicate collections are required to be deposited at the PNG Forest Research Institute/National Herbarium.

Journalist Visa Approvals require sanctioning by the Prime Minister's Media Unit, together with the general logistical requirements for the issuance of research visas. Such visas are valid only for 60 days and require the holder to possess a return or ongoing ticket.

NRI will advise researchers when these technical reviews are required, and will coordinate any dialogue from the MSR Committee, PINBIO, and DEC in the administrative process with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Immigration.

Special Exemption: Researcher/Academic Visa Fees

The Papua New Guinean High Commission, Embassy, or Consulate which issues a multiple entry, Special Exemption: Researcher/Academic visa will levy a visa charge for doing so. The amount of this fee varies from time to time, and even between High Commissions, Embassies, and Consulates. The prescribed fee is K100 (approximately equivalent to US\$41 or AUD\$39).

Project Research Facilitation and Management Fees

Researchers are required to pay a separate Project Research Facilitation and Management Fee to the National Research Institute for processing and managing the project and visa approvals:

- US\$120 (or equivalent) for a researcher who spends two months or less in the country;
- US\$180 (or equivalent) for a researcher who spends more than two months in the country; or
- US\$500 (or equivalent) for a research team of four or more who carry out any period of research.

Extension of Researcher/Academic Visas

The extension of current Special Exemption: Researcher/Academic Visas can be effected either in country or out-of-country, where only 60 days per arrival has been granted, or where a research project is ongoing. Each application should be accompanied by an application to Extend Entry Permit Form, a passport (in-country) or a copy of a passport ID page and current visa (out-of-country), and a brief statement concerning the research that is to be carried out during the requested extension period.

For in-country research visa extension, a Migration Service Fee (MSF) of K100 is payable to the Department of Finance. For out-of-country research visa extensions, an MSF of K150 is payable to the Department of Finance (if paid in-country), and covers the visa extension fee and transmission costs to the nominated High Commission, Embassy, or Consulate for collection.

Where such payments are made at the collection post, the prescribed fee is the equivalent of K150 which may vary between collection posts.

All previous fees due and payable to the National Research Institute must be paid before an extension request will be processed.

A management fee of US\$20 (or equivalent) is due and payable to the National Research Institute for facilitating each research visa extension.

New Research Projects or Programs

Where a researcher or a research team embarks on a new research project or program, a new Project Research Facilitation and Management Fee is due and payable to the National Research Institute under the same scale of fees for previous research projects.

Payment of Fees

Fees payable to the National Research Institute must be paid prior to the commencement of research in Papua New Guinea. **If it is not possible to pay the appropriate amount in PNG kina, payment of the equivalent amount in US dollars or Australian dollars is acceptable. Payment of such fees, on arrival will avoid costly bank charges for all parties. The Institute will not authorize an extension of any research visa beyond the initial two-month period until these fees have been paid.**

Researchers who make multiple visits to Papua New Guinea in connection with a specific research project will not be required to pay more than one Project Research Facilitation and Management Fee to the National Research Institute for that project. However, where a researcher embarks on a new or separate research project, or on a project with a research team, and wishes to enter the country on a different research assignment, they will be required to pay a new Project Research Facilitation and Management Fee, as per the given schedule. The Institute reserves the right to decide what constitutes a 'single project'.

Some provincial governments also levy their own provincial research fees on foreign researchers, and have provincial research guidelines. These fees are ad hoc in nature, and there is no consistency in the level of charges imposed. NRI's Research Visa Liaison Section can provide up to-date information on the fees (if any) that are charged by most provincial governments. Researchers are advised to make any payment of such fees to the Provincial Administration on arrival in the relevant province. **They should not include this payment with the payment of the Research Project Facilitation and Management Fees to the National Research Institute.** Researchers should be aware that some provincial and local authorities may also request some form of compensation for approving a project.

Under no circumstances should Project Research Facilitation and Management Fees be paid to any other affiliating institution, except for the Institute of Medical Research for medical and human biology research projects and for film-making fees through the National Film Institute. Only the National Research Institute has the authority to levy such fees. The National Research Institute will not recognize other such payments as a substitute for its own facilitation and management fees.

Research Findings

Two copies of all publications containing the results of research conducted using visas authorized by the National Research Institute and approved by the Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Immigration should be sent to the Institute, where they will be recorded as 'Publications Received'. They will be deposited in the Institute's research library, and a copy forwarded to the New Guinea Collection in the Michael Somare Library at the University of PNG. Researchers who are affiliated to institutions other than the National Research Institute should forward additional copies to those institutions as a condition of their affiliation. Provincial governments should also be sent copies of publications arising from research conducted in their respective provinces.

Two copies of CD-ROMs, films, and/or tapes made by researchers affiliated to the National Research Institute should also be forwarded direct to NRI. The National Research Institute will retain a copy of such material, and make arrangements to forward the second copy of the material to the appropriate holding institutions. Should any work be deposited with another institution, and not initially with NRI, evidence of such a deposit should be sent to NRI.

Researchers who fail to send copies of their publications, tapes, or films to the National Research Institute will have breached one of the agreed conditions of the research visa approval process. The Institute will not authorize the issue of any further visas to researchers who breach any of the conditions of the signed research agreement.

Cultural Property

The National Cultural Property (Preservation) Ordinance (amended 1967) of Papua New Guinea is designed to preserve the cultural heritage of the country for future generations. Physical locations which are protected by the Ordinance include:

- caves or other places in which ancient remains — human or other — may be found;
- carvings, paintings, or other representations on rocks or in caves;

- deposits of ancient pottery or historical remains; and
- places used in former times as ceremonial or burial grounds.

A person shall not disturb or otherwise interfere with a place or an object referred to in this list. There are severe penalties for violation of this section of the Ordinance. Any person who is planning to investigate or work on a site of this nature should obtain written permission from the Trustees of the PNG National Museum and Art Gallery prior to the initiation of their activities. A written request outlining the proposed project should be sent to the Museum Director, P.O. Box 5560, Boroko NCD 111, Papua New Guinea to obtain affiliation (Tel: 675) 325 2458/5364; Fax: (675) 325 1779).

Permits that allow the export of items which are protected by the Ordinance can only be issued by the PNG National Museum and Art Gallery. Letters of request for such permits should be addressed to the Museum Director, indicating the nature of the material for which an export permit is sought. In the case of items being exported on a temporary basis, the request should additionally indicate the name and address of the Institution, as well as the person who will be responsible for the return of the material to Papua New Guinea, and the date by which the material will be returned.

Biological Specimens

Researchers wishing to export dead animals, animal parts, plant materials, or marine biological specimens also need to obtain official permits for this purpose. Requests for such permits should be sent to the Director, Resource Inventory Branch, Department of Environment and Conservation, Box 6601, Boroko, NCD, 111, Papua New Guinea (Tel: (675) 325 0195; Fax: (675) 325 0182). A duplicate set of specimens should be deposited with the University of Papua New Guinea, Biology Department, and/or the National History Section of the PNG National Museum and Art Gallery.

Plant Specimens

Researchers who wish to export any species of flora and other plant species need to obtain official permission from the Papua New Guinea Forest Research Institute, P.O. Box 314, Lae, Morobe Province (Tel: (675) 472 4188; Fax: (675) 4724357). Specimens to be exported should be duplicated and deposited with the PNG Forest Research Institute.

Geological Specimens

Research organizations that wish to export geological samples must obtain permission for the Geological Survey of PNG and provide a detailed list of mineralized samples to be exported. While acknowledging that PNG may not have adequate facilities to maintain a duplicate set of samples, the samples exported remain the property of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea. An MSR organization maybe granted a long-term loan of samples, the samples must be kept for the future benefit of MSR in PNG, and access by PNG scientists granted, as and when required.

Intellectual Property Rights

Researchers shall include with their research proposal a full disclosure of all field and research work to be carried out on samples and specimens of flora, fauna and geological matter collected, including marine biota, the objectives of such work, and any intention, needs, or potential requirements to patent, or otherwise formally or generally establish exclusivity of usage of any material, discoveries, or by-products derived therefrom. Copies of Memoranda of Understanding or Agreement through PINBIO, and with other Papua New Guinean organizations, in respect of such activities and any patent rights or gains, shall be included as part of the application. It is emphasized that ignorance of Papua New Guinean policies, laws, and legislation is no legal plea.