

ASIA-PACIFIC SOCIAL PROTECTION WEEK 2026

Empowered Lives, Resilient Futures

6–8 October • ADB Headquarters, Manila



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CHILD NUTRITION & SOCIAL PROTECTION (CNSP)

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Department for Community Development & Religion

PAPUA NEW GUINEA



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Outline

- ❖ Overview of PNG's nutrition context
- ❖ Child Nutrition and Social Protection Project: Design and Implementation Arrangements
- ❖ Evidence and results
- ❖ Key lessons and next steps





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Overview of PNG's nutrition context



~1 in 2

**Children under 5
are stunted**

49.5% — UNICEF/WHO/World
Bank Joint Child Malnutrition
Estimates (2022)



14.1%

**Children under 5
affected by wasting**

14.1% — UNICEF/WHO/World
Bank Joint Child Malnutrition
Estimates (2022)



6.4%

**Children under 5
experiencing
severe wasting**

6.4% — PNG national survey
data used in international
estimates (2010)



13.7%

**Children under 5
are overweight**

13.7% — UNICEF/WHO/World
Bank Joint Child Malnutrition
Estimates (2022)



32.2%

**Children 6–23 months
meeting minimum
dietary diversity**

32.2% — UNICEF Infant and
Young Child Feeding database /
PNG survey data (2017)



**PNG faces a persistent and complex nutrition challenge —
combining chronic undernutrition, acute malnutrition,
poor dietary diversity and an emerging burden of overweight.**

Source: Global Nutrition Report — Papua New Guinea Country Nutrition Profile; underlying data from UNICEF, WHO and World Bank Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates.



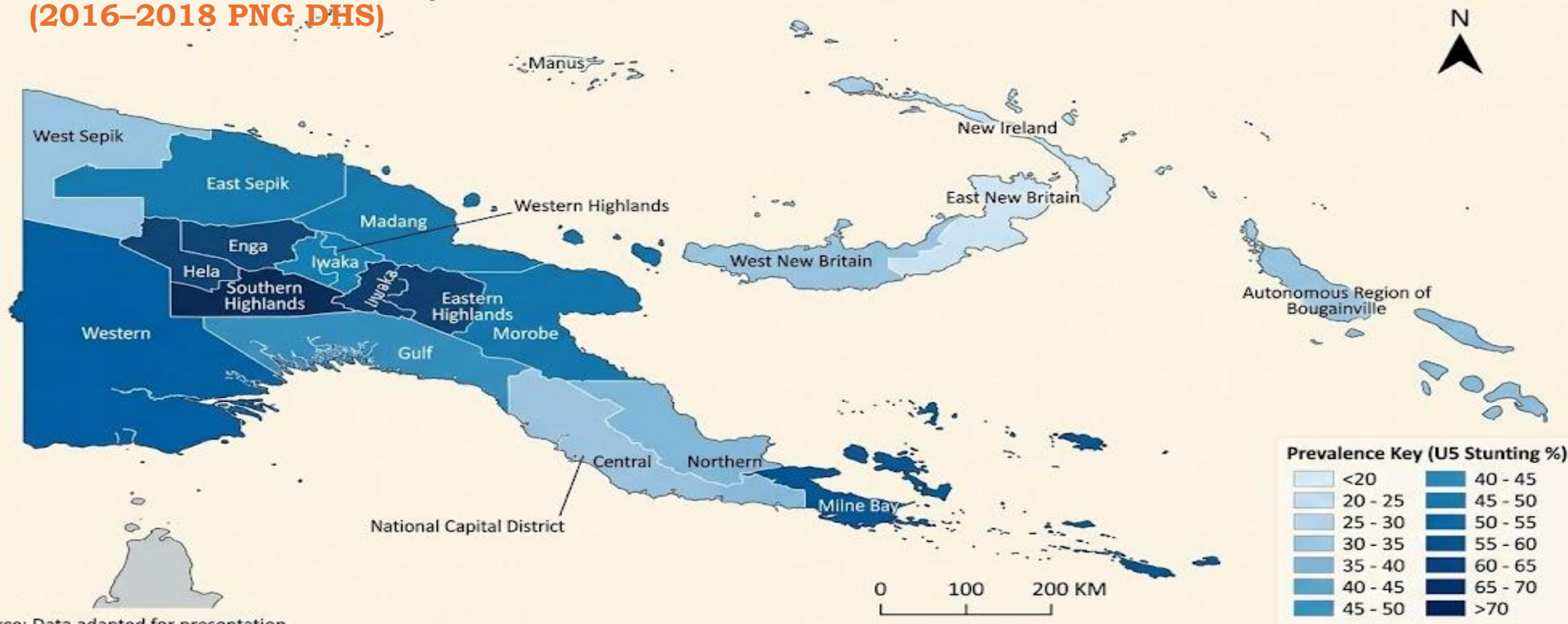
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Provincial Prevalence of Under-Five (U5) Stunting in Papua New Guinea

(2016–2018 PNG DHS)





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Child Nutrition and Social Protection Project: Design and Implementation Arrangements

Child Nutrition and Social Protection (CNSP) Project



A National Poverty Reduction Initiative

Focused on addressing
child malnutrition
and vulnerability

KEY OBJECTIVE:
Reducing Malnutrition and Vulnerability



IMPACT:
Community Resilience

Improve Nutritional Status and Well-being



Pregnant Women



Children <5
(Emphasis on first 1,000 days)

First 1,000 Days

Conception

age 2

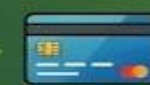
TARGET: Moms & U5 Children

GOAL: Long-term Development

Government of PNG Cash Transfer Program (CTP)



Program
Implementation



Strengthening Household
Purchasing Power



Positive Nutrition
Behaviors

MECHANISM: CTP

GOAL: Food Security & Behavior Change



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CNSP Project

CNSP PROJECT



WORLD BANK

WORLD BANK SUPPORT



US\$80 Million Financing
IDA Credit/Loan
(International Development
Association)



Focused on National
Systems
Strengthening



FAST TRACK INITIATIVE (FTI) - Papua New Guinea



A Global Partnership for
CNSP Acceleration



Focused on Early Child
Development & Primary Education



Providing Targeted Financing
& Policy Support



**TOTAL
PROJECT
COST
US\$90
Million
+ FTI**

FINANCING PART & ACCELERATION



DFAT

DFAT - Australian Aid

**Australian
Aid**



AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT SUPPORT



US\$10 Million Contribution



Grant Funding



Focused on Social
Protection & Community
Capacity



PROJECT COMPONENTS

Component 1: Implementing PNG CARES

- Promotes critical nutrition and early childhood development behaviors among first 1,000-day households.
- Focuses on increased use of essential health services, early stimulation, and positive parenting practices.
- Supports convergence and coordination of multi-sectoral, nutrition-relevant services at the community level.



Implementing Agency:
Department for Health

Component 2: Nutrition-Sensitive Child Grant Program

- Delivers the Child Nutrition Grant Program (CNGP) to address food insecurity among first 1,000-day households.
- Provides incentives to encourage positive nutrition behavior change.
- Supports the Department for Community Development and Religion (DfCDR) to strengthen systems and institutional structures.
- Builds capacity at both national and sub-national levels for effective implementation of the CNGP.



Implementing Agency: Department
for Community Development

Component 3: Advocacy, Coordination, and Project Management

- Supports advocacy for the Fast Track Initiative (FTI) agenda.
- Strengthens oversight and coordination of nutrition-related interventions.
- Ensures effective overall project management to enable coherent, timely, and accountable implementation of the CNSP Project.



Implementing Agency: Department
for Justice & Attorney General



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CNSP Project Results Chain

INPUTS

CORE RESOURCES

-  Financing & Grants
-  Staffing & Capacity Building
-  Technical Assistance & Support
-  Materials & Supplies

ACTIVITIES

C1. Community Stunting Reduction (PNG CARES)

-  Awareness Campaigns
-  Behavioral Counselling via VHVs
-  Multisectoral Action Plans (WASH, etc.)
-  Health System Strengthening

C2. Child Grant Program

-  Grant Delivery (1,000-Day Households)
-  Operational Delivery Systems (MIS, Payments)
-  Institutional Capacity Building

C3. Advocacy, Coordination & Management

-  Stakeholder Advocacy (FTI Agenda)
-  M&E & Coordination (System Monitoring)

OUTPUTS

-  Broad Public Reach of Campaigns
-  Community Monitoring (Scorecards)
-  Workforce Training (Health Workers/Volunteers)

-  Regular & Timely Grant Payments
-  Functional Operational Systems

-  Annual National Nutrition Summits
-  System Data for Intelligence (M&E)

OUTCOMES

-  Increased Adoption of Health/Nutrition Services
-  Behavior Change (Feeding, Hygiene, Parenting)
-  Multisectoral Action Alignment

-  Food Security (Household Resource Gap, Diversity)
-  Institutional Efficiency (DfCDR & Subnational)

-  District & Provincial Commitment
-  Improved Tracking of Nutrition Drivers

PDO & IMPACT

Project Development Objective (PDO)

Improved utilization of priority nutrition interventions and enhanced purchasing power for 1,000-day households.

Contribution to overall goals of stunting reduction, human capital accumulation, and poverty reduction.

IMPACT



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IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES & PROJECT PARTNERS

PROJECT IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

The CNSP Project is implemented through the following government agencies, with responsibility for policy leadership, coordination, and service delivery:



- National Department of Health



- Department for Community Development and Religion



- Department of Justice and Attorney-General

PROJECT IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

SERVICE DELIVERY & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PARTNERS



- UNICEF
- World Vision
- Save the Children
- CHAI
- Catholic Church Services
- CHAI



FINANCIAL INCLUSION & PAYMENT PROVIDERS



- MiBank
- Digicel
- BSP



Coordination by **CEFI**

FINANCIAL LITERACY TRAINING & MIS SUPPORT



- Gore Business Consulting
- Catalpa



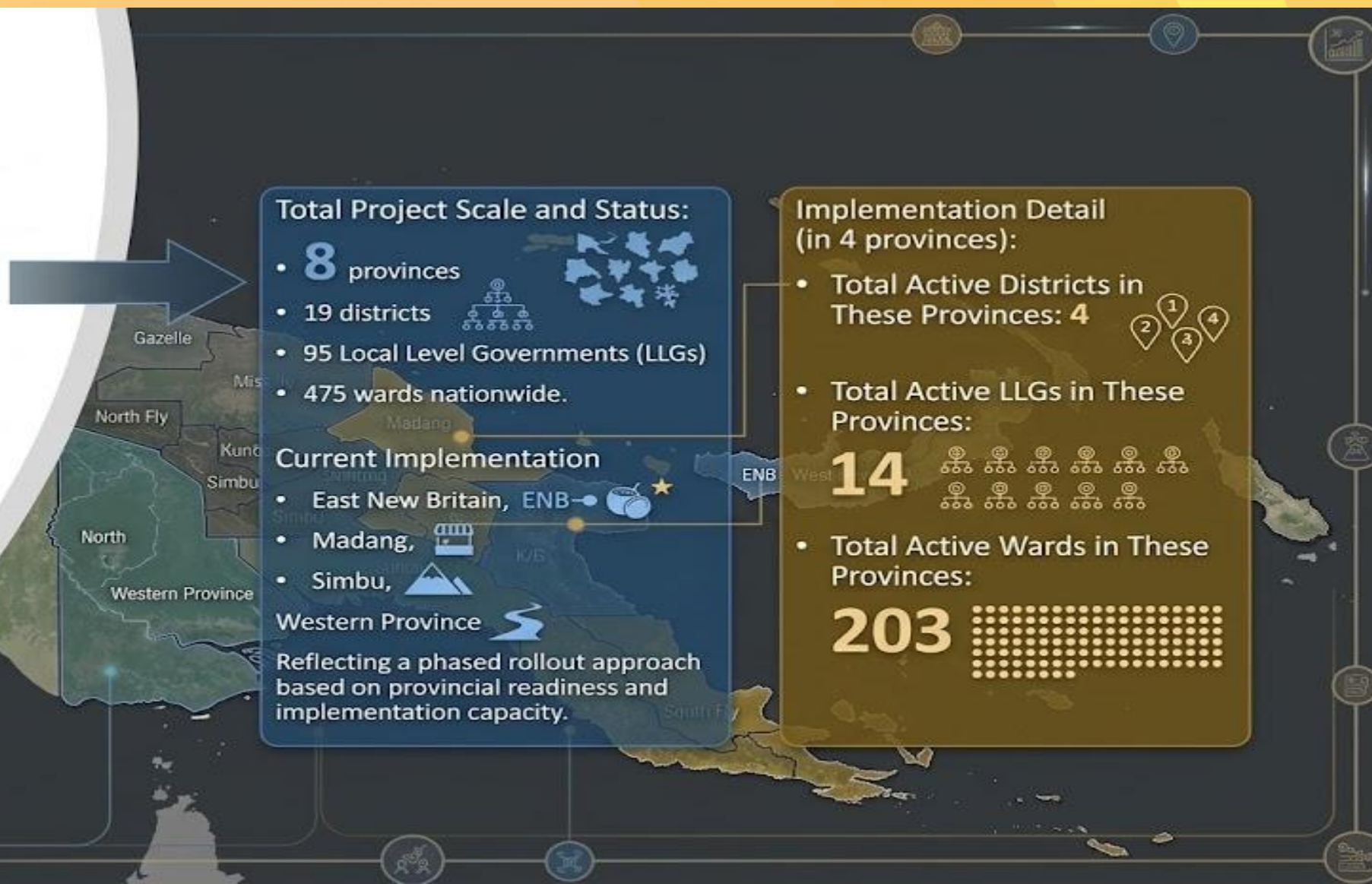


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Geographical coverage of CNSP project





Target beneficiaries and grant payment

The CNSP Project targets up to 180,000 households, focusing on pregnant women and children from birth to five years of age, with particular emphasis on the first 1,000 days (0–2 years).

Eligible households receive a Child Nutrition Grant of K60 per month, amounting to K720 per household per year, to support improved nutrition and child well-being outcomes.

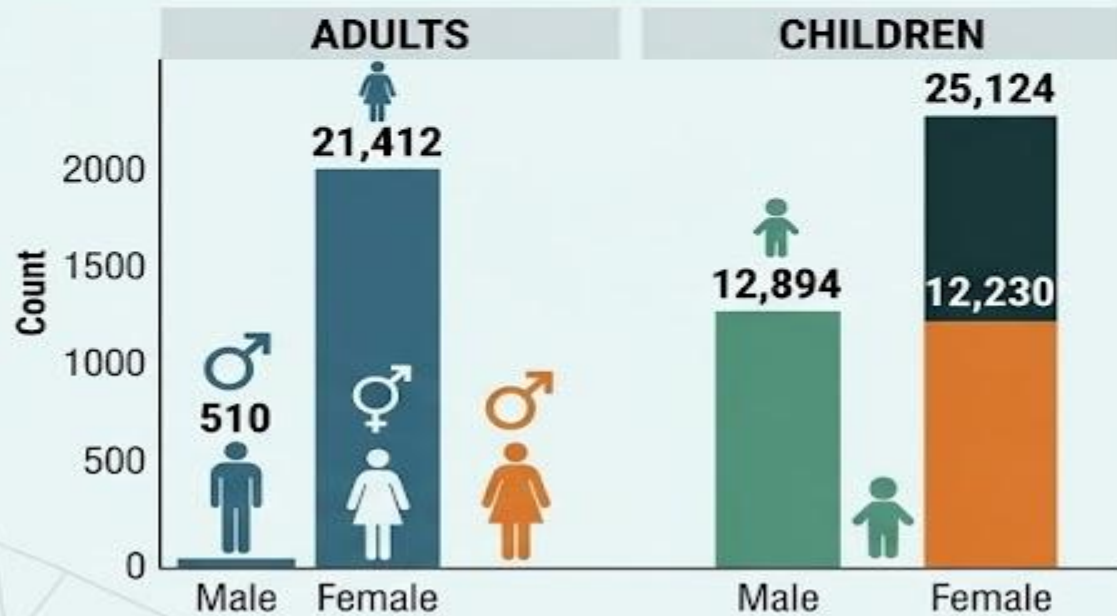




STATUS: APPROVED GRANT RECEIVERS & DEMOGRAPHICS (NEXT TO PAYMENT BY PROVINCE)

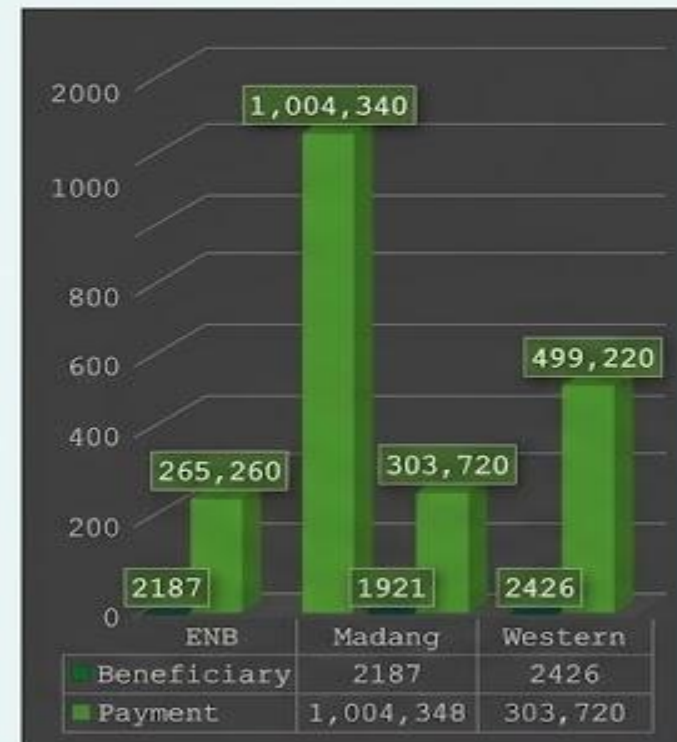
STATUS: APPROVED GRANT RECEIVERS (Beneficiaries)

Individuals approved to receive grants, including those already paid.



Demographic Groups ■ Adults ■ Adult ■ Man ■ Woman ■ Child ■ Total

BENEFICIARY PAYMENT BY PROVINCE



- Gazelle ENB: **K265,260**
- Madang: **K1,004,340**
- Simbu: **K303,720**
- Western: **K499,200**

TOTAL PAID: K2,072,520



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Transition Phase: 2026-2027



Inception Phase
& Groundwork

2021-2022



Grounding &
Consolidation

2023-2024



Full
Implementation

2025



Transition & Transfer
of Ownership

2026-2027



Gradual Transfer

- Ownership, Leadership, & Coordination to Provincial & District Administrations.



Capacity Strengthening

- Establish robust systems, structures, & institutional arrangements to sustain beyond tenure.



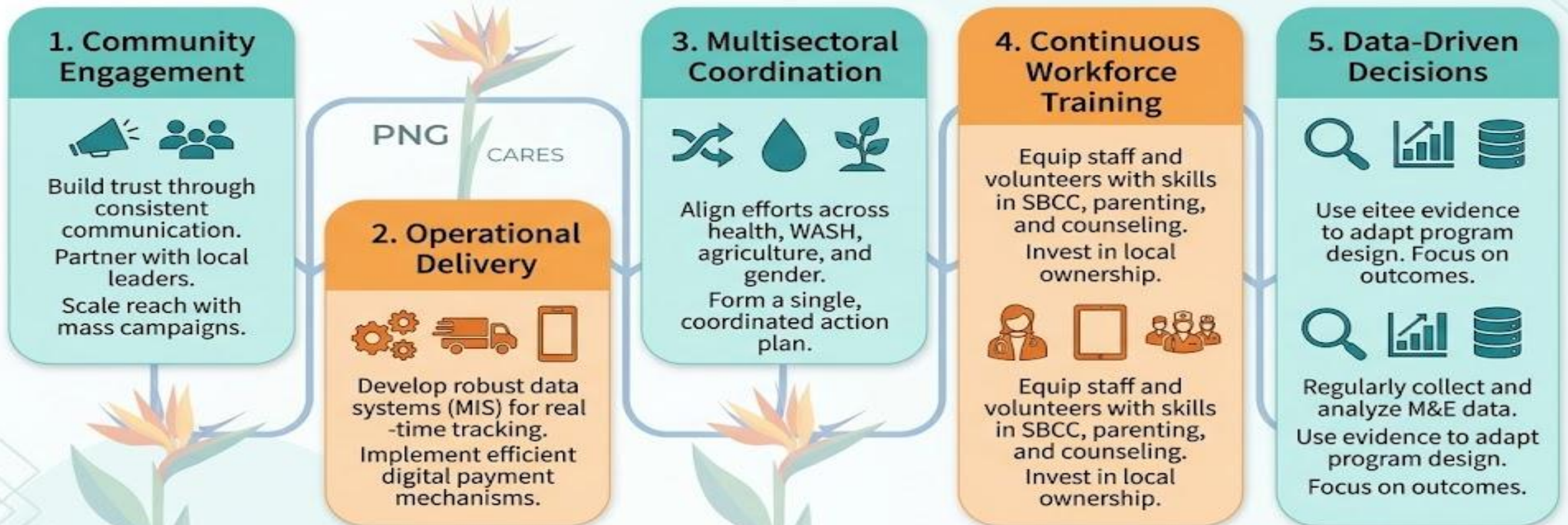
Technical Support Shift

- National coordination shifts from direct implementation to targeted technical support; Provincial/District teams equipped for independent coordination.





KEY LESSONS LEARNED: CNSP PROJECT





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CNSP Project



NEXT STEPS: SCALE BACK & SCALE UP STRATEGY



Next Steps
(2028+)

Next Steps Strategy (2028+)



Scale Back

- Focus on National Systems after 2027
- Transfer Implementation Responsibility (Provincial & District)
- Refinement for Implementation Synergy



Scale Up

- Increase Sub-National Effort & Impact
- Integrate with Policy (Social Protection, Lukautim Pikinini)
- Increase Coverage & Engagement (New Provinces)
- New Services (Financial Literacy, Backyard Gardens)
- Explore CVA and Social Protection for Vulnerable



Key Goal: Program Refinement & Synergy



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Thank you!