

M E D I A A L E R T

RENEW NSW assisting Papua New Guinea with waste management.

Papua New Guinea sponsored delegate, Mr Wak Kewa, will be learning from the leaders in waste management today at the Waste 2007, Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery conference in Coffs Harbour thanks to the sponsorship provided by **RENEW NSW**.

The Waste 2007 Conference aims to educate and inspire delegates and to offer an environment where delegates can build on their skills, knowledge and networks. "The workshops and discussions at the conference should provide Mr Kewa with a learning experience, new skills and information he can share with his colleagues and community, and apply to enhance the management of waste in Papua New Guinea," said Bernadette Thomas, Coordinator for North East Waste Forum.

NetWaste, Midwaste and North East Waste Forum, three groups within **RENEW NSW** the voluntary waste management group working in rural and regional NSW, have joined together to nominate and provide funding for their chosen delegate, Mr Wak Kewa, the Project Manager from Mt Hagen Urban Local Government in Papua New Guinea to attend this conference.

"Mr Kewa was nominated by NetWaste to attend the Waste 2007 Conference in Coffs Harbour as a capacity building opportunity. Waste management is a significant issue in Mt Hagen, and Mr Kewa is eager to learn and see first hand how it can be utilised as a resource," said Dara Clayton, NetWaste Projects Coordinator.

NetWaste and Mr Kewa have a 17 year relationship which has continued to grow through the Sister City program at Orange Council and NetWaste now plans to develop a waste management model for Mt Hagen which Mr Kewa can implement. Involvement in such projects requires council vision to see the joint benefits as well as the long term international goodwill that collaboration builds.

RENEW NSW involvement at the Waste 2007 conference will inspire delegates to develop partnerships, like the one with Mr Kewa, to help developing countries further develop their waste management practices as well as the skills and knowledge of all involved.

What: Waste 2007, Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Conference

When: 17th – 18th October 2007

Place: Opal Cove Resort, Coffs Harbour, NSE

Time: 8:00 am

Interviews are available with –

Dara Clayton – NetWaste Project Coordinator, 0439 131 470

Bernadette Thomas – North East Waste Forum Coordinator, 0427 150 422

Bob Bailey – Midwaste Coordinator, 02 6581 8111

Stephen Sykes – Chairperson RENEW NSW, 0419 415 110

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For further media enquiries, interviews or photo opportunities, please contact Amy Reiha at Niche Product Marketing on (02) 9331 6662 or amy@nichepm.com.au