

Curriculum Reform Support Program

Some School Stories

44 schools throughout PNG received funds from CRIP to implement local activities to support the implementation of curriculum reform. Here are some of their stories.

Tent City Primary School, Lae. Morobe Province

In Lae, Morobe Province, Tent City Primary School was the only school to obtain some support funding through the Curriculum Reform Support Program (CRSP) to run a cluster inservice activity. The Head Teacher reported that the activities his cluster of schools was involved in proved very useful and helpful for the children, teachers and also the community.

One break through he was very proud of was the fact that there was a sense of coming together by the teachers of the primary and the feeder elementary schools. Co-operation amongst teachers enabled all them to find trends of teaching styles and learning by children starting at elementary level progressing to primary level. The primary teachers especially spent time with elementary teachers and they now realise how involved elementary teachers were in their everyday activities, both during and after their scheduled contact time.

Liap Primary School, Lorengau. Manus Province

Liap Primary School in Manus Province hosted another cluster based inservice for a number of elementary, community and primary schools. The teachers who participated flocked from the North Coast of Manus to the inservice sight for a one full day of activity. The Head Teacher of Liap PS and the Primary School Inspector reported that they were overwhelmed by the most positive turn out by teachers, even a good number who were not members of the designated schools. Although some were not invited, they felt that was their opportunity to attend and learn for themselves new teaching contents, methods and strategies to improve their classroom performance. All who attended remarked that it was an event they have missed for the last five years. The female Elementary Teacher attached to Liap PS reported emotionally that she had gained much confidence at the cluster inservice because she was 'forced' to be a facilitator where a lot of very experienced primary and community teachers very attentively supported her presentation.

Ilakaraeta Primary School, Kerema. Gulf Province

Ilakaraeta Primary School, which is situated in the Kerema Township of the Gulf Province, also sponsored a cluster based inservice program with support funding from CRIP through CRSP. Again Elementary and Primary teachers were involved.

Their main focus was developing reading materials which could be used by teachers during their lessons. The Head Teacher at Ilakaraeta PS briefly reported that the week long cluster inservice proved very worthwhile, interesting, flexible and most encouraging as teachers were able to produce useful support curriculum material which helped them improve their

performance while teaching. Not only that, but children now enjoy learning having read the stories written by their own teachers.

Teachers were able to produce material in small groups and share their creations with their colleagues. That strategy proved very useful improving the learning and skills of all teachers. Each small group of teachers was led by teachers who have attended the Diploma of Education Primary Inservice (DEPI) program at PNG Education Institute (PNGEI) and also at the province.

Kusbau & Holy Spirit Primary Schools, Madang. Madang Province

Kusbau & Holy Spirit Primary Schools are situated in the Madang Township of Madang Province. The co-ordinator of the school based inservice activity at the school found the funding very supportive for his school based inservice program.

The staff learned a great deal from the School Bridging to English Program, which was their main focus. Teachers commented that it was a good opportunity for the elementary and primary school teachers to share their experiences in content matters, methodologies and strategies. Sharing ideas in practical ways really helped them to improve their teaching performances which offered alternatives to making student learning more interesting.

Holy Spirit PS is a church agency school run by the Catholic Church of Madang. The Head Teacher reported that most of the money received from CRIP through the CRSP support funding was used to purchase materials for developing big and small books during the school based inservice program. The Head Teacher of the elementary school noted that as a result of this event, his staff members were able to share the kinds of activities they do everyday with their primary colleagues. He felt so satisfied because the school based inservice assisted his teachers so much to learn a lot of things from the primary teachers. The co-ordinator of the program added that the primary teachers became very excited in the process of creating their very own big books and small books which they can now use confidently in their everyday teaching. He emphatically stated that the support funding received was put into very good use.

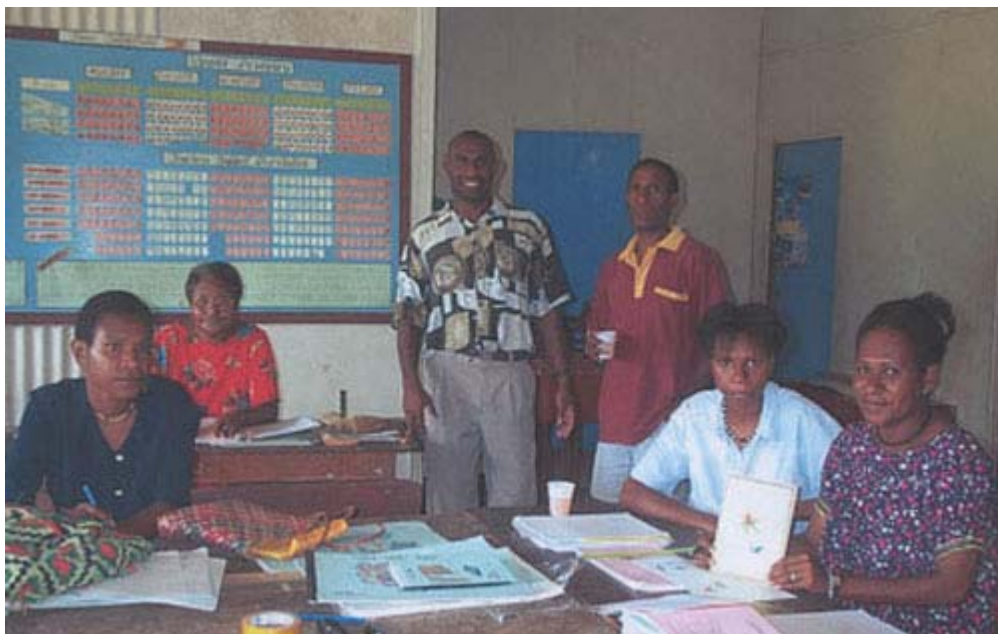
Montfort Elementary School, Daru. Western Province

Montfort Elementary School can be found in the Township of Daru, in the Western Province. It is centre for learning as it hosted the school based inservice for elementary teachers in and around Daru Island in the South Fly District.

A visit to the centre proved very worthwhile because the team of elementary teachers who were participants, showed that they were committed to the tasks in hand. They dedicated the time collectively to creating shell books for use in their day to day teaching. The Elementary Trainer spoke highly of the skills and creative potentials of teachers developing curriculum materials in Tok Peles, Tok Pisin as well as in English. The co-ordinator of the inservice program, who was also an Elementary School Head Teacher, was most contented with the support funding received. He reassuringly adding that nothing in the nature of curriculum development would have eventuated had there been no funding made available.



Daru teachers printing their shell books



Daru elementary teachers displaying their shell books