

### PNG Women in Mining GENFUND Project

In December 2004, Sustainable Solutions' staff, Geraldine McGuire and Desley Rosas traveled to Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea (PNG) to work with three talented PNG women, Paulina Siop, Lydia Gah and Margaret Pale on a World Bank GENFUND Project.

The team developed a rapid appraisal questionnaire based on perceptions to determine the status of local women at five mining projects in PNG.

During February 2005, facilitated surveys were conducted by the team with a variety of

stakeholders at the Ok Tedi, Porgera, Lihir, Highlands Kainantu and the Morobe projects.

The team also collected data on women's programs being conducted at the project areas and determined if companies had developed a business case for the support of these programs.

The data from the surveys has been analysed, a report produced and a presentation scheduled for the Women and Mining Conference II to be held in Madang, PNG from 19 - 22 June 2005.

**The GENFUND team in Port Moresby, PNG. From left: Paulina Siop, Desley Rosas, Geraldine McGuire, Margaret Pale and Lydia Gah.**



**Burgess Cooper (left) and Desley Rosas turtle tagging at Milman Island**

### Hawksbill Turtles of the Great Barrier Reef

Desley Rosas of Sustainable Solutions received a Community Scholarship to participate in one of the many projects funded by the Earthwatch Institute. The project was conducted during January/February 2005 and involved tagging turtles on Milman Island in the Great Barrier Reef.

Milman Island is an uninhabited, densely wooded sand cay of 22.7ha, located approximately 80 km south of Thursday Island. It is inhabited by large centipedes and non-poisonous snakes. The female turtles nest at Milman Island after living in the ocean waters for over 50 years.

The project was lead by Dr Ian Bell, Principal Investigator responsible for nesting beach and foraging ground surveys to determine species composition, population structure and distribution of turtles in north Queensland. His work also includes undertaking surveys with Traditional Owner groups to develop the skills necessary to self-manage turtle populations.

Participants selected for this project came from Cairns, Perth and as far as India and England.



Laos, Sepon Rehabilitation Team

## Temporary Environment Manager, Laos

Geraldine McGuire of Sustainable Solutions was requested by Oxiana to assist as Temporary Environment Manager at the Sepon Gold and Copper Project in Laos, while they were recruiting for a new manager.

During her two month stint, Geraldine provided advice on the new rehabilitation program which involved the use of a hydromulcher and erosion control matting, revised the wet season water monitoring program, assisted with the development of the Integrated Management System (IMS) and interviewed candidates for the position.

Geraldine also restructured the Environment Department, updated the position descriptions for the staff and organised training programs for the rehabilitation team.

“I really enjoyed working with the site team who are enthusiastic and committed to best practice environmental management,” said Geraldine.

## Bar Barrum Language Retrieval

Elders Jean Rosas and Rita Turpin of the Bar Barrum people are retrieving their traditional language. Jean and Rita approached Sustainable Solutions’ Desley Rosas for help in planning and coordinating the project. Funded through the Gurrigan Guwal Language Centre in Cardwell, North Queensland, the project has enabled elders to retrieve information on their language from the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) Library. They now have cassette tapes and CDs which they are eagerly using to remember, learn and speak their own traditional language.

Sylvia Rosas, also from the Bar Barrum people, has been assisting with drawings for a book that will be produced as part of the project. “Sylvia has previously produced



Desley Rosas on Bar Barrum Country

and sold many paintings, so this should be a great book with all that talent,” Desley said.

Another round of funding is expected from the language centre which will enable Jean and Rita to teach their traditional language to the rest of the Bar Barrum group and also in the local schools in the Herberton area of northwest Queensland.

## Indigenous Women’s Leadership

Sustainable Solutions’ Desley Rosas was selected from over 500 applicants nationally to be part of the first Indigenous Women’s Development Program Workshop held in Adelaide in November 2004. Seventy Indigenous women attended the first series of these workshops.

This program emphasises:

- Indigenous Women’s Leadership
- Networking Indigenous Women
- Men and Family Relationships

The workshops aim to help the Indigenous women to become better leaders within their community.

Find out more by visiting:

[www.oipc.gov.au/programs/IndigenousWomensDevelopment/Leaders/default.asp](http://www.oipc.gov.au/programs/IndigenousWomensDevelopment/Leaders/default.asp)

## Indigenous Language

### Gwandal

Frilled neck lizard – emblem of the Bar Barrum people.



### Key Partners

Sustainable Solutions often works together on projects with other specialist companies who have become key partners. If you are interested in becoming one of our key partners please send us your capability statement.

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