

CLIMATE CHANGE IN KIKORI

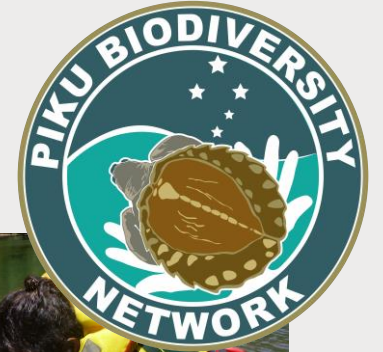
Yolarnie Amepou – Piku Biodiversity Network

Presentation Outline

- The Piku Biodiversity Network
- Introduction to Kikori
- Climate change impacts in Kikori
- Challenges in addressing climate action
- Our steps forward



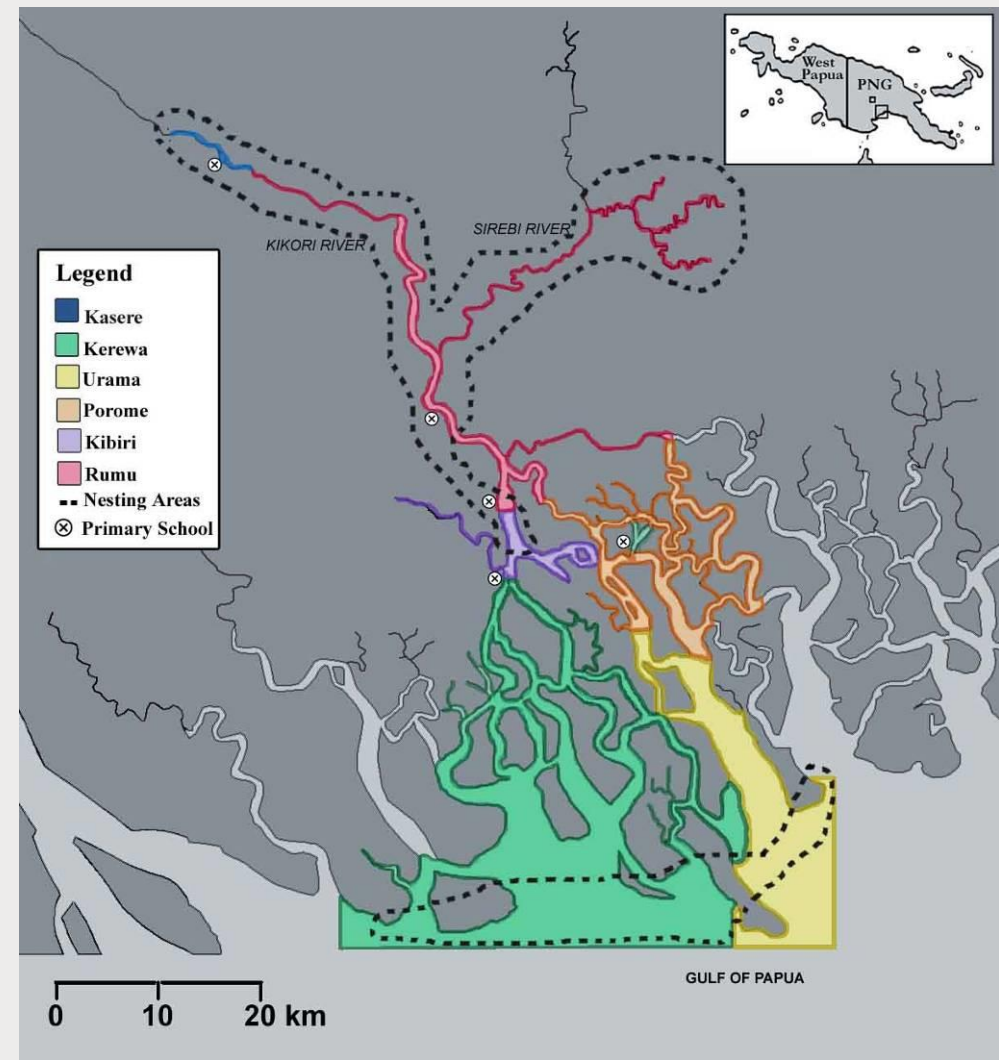
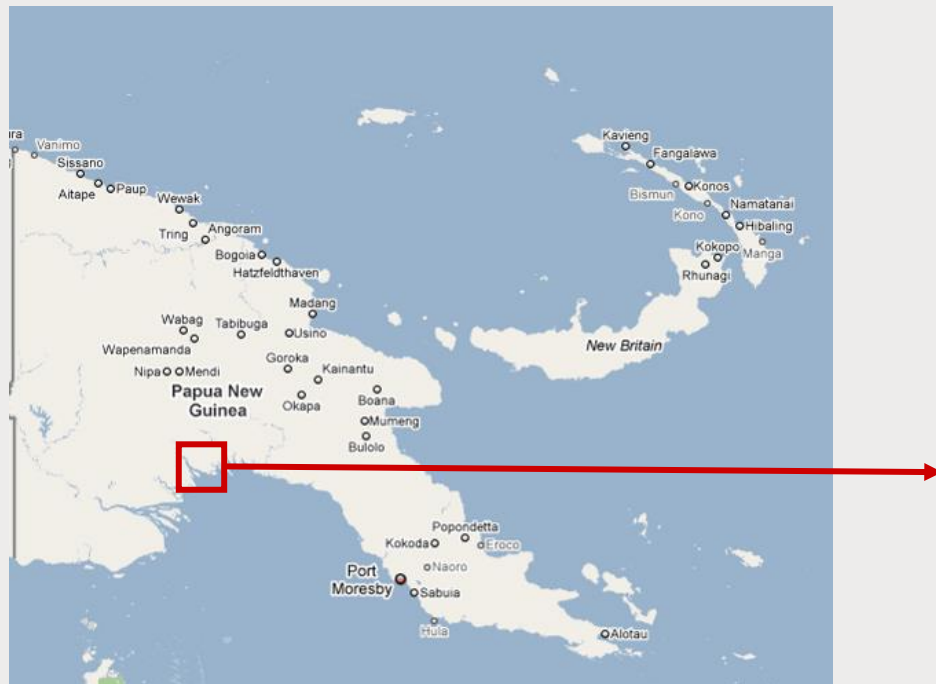
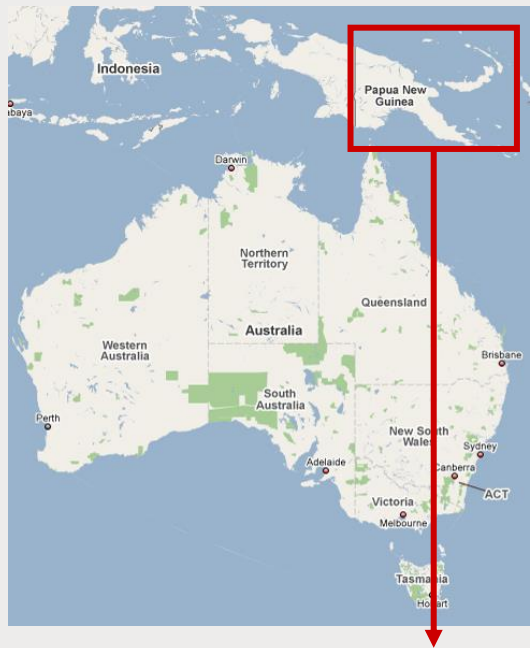
Piku Biodiversity Network



- Not for Profit – NGO est. 2017
- Over 30 years of research activity in the Kikori with Piku
- Over 12 years of community engagement activities
- **Vision:** Informed and empowered communities working together to sustain a healthy Papua New Guinea environment which supports local culture and livelihoods and contributes positively to biodiversity conservation
- **Mission:** To promote and enable, through its membership, biodiversity conservation in Papua New Guinea via environmental education, community-led conservation and knowledge generation.



The Kikori River



Kikori, Gulf Province

- The Kikori River is about 435 Km long
- Is PNG's 5th largest River
- Experiences 4 – 8 m of rainfall annually
- Kikori district of the Gulf Province
- Kikori town is the district's small urban centre
- Part of the Kikori River Basin which along with is a nominated UNESCO World Heritage Site



Upriver



Coast – a dynamic environment



Turuvio island



The Kikori Delta



- KEY**
-  Villages with >10 Permanent residents in 2020
 -  Villages with 5 - 10 Permanent residents in 2020
 -  Villages that have relocated and/or don't have permanent residents in 2020



Case study 1 – Goaribari

- 2 villages, Dopima and Goare
- Kerewo Tribe – rich cultural and colonial history
- Discussions on relocation due to sea and wave destruction of villages have been occurring since the 1970s
- Today there are just about 10 houses remaining in Goare village, most villagers are temporary residents
- Ward councilor has development plans to return services to the LLG



Goaribari



Case study 2 – Veraibari Village

- Veraibari village – Urama Tribe and Pai'ia Tribe
- Also Accommodating some settlers of
Demaibari village – now non existent
- Culturally significant for its man's houses – the largest men's houses in the world
- In 2020 the storm season destroyed teacher's houses stopped the school
- Are currently relocating themselves for the fourth time in 50 years
- Documented this in the 34 minute episode “New Veraibari”



Veraibari



Climate change impacts on Kikori's coast

- Village destruction
- Salt intrusion into Fresh water sources
- Increase in intensity of storm surges
- Increase in frequency of flooding
- Climate change migration



Community Challenges

- Lack of education and awareness on climate change
- Separating myths from facts for communities
- Issues with climate change migration
- Building climate change resilience
- Finding partnerships that work towards sustainability

(external donors, the Provincial Administration, The District Administration, CCDA the Community based organisations)



Our steps forward

- A vulnerability Assessment needs to be conducted for the District if not the LLGs.
- Climate change education
- Community empowerment and assistance needs to be given to the local ward members (training, technical assistance etc.)
- Stakeholder engagement a necessity for climate resilience
- Provincial Administration collaboration, a partnership is currently being planned.



Any Questions

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