

Central village embraces new technology

LEALEA village in the Central Province becomes the first community in the country to benefit from a newly invented technology that has never been tried and used anywhere in the world.

This week, the Dome KRB Ltd, a foreign investor, inventor of the 'Kube' Technology chose Lealea village to benefit from the technology in collaboration with the National Research Institute (NRI) who bridged the company to present the technology to the local community.

On Wednesday, the Dome KRB Ltd took reporters on tour of the project site in Lealea village and had press conference with the company officials about the technology and its potential in sustaining human life.

The company Director, Greg Cooper said that he is bringing the technology to PNG after personal encounter with the hardship the community faced for so many years in obtaining clean and safe water for consumption.

In his first visit to Lealea some time back, he was moved when seeing small girls as young as six who were supposed to be in school, fetching and carrying water from un-

drinkable water sources like a main village well about 8 metres deep. The village is located in a harsh environment and excess to safe and clean water is a major burden.

"Coming from a western society, this scenario touched me so much and had to return to America and find a most appropriate solution to remedy these people's water burden and here my company has this technology to offer the people. This technology is the first to be used here in PNG and never used anywhere in the world," said Cooper.

"The solution we offer is solar powered 'Kube' technology which provides electricity, clean water, food and medical storage in most harsh, emergency stricken and polluted areas of the world as in many parts of PNG including the harsh Lealea environment which is almost dry all year round."

He highlighted that about 3.4 million people die annually from water borne diseases and diarrhea is the second leading cause of death among children under five and around 1.5 million deaths each year, nearly one in five are caused by diarrhea that kills more children than malaria, AIDS and measles but em-

phasized that the Kube Technology will eliminate these serious health issues.

The technology when installed will use four types of portable 'Kubes' (square shaped box) empowered by solar to enable electricity (Power Kube), convert salt and contaminated water into 2600-3420 litres of fresh water per day (Kleen-Water Kube), provides cool storage for preservation of food (Kool Kube), medication and vaccines (Klinik Kube).

Cooper thanked NRI for providing the opportunity to market the technology through NRI's customary land registration and usage for development program that linked the company with the Lealea landowners to offer land to establish the project.

He also thanked Patrick Pruaitch, Boka Kondra and other proactive PNG politicians for financially backing the technology and the next beneficiaries will be the contaminated Fly River basin communities.

The Lealea project will be officially launched by the Prime Minister in July.

For more information, call Dome KRB Ltd on 70227926.