



2023
PACIFIC GAMES
SOLOMON ISLANDS
CHALLENGE • CELEBRATE • UNITE

Official Newsletter of the
Games Organizing Committee (GOC)

Issue 11

May 2023

Inside this issue



With the 17th Pacific Games (Sol2023) just five months away, the month of May ended in the highest possible note for Solomon Islands and for the Sol2023 Pacific Games Organizing Committee. Preparations are continuing and well on track.

Games venues and villages are fast taking shape, the Games Ambassadors halfway of their nationwide tour, the Games Workforce program receiving nationwide interest for volunteering and workforce services, Fiji TV and SBS sign up as Broadcast Rights Holders – and the list goes on in all and every other aspect of preparations Solomon Islands has had with five months to spare.

Amongst the many developments taking place, this month saw the GOC officially announce its latest Corporate Sponsors in: SolTuna, South Pacific Oil (SPO) and the Bank of the South Pacific (BSP). This month also saw the GOC unveil the Official Games Merchandise in Ausmart Company Limited.

These and a whole lot more excitement is expected this coming month (June) as Solomon Islands continues its preparations and march toward November and December's Sol2023 Pacific Games.

(See stories and pictures pages: 2,3 and 4).

Community Group Registrations
EXTENDED!
P7

5 Months to go!

SOL2023 PACIFIC GAMES

FIVE MONTHS TO GO



Games Facilities nearing completion

All Games Facilities currently under construction will be completed within the next three to four months.

Chairman of the Games Facilities Committee (GFC) Joe Sika revealed that all Games Venues and Games Villages will be completed by the end of August.

“Basically, all Games Facilities will be completed in time for the Games. All contractors should complete all construction work on the venues and villages and have them handed over to the National Hosting Authority (NHA) by the end of August this year,” Mr Sika said.

PMU (Project Management Unit) Executive Director, Eldon Tapa gave brief updates on each of the main sites that the Games will be held at.

“KG East (practice pitch) is roughly sitting at 75% completion. KG West (main stadium) is around 70 to 75% complete.

“DC Park is sitting at about 90% complete. There are still some minor bits and pieces like boundary fencing and some minor works associated with preparation for the Games.

“SIFF Academy is sitting at approximately 70% complete,” Mr Tapa said.

Asked on the status of Games villages, Tapa said, “Games villages as of the last few weeks, we have completed around 70% of the school refurbishments. We will be able to stage the rest of the refurbishments around the curriculum so that it doesn’t impact too much on schools.”

Schools that are being transformed to Games villages include; *Saint Joseph Tenaru School, Don Bosco, KG Sixth School, SINU Panatina campus, SINU Kukum Campus and Saint Nicholas School.*

Games venues include; *DC Park, Maranatha Hall, SIFF Academy, Hockey Stadium, National Stadium, Aquatic Centre, National Tennis Centre, Friendship Hall, Honiara Golf Course, HCC Arena and Lawson Tama.*



GOC receive 5000+ Volunteer Applications

More than 5000 people have applied to Volunteer at this year's Sol2023 Pacific Games.

The Games Organizing Committee (GOC)'s Workforce Team confirmed receiving the mass number of submissions both online and in hard copies by close of applications, Monday 15th May, 2023.

"As of today (May 15th), we can confirm receiving and recording approximately 3,129 application forms in our database. 2000 plus applications have yet to be encoded in the system with a further 800 expected to come in from various Sports Federations in the country," GOC Volunteer Supervisor, Donisan Kelly said.

He said that his team has commenced the selection process starting with the shortlisting and interviewing of suitable applicants.

Explaining the process, Kelly said, "The shortlisting and interview process will be done using a system designed to identify applicants with specific skills, and group them accordingly. It is also based on the various Games times volunteer roles that applicants have selected".

"This enables us to easily collect and contact the relevant applicants for the interview process".

Kelly said that they are expecting more applications to come from Sports Federations in the country following the closing date.

"We are expecting an additional 800 applications to come from sports federations in the country – from the 24 sports that will be competed at this year's Games. These are based on recommendations and approvals from each of these respective federations," Kelly said. Kelly also clarified that from the 5000 plus applications received, only 3000 will be selected.



"Only 3000 volunteers will be selected, however there are many other ways to get involved with the Games, through our Community Groups program, Team Solomons or as a spectator".

GOC meanwhile thanked the public for showing interest and support towards the Games Volunteer program.

"The GOC is overwhelmed by the interest in volunteering for the Games and we appreciate the support from the community. We were looking to recruit only 3,000 volunteers and could not believe that we have exceeded our goal in less than a month", Kelly said.

The Games Volunteer program was launched April 15th a month after.



AUSMART is the Official Games Merchandiser

Ausmart Company Limited is the Official Merchandiser for this year's Sol2023 Pacific Games.

The Games Organizing Committee (GOC) made the official announcement at a press conference in Honiara this month (May).

As per the licensed agreement signed between the GOC and Ausmart, the latter has been granted exclusive rights by GOC for the production, promotion, distribution and sales of all commercial merchandise for this year's Sol2023 Pacific Games.

As the Official Merchandise provider, Ausmart is also granted the rights to use the official Games logo and wordmarks.

Making the Official Announcement, GOC Board Chairman Martin Rara said, "The Sol2023 Pacific Games under its sole power and jurisdiction, grants Ausmart Company Limited the Right to do retail and wholesale of the Pacific Games Merchandise in Honiara and the provinces.

"Ausmart is also granted exclusive rights by GOC for use of the Games logo – as the official merchandise provider for Sol2023."

Mr Rara also stressed the importance of Games Merchandising. "As in any major event, merchandising of this year's Sol2023 Pacific Games is important. It is the face of the Games. It provides a lasting memory of the Games and it is the message that everyone attending the Games (athletes, team officials and visitors) will carry back home with them.

"Ausmart will help us promote and deliver this to everyone both in Honiara, the provinces and throughout



the Pacific region, before, during and after the Games," Mr Rara said.

Mr Rara thanked Ausmart for accepting and partnering up with GOC to deliver this year historical Sol2023 Pacific Games, which will take place between November 19th to December 2nd.

In his response, Owner of Ausmart Company, Ken Yee acknowledged GOC for the confidence and trust placed in his company to provide Games Merchandise.

"It is really an honour for Ausmart to partner with GOC and help produce and promote the sales of commercial merchandise for this year's Sol2023.

"We look forward to supporting the Games through the provision of all Games Merchandises that should be available to the market within the next eight weeks," Mr Yee said.

A total of 16 Games merchandise samples were displayed at today's official announcement.

Meanwhile all Games merchandise will be available at Ausmart by late August this year.



GOC Workforce complete 'Road Show'

The Sol2023 Pacific Games Roadshow program has completed visiting Honiara City.

Launched early this month, the 'Roadshow' organized by GOC's Workforce Team was aimed at providing awareness on Games services and opportunities that will require the involvement and engagement of community groups in Honiara.

It has started in Whiteriver (furthest west of Honiara City) right up to Burns creek in the East.

"The importance of this roadshow is that it brings the Games to the people's door steps. It gives community men and women the opportunity to ask questions about our preparations and most importantly how they can be involved and engaged with the Games.

"This in turn gave us the opportunity to talk more on the services that will require the engagement of established groups within our communities,"

GOC Workforce Supervisor, Dorcas Taupongi said. GOC will be engaging community groups to work at the Games Venues and Villages, providing Logistics and Laundry Services, and Cleaning and Waste Management Services.

"Logistics Services include providing manpower and labour across all venues

and villages for the installation of temporary infrastructure such as tents, fencing, signage and furniture and also to fix things on-site.

"Community groups will be engaged to provide laundry services, clean-up all common areas restocking of cleaning supplies, collecting rubbish – those kinds of services.

"The Games will need the participation of our registered community groups to deliver these services during Games time this year," Dorcas said.

The Games roadshow and the awareness programs shared have been deemed very useful and informative to many communities reached, with many commending GOC for such useful and beneficial initiative.





SOUTH PACIFIC OIL

signs up as Games first Gold Sponsor

South Pacific Oil Limited (SPOL) is officially a Gold Partner-Sponsor of the Sol2023 Pacific Games.

The official signing and sponsorship announcement between SPO and the Games Organizing Committee (GOC) was made at a brief ceremony in Honiara on the 30th of this month (May).

The sponsorship valued at \$5.1 million dollars (SBD) makes SPO the Games first Gold Sponsor, and the official fuelling partner of the Sol2023 Pacific Games.

SPO Deputy Board Chair, Tony Makabo said, "the SPO Board has agreed that it will contribute \$5.1 million dollars (SBD) toward the Games. This \$5 million dollar support will be in the form of fuel.

SPO will take care of fuelling all Games vehicles, Games contracted vehicles and generators," Mr Makabo said. GOC will be engaging a fleet of 300 vehicles for the Games this year.

Makabo said, "This is big money. I call on GOC to be responsible, be economical in terms of the use of vehicles in facilitating the Games this year."

He said that this support is for a good course and is of

national interest, adding that SPO would like to see the Games delivered successfully come November and December this year.

GOC Board Chairman, Martin Rara described SPO's support through the sponsorship as timely, significant and a lifeline for the Games.

"This huge support by SPO is truly very timely and is a lifeline for the Games. This support is best defined as proving a lifeline for the Games as far as movement and operations is concerned.

"Movement is one of the critical aspects of Games delivery this year – through this sponsorship you (SPO) have enhanced that.

"Athletes and officials can move from venue to venue, to and from the Games villages – this in turn gives us confidence that we will deliver a successful Sol2023 Pacific Games," Mr Rara said.

As per the sponsorship, SPO gains the right and access to explore and utilize specific benefits under the Games Gold sponsorship level.





photos



Deadline Extended, 87 Groups Registered

The deadline for Community Group Registrations has been extended to 23rd June, 2023.

The Games Organizing Committee (GOC) has extended the deadline from 2nd June to the 23rd following the successful completion of the GOC Workforce Services Roadshow program and the widespread interest received from the public.

GOC Workforce Supervisor, Dorcas Taupongi confirmed that since the opening of registrations, a total of 87 community groups has thus far completed their registrations by May's end. "As of today (31st May, 2023), we have received 87 Community Group submissions.

"All 87 groups have completed their registrations, meeting all necessary requirements stipulated in the applications given out."

Dorcas said that with the extension of the registration deadline, her team is expecting more groups to register within the coming weeks.

She also added that throughout the three week 'Roadshow' awareness program they had conducted throughout Honiara, they have shared more than 1,000 application forms to interested groups.

"We are still receiving huge interest for Community Group registrations day in, day out," Dorcas said.

GOC meanwhile also reminded interested applicants and the public that registrations are free, groups must be registered with Company Haus and must have an existing bank account as the key requirements for registration.



SOL2023

the talk of Honiara Youth Week

The Sol2023 Pacific Games was the most talked about subject at the inaugural Youth Week event in Honiara this month. Organized by the Honiara City Council (HCC), the Youth Week was aimed at empowering

and engaging the city's youth populace, and providing them with opportunities, resources and support towards their development and capacity building.

The event also saw GOC (Games Organizing Committee) Workforce team awareness on this year's historical Games, its benefits and the opportunities that come with it.

GOC Media Officer, Ezmie Oge said, "Our aim in attending the Youth Week event was to share important Games information, and provide interested individuals with opportunities to participate and be involved with the Games".

"We've had many come by asking us

about the Games Volunteer program, Community Groups program, Opening Ceremony, Sports Events and Venues – even asking us when tickets will be ready.

"This provided us the opportunity to share that information with them and at the same time see for ourselves the huge interest Sol2023 is generating amongst our City's populace".

Ezmie said the huge following Sol2023 is generating on all media platforms and the mass number of applications received for Games Volunteering are indicators that the Games is the most talked about subject in Honiara currently.

Sol2023 Master Caterer soon to be announced

The Sol2023 Pacific Games Organizing Committee (GOC) look set to officially announce the Games Master Caterer next month (June).

The Games Chief Executive, Peter Stewart confirmed GOC will soon officially make the announcement of the Games Master Caterer, who will be responsible to feed more than 5,000 athletes and team officials here for the two-week duration of the Sol2023 Pacific Games.

"We will need to feed the 5,000 athletes and officials, we need to feed all of the technical officials, we need to feed the broadcasters who come in.

"We have been out to tender and we're now at the point of appointing our Master Caterer, who will be responsible to provide breakfast, lunch and dinner for all of the athletes and team officials during Games time.

"They will need to deliver upward of 20,000 meals up to international standards a day to

the various groups they are providing for during the Games."

Peter said GOC will also soon announce the Caterers who will providing catering services in each of the Games villages.

"We'll also have our caterers for the Games villages appointed and announced soon. They will look after breakfast for the athletes and the team officials staying there and also lunch and dinner for the workforce who will be working in each of those villages."

"All of these caterers will be appointed and announced in the next couple of weeks because each of them will need time to mobilize, employ and train their staff.

He added, "once appointed, the caterers will be the ones to look at the food supply channels, requirements, look at the market and deal directly suppliers, farmers and local producers."



BSP officially a Games Bronze Sponsor

Bank of South Pacific (BSP) is officially a sponsor of the Sol2023 Pacific Games.

The official announcement of BSP's \$500,000 (SBD) Sponsorship was made at a press conference in Honiara 31st May, 2023. Speaking at the event, BSP's Country Head, Sandra Fore said that they are pleased to partner with the Games Organizing Committee (GOC) in promoting sports and unity, through delivering a successful Sol2023 Pacific Games this year.

"We are indeed pleased to be part of this multi-sporting event that celebrates sports, strengthens our friendship and promotes our Pacific Culture and Pride.

"BSP is proud of our Pacific Heritage – our home is the Pacific and we will continue to support the Pacific Community through our community projects and our sponsorship programs," Ms Fore said.

The country's premier bank is no stranger to the Pacific Games and to supporting sports in the Pacific, having been the major sponsor at the 2015 Pacific Games in Papua New Guinea and having continuously supported numerous sports development programs throughout the region.

Commending BSP for their support, GOC's Board Chairman Mr Martin Rara said, "We are very happy and so excited to have



BSP on board, to be able to stand alongside GOC and deliver a memorable Sol2023 Games for the 5,000 plus athletes from 24 countries in the region that will be attending come November and December this year.

"Your coming on board to support this event is a blessing not only to the GOC and our preparations, but most importantly to Sports Development in Solomon Islands.

"We are indeed grateful for your support and look forward to working closely with you in delivering the biggest event Solomon Islands will have ever hosted in this year's Sol2023 Pacific Games," Mr Rara said.

BSP's sponsorship falls under the Games Bronze Partner Sponsorship level with exclusive rights as the Official Games Banking and Financial Service Provider for the Sol2023 Pacific Games.



SolTuna is an Official Sponsor of the Sol2023 Pacific Games. The official signing and announcement of the sponsor-partnership between SolTuna and the 2023 Pacific Games Organizing Committee (GOC) was announced at a press conference in Honiara, Wednesday 3rd May, 2023.

The sponsorship in kind, worth \$500,000 (SBD) gives SolTuna exclusive rights as the Official Supplier of Canned Tuna for the Sol2023 Pacific Games.

“As an official sponsor, we will provide around \$500,000 worth of Canned Tuna during the Sol2023 Pacific Games. This is roughly about 1,400 cartons of Tuna available to athletes and officials attending the Games.

“One of our main marketing objectives is to ensure that our products are tasted and richly enjoyed by all athletes and officials from all participating countries here for the Games. In that way we can expand our market and in turn contribute more to the economy of our country,” SolTuna Sales and Marketing Manager, Kenwood Harry said.

Mr Harry said that SolTuna recognizes the significance and magnitude of the Games to Solomon Islands, and the importance of being part of such a historical event.

“SolTuna wants to build the partnership with GOC through the sponsorship, whilst at the same time acknowledged GOC for the opportunity to partner with the Games.

“The sponsorship is something we want to bring back to the Communities. We want to build the partnership with GOC and at the same time thank GOC for having us as partners of Sol2023.

“This is the biggest Games our country will have ever host, so we want to ensure that we are part of it,” Kenwood said.

SOLTUNA

officially announce Sol2023 PG Sponsorship

The GOC’s Chief Executive, Peter Stewart responded, “We are so excited to have SolTuna as part of our Corporate Partnership team.

“The Games is going to be the largest event ever to be hosted here in Solomon Islands. It is going to be a nation changing event so we are really pleased to have SolTuna onboard with the Games.”

Mr Stewart said that having such iconic brand as SolTuna partnering with the Games is an added bonus to Sol2023.

“The link between an iconic brand, a wonderful product and the experience of a wonderful games is something we think is a really good fit for us. It will help us achieve some of that whoa factor associated with the Games.

“We are keen to work with SolTuna to help spread the brand throughout the Pacific – the Tuna packs provided to us by SolTuna will be made available to all of our athletes, officials and workforce during the Games period,” Mr Stewart said.

Meanwhile as part of the sponsorship, SolTuna will provide a total 1,415 cartons of Chillie Tuna (worth \$500,000 (SBD) to feed 5,000 athletes and officials and 3000 Games Workforce during Games time.



Media Accreditation for Sol2023 PG Opens

The 2023 Pacific Games Organizing Committee (GOC) is excited to announce that the Media Accreditation process for the Sol2023 Pacific Games is open for online registrations.

GOC invites all media (organisations and individuals) seeking accreditation to email Media@sol2023.com.sb for access to the online registration process.

Media personnel travelling with Government representatives, Pacific Games Authorities, National and International Sports Federations will also need to acquire media accreditation through this process.

All applicants will receive an email to confirm whether or not their accreditation application has been received.

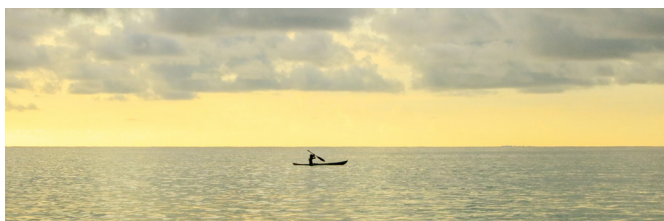
Please be advised that the GOC shall have the sole rights for approving and issuing accreditation.

Only verified Media shall be approved. Where individuals are seeking accreditation on behalf of a Media organization, the Media organization will have to approve such request prior to accreditation being issued.

All media who are accredited will be required to adhere to the Media rules and GOC policies, which shall be made available when accreditation is issued.

Successful applications that have been approved for accreditation will obtain further information on the process and timing of collecting accreditation at a later date.

The Accreditation portal opened 17th May and will close at 1700 hours 15th September, 2023 (Solomon Islands time).



Ambassadors complete 50% of nationwide tour



The Games Ambassadors program has this month (May) completed 50% of its nationwide tour of Solomon Islands.

Launched in March as phase two of the Games Community Engagement Strategy, the Ambassadors program has since visited five provinces and islands in the country. They include; Choiseul, Makira/Ulawa, Guadalcanal, Malaita and Western provinces.

The program is aimed at promoting sports and advocating for sports involvement to young, aspiring athletes in all nine provinces in the country. A total of 10 former athletes and popular sporting figures were engaged to help drive the program.

“We have thus far had six of our Ambassadors tour the provinces.

“Local Boxing icons Joseph Saimei and Jay Makana have toured Shortland Islands and Choiseul province respectively. Our Weightlifting Champ; Jenly Wini visited the southern regions of Malaita, Pacific Games gold medallists; Primo Higa and Jim Marau toured Makira and Ulawa provinces, with the latter also touring parts of Guadalcanal in March this year.

“To end off this month, we have our national tennis player and coach; Junior Benjamin touring the Western province,” Constance Amasia of GOC’s Community Engagement Program revealed.

She added that the program will then head to Central Islands province, Rennell and Bellona, Isabel, Temotu and again to Malaita and Guadalcanal provinces before wrapping up in August, before the start of the Games Baton Relay.

“The Ambassadors tours are on schedule and we are confident we will complete all the provinces within the next two months,” Constance said.

Meanwhile the Ambassadors program has been hailed a success by many of the areas visited, with more and more young people showing great interest in sports and sports involvement following the tours.

GOC, SBS announce Australia Broadcast Rights for Sol2023 PG

The 2023 Pacific Games Organizing Committee (GOC) is pleased to announce that the Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS) has acquired the Australian broadcast rights for the Sol2023 Pacific Games.

SBS, who will extend the license with NITV (National Indigenous TV), will provide both free to air, as well as online streaming coverage of the 2023 Pacific Games and will cover the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, and a large number of sports throughout the two weeks of the Games. Chris Rolfe, Business Manager for Sport for SBS said that "The Pacific Games represent a special opportunity for SBS to showcase the sport and cultural of the Pacific.

"The inclusion of Australian athletes in the Pacific Games, also provides compelling TV in Australia to our wide and very diverse audiences. SBS was involved in both 2015 and 2017 Pacific Games, and we very much look forward to our involvement for 2023."

Mr Rolfe said that SBS' coverage plan will be announced within the next few months.

The Sol2023 will be undertaking the Host Broadcast of the Games, and will cover all 24 sports in a variety of means. As the Host Broadcaster, Sol2023 will produce a daily program of 8-10 hours of coverage, and make this available to SBS, and other rights holders across the Pacific.

Additionally, all rights holders will be able to produce their own coverage, taking the live venue feeds and able to highlight athlete performances from all 24 nations competing in the Games.

Peter Stewart- CEO of the Sol2023 Games Organizing Committee, commented that "Having SBS once again broadcast the Pacific Games in Australia is special, and is a testament that the Pacific Games produce a fantastic blend of high-performance sport, and the uniqueness that is the Pacific islands, which Australia truly embraces".

The Host Broadcaster will produce over 1000 hours of coverage during the 2023 Pacific Games.

Meanwhile, more details on coverage, rights holders as well as coverage in the Solomon Islands will be forthcoming in the next month.





GOC, ORADO announce partnership

The 2023 Pacific Games Organizing Committee (GOC) and the Oceania Regional Anti-Doping Organization (ORADO) have officially announced their partnership for the Sol2023 Pacific Games this year.

This was following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) by the two parties this month. The GOC and the Pacific Games Council (PGC) had agreed to contract ORADO for doping control services for this year's Games. These services include;

- Athlete sample collection
- Management of Therapeutic Use Exemptions
- Advice on and support with the coordination of the Results Management process
- Community and Athlete outreach education on the importance of clean sport and the doping control process
- A commitment to building local anti-doping knowledge and sample collection officer capacity

On the 12th of May, 2023 ORADO officially signed the MOU with the GOC and PGC, solidifying the joint commitment to clean and fair sports practices at the 2023 Pacific Games this year from November 19th to December 2nd.

Prior to this agreement, Solomon Islands did not have local Doping Control Officers, however, through ORADO's involvement, they have now trained local DCOs and chaperones. The MOU signing allows these trained professionals to work alongside international experts during the Games.

The agreement will also see that GOC ensures all competition venues will have designated Doping Control Stations and personnel at Games time.

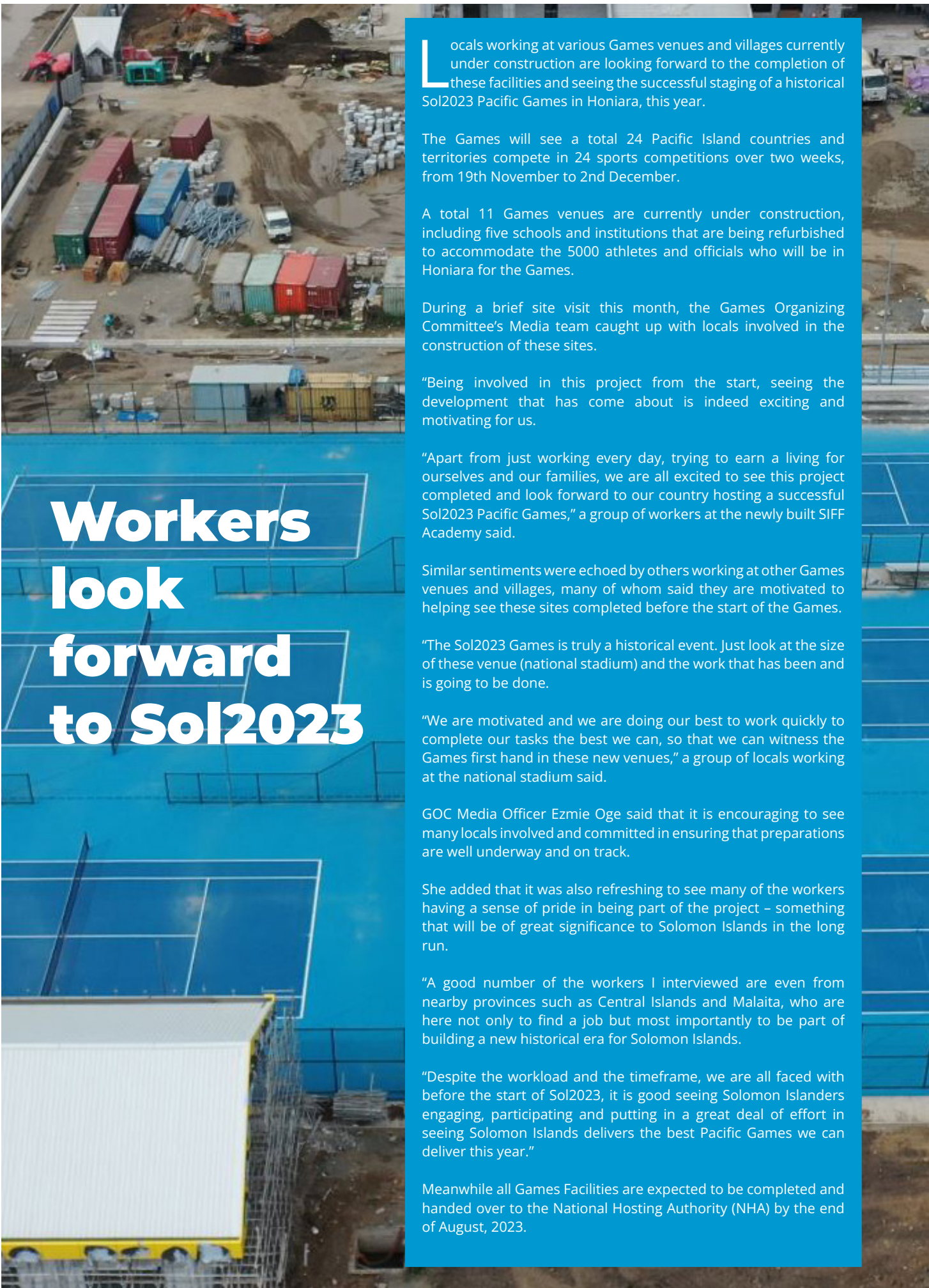
GOC Medical & Anti-Doping Service Supervisor, Duta Kauhiona said providing Doping Control services is a requirement under the Pacific Games Council Charter 2021.

"ORADO's services to the Sol2023 Pacific Games is a PGC requirement and is stipulated in the PGC Charter. Protocol 14.1 states, "The Medical Commission shall undertake an overview of the work of the Regional Anti-Doping Agency with which the OC shall have contracted to provide all doping control in accordance with WADA Code.

"ORADO will coordinate the entire doping control process, including test planning, athlete selection, athlete notification, chaperoning of athletes, sample collection, sample sealing, sample storage and provide sample with results management of any suspected positive results," Ms Kauhiona said.

The announcement was officially made by GOC Chief Executive Peter Stewart and ORADO Chief Executive Alister Stevic in front of the local media in Honiara.





Workers look forward to Sol2023

Locals working at various Games venues and villages currently under construction are looking forward to the completion of these facilities and seeing the successful staging of a historical Sol2023 Pacific Games in Honiara, this year.

The Games will see a total 24 Pacific Island countries and territories compete in 24 sports competitions over two weeks, from 19th November to 2nd December.

A total 11 Games venues are currently under construction, including five schools and institutions that are being refurbished to accommodate the 5000 athletes and officials who will be in Honiara for the Games.

During a brief site visit this month, the Games Organizing Committee's Media team caught up with locals involved in the construction of these sites.

"Being involved in this project from the start, seeing the development that has come about is indeed exciting and motivating for us.

"Apart from just working every day, trying to earn a living for ourselves and our families, we are all excited to see this project completed and look forward to our country hosting a successful Sol2023 Pacific Games," a group of workers at the newly built SIFF Academy said.

Similar sentiments were echoed by others working at other Games venues and villages, many of whom said they are motivated to helping see these sites completed before the start of the Games.

"The Sol2023 Games is truly a historical event. Just look at the size of these venue (national stadium) and the work that has been and is going to be done.

"We are motivated and we are doing our best to work quickly to complete our tasks the best we can, so that we can witness the Games first hand in these new venues," a group of locals working at the national stadium said.

GOC Media Officer Ezmie Oge said that it is encouraging to see many locals involved and committed in ensuring that preparations are well underway and on track.

She added that it was also refreshing to see many of the workers having a sense of pride in being part of the project – something that will be of great significance to Solomon Islands in the long run.

"A good number of the workers I interviewed are even from nearby provinces such as Central Islands and Malaita, who are here not only to find a job but most importantly to be part of building a new historical era for Solomon Islands.

"Despite the workload and the timeframe, we are all faced with before the start of Sol2023, it is good seeing Solomon Islanders engaging, participating and putting in a great deal of effort in seeing Solomon Islands delivers the best Pacific Games we can deliver this year."

Meanwhile all Games Facilities are expected to be completed and handed over to the National Hosting Authority (NHA) by the end of August, 2023.

Games staff visit Venues and Villages

More than a hundred Games personnel directly involved in preparations for the Sol2023 Pacific Games, have this month (May) had the opportunity to visit all Games Venues and Villages in Honiara.

Organized by the Games Organizing Committee, the site visit involved staff from GOC, the National Hosting Authority (NHA) and the Government Services Integration Committee (GSIC). "The site visit was mainly to give our staff the opportunity to see the progress of all Games facilities, ensuring everyone is well versed and informed where we are at, as far as our preparations is concerned.

"Its primary objective is to provide all our staff with valuable insights into the operations of each village and sports venue before and during this year's Games. It is also aimed at getting staff to familiarize themselves with the venues and villages firsthand.

"This is also an essential part of preparing our staff for the successful execution and delivery of the Games this year," Joseph Iniga, GOC's Village Service Manager said. The sites visited include;

Games Villages: Saint Joseph Tenaru School, Don Bosco, King George Sixth School, SINU Panatina Campus, SINU Kukum Campus and Saint Nicholas School

Games Venues: DC Park, Maranatha Hall, SIFF Academy, National Hockey Stadium, National Stadium, Aquatic Centre, National Tennis Centre, Friendship Hall, Honiara Golf Course, HCC Arena and Lawson Tama





RSIPF, CPLT complete PG2023 Security Planning Workshop

■ Police Media Unit

The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) have this month completed yet another Security Planning Workshop focused on this year's Sol2023 Pacific Games.

The workshop organized and facilitated by the China Police Liaison Team (CPLT) covers key aspects of event security planning, potential security risk analysis and management and aimed at building the capacity of the RSIPF's National Emergency Management and Special Event Planning (NEMSEP) Division.

The RSIPF has been mandated to plan, provide and coordinate all security services for this year's Games.

NEMSEP Acting Director, Inspector Harry Vanosi said the series planning workshops conducted by CPLT since the start of this year has proved very beneficial for his department staff and their planning for this year's Games.

"This PG Security Workshop provided by our Police Partners (CPLT) is and continuous to be very helpful for us and our security planning. We have been able to learn new insights and share ideas and experiences on key security planning and implementation aspects at major events the CPLT has been involved with in the past.

"Through these series of workshops, we are confident we can strategically plan and implement security that is of very high standard and expected and required at this year's Games. These workshops also help boost and build our team's capacity in preparation for Games time," Inspector Harry said.

CPLT Expert on Major Event Security Gao Yuan said, "This workshop focuses on sharing major event security command systems, main processes and key parts of major event security planning and potential risks. It is also aimed at sharing and exchanging ideas and experiences on key points of PG23 venue security planning that helps in managing and addressing these risks.

"The workshop aims to build the capacity of the RSIPF and also to assure them that CPLT will continuously support the RSIPF throughout and after the PG23 Games," Gao said.

NHA thanks Honiara residents for support in weekly City Clean-up

The Sol2023 National Hosting Authority (NHA) has commended Honiara residents for coming out and supporting the weekly Honiara City Clean-up Campaign.

Honiara has for the past two months been actively involved in weekly clean-ups throughout the City, with staff from Government Ministries and its Stakeholders, the Games Organizing Committee Staff and residents turning out every Fridays to clean up Honiara City.

Board Chair of NHA, Dr Jimmie Rodgers said, "It is indeed very encouraging to see our city's residents actively involved and participate in these weekly clean-ups.

"This is the spirit of togetherness and support the Government wishes to see from all our citizens in the country.

"I applaud and thank everyone who has taken up this initiative to support our preparations for the Games in ensuring that our City is Safe, Green and Clean," Dr Rodgers said.

Launched in March this year, the Safe, Green and Clean City Campaign is an initiative by Solomon Islands Government to get the national capital, Honiara City prepared and ready for the Games which take place between November 19th and December 2nd, this year.

Honiara is expected to host up to 10,000 both international and domestic visitors, athletes, team officials and international dignitaries during the two weeks event.



2023
PACIFIC GAMES
SOLOMON ISLANDS
CHALLENGE • CELEBRATE • UNITE

**INFO
SHEET**

THE FIRST PACIFIC GAMES IN SOLOMON ISLANDS

»» 19TH NOVEMBER - 2ND DECEMBER 2023

STAGGERING FACTS



5,000

ATHLETES



15,000

MEALS PER DAY



3,000

VOLUNTEERS



250

BUS FLEET



1,000

CONTRACTORS



3,500

BED HOTEL



60

TONNES OF WASTE
PER DAY



50

CAR FLEET

WHAT ARE THE GAMES AND HISTORY?

The Pacific Games (formerly known as the South Pacific Games) is a continental multi-sport event competing Olympic sports, with participation exclusively from archipelago countries around the Pacific Ocean. It was renamed the Pacific Games in 2015 following the inclusion of Australia & New Zealand. It is held every four years and began in 1963.



2023
PACIFIC GAMES
SOLOMON ISLANDS
CHALLENGE • CELEBRATE • UNITE

INFO SHEET

24 SPORTS »»



24 COUNTRIES »»





2023
PACIFIC GAMES
SOLOMON ISLANDS

ARE YOU GETTING READY?

24
SPORTS &
COUNTRIES



www.sol2023.com.sb