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PAPUA NEW GUINEA

A NATION IN MOTION

SPECIAL REPORT

Papua New Guinea

A Nation in Motion

Eastern Highlands Province, Papua New Guinea photo by Vika Chartier

Rich in natural resources, strategically positioned between Asia and Australia, and increasingly focused on economic diversification, Papua New Guinea is emerging as one of the Pacific region's most compelling long-term investment destinations.

Beyond the Resource Frontier

For much of its modern history, Papua New Guinea has been defined by abundance. Since independence in 1975, the country has built the Pacific Islands' largest economy on vast reserves of gold, copper, oil and natural gas. These resources have attracted international capital for decades, generating export revenues and establishing Papua New Guinea as a key global commodities supplier.

Yet the country's story extends beyond mineral wealth. Agriculture remains a major pillar, with coffee, cocoa, palm oil, fisheries and other exports supporting livelihoods and connecting rural communities to international trade. Together, these sectors have created an economy that is both resource-rich and increasingly diverse.

A Market of Opportunity

With a population exceeding 12 mil-



lion and a rapidly expanding consumer base, Papua New Guinea offers scale rarely found elsewhere in the Pacific. Urbanisation is driving demand for housing, healthcare, financial services, education, logistics and retail, creating opportunities far beyond the extractive industries.

At the same time, digitalisation is transforming business. Greater connectivity, expanding financial inclusion and improved access to technology are modernising the economy and expanding ser-

vices across a geographically diverse nation. Positioned along major trade routes between Asia and the Pacific, the country is increasingly emerging as a gateway for regional commerce and investment.

Patience Rewarded

Like many frontier markets, Papua New Guinea presents challenges. Infrastructure development remains a priority, and geography can complicate operations and logistics. Yet investors who approach the

market with patience, local understanding and long-term commitment often discover opportunities unavailable in more mature economies. Success is frequently built on trust, partnership and a long-term perspective rather than immediate returns.

Building the Next Chapter

The years ahead could prove transformative. Major resource projects are expected to drive investment and export growth, while opportunities continue expanding across agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, healthcare, financial services, technology and infrastructure. As institutions strengthen and private-sector activity grows, Papua New Guinea is steadily reinforcing its position as one of the Pacific's most promising growth markets. For investors seeking long-term value, the country offers a rare combination of natural wealth, entrepreneurial energy and untapped potential. ■

Built to Last

TE (PNG) has spent seven decades building a business that demonstrates how long-term commitment, technical capability and local expertise can turn Papua New Guinea's complexity into opportunity.



Established in Port Moresby in 1955, the company has evolved from a small trading operation into a diversified provider of communications, IT systems, electronic and security solutions and hospitality equipment. Over time, the focus has shifted from simple product distribution toward technical services, installation and long-term support—an approach designed to ensure solutions work reliably in Papua New Guinea's demanding operating environment.

"We've really grown from a box-moving company to a service business," said owner and Managing Director Robbie Huxley.

Quality and reliability remain central to that strategy. The company has built longstanding relationships with global manufacturers while ensuring that systems are supported locally. In a market where infrastructure can be unpredictable and operating conditions vary widely, the ability to maintain and service equipment in-country has become a key competitive advantage.

Investment in people has been equally important. TE (PNG) has developed a strong reputation for training local technicians, helping raise technical standards across the industry. While many eventually move on to roles in major mining, government or energy projects, the wider network they form often returns to the company when technical solutions are needed.

"As they say, What if we train them and they leave? What if we don't train them and they stay?" Huxley said.

Connectivity represents the next major frontier. As new satellite technologies expand coverage across remote regions, improved digital infrastructure could unlock opportunities in sectors ranging from healthcare and education to agriculture and mining. TE (PNG) is already working on next-generation connectivity solutions designed to bring reliable communications to some of the country's most isolated locations.

For international investors, the company's story reflects a broader reality. Papua New Guinea remains a challenging market, but it also offers significant opportunity for businesses prepared to invest locally and think long term. "PNG is the land of opportunity," Huxley concludes with a smile. ■



«Papua New Guinea presents complexity, but with that complexity comes substantial value for disciplined and well-advised investors.»

MIKE QUINN DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONALS REAL ESTATE



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