



December 19th, 2019

Alumnus Information

Name:	Gibson Ali HOLEMBA
Country:	Papua New Guinea
Organization:	Department of Works & Implementation, Design Services Division
Current Position:	Acting First Assistant Secretary (Design Services)
Training Period (Batch):	August 2016 – March 2019 (First Batch)
University:	Hokkaido University, Graduate School of Engineering, Sapporo, Japan
Research Theme:	Failure Analysis and Design Improvement Proposal for Flood-Damaged Bridges in Papua New Guinea

Knowledge, Skills, and Experiences Acquired in Pacific LEADS Program.

Dear all Pacific LEADS Participants across the blue Pacific and Japan, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2020 greetings to you all from the island of Papua New Guinea. I am Gibson Ali HOLEMBA, a Master of Engineering graduate of Hokkaido University, Graduate School of Engineering specializing in the field of Bridge and Structural Engineering. During my study, I acquired key engineering knowledge and technology in terms of structural design, infrastructure maintenance, transportation planning, contract management and many civil engineering subjects. Most of all, in my research work, I have learned in addressing flood damaged infrastructures such as bridges in providing safe and reliable road network for the people.

Application of the Training

From my research work, I am now developing “A Guide to Flood Resistant Bridge Design in Papua New Guinea” to be used for bridge design in the country. I have conducted two engineering seminars with Geoscience Australia in Earthquake Engineering Design and just recently my Sensei Professor Takashi MATSUMOTO and four other researchers from Japan visited Papua New Guinea and we had the first-ever bridge and structural engineering seminar in the country. I am conducting seminars to educate others and pass on the knowledge to young engineers in PNG.

Future Career Plan and Message

I was just promoted from Provincial Works Manager in a province to a more senior role in the organization as the Acting First Assistant Secretary for Design Services Division. Hence, I will concentrate on improving a lot of engineering design and compliance issues and develop more standards. I plan to develop the Bridge Design Manual for Papua New Guinea as we are currently using Australian Bridge Design Standard (AS5100) since independence. Therefore, I would like to encourage active Pacific LEADS participants in Japan to learn more, be smart, aim high, and identify development challenges in our pacific island nations and provide mitigation measures to address them and make the blue Pacific a better place to live on earth.



Figure 1. Wishing you all my Love for this Christmas & New Year