



SHARING OUR LEGACY: ENGAGING WITH PNG COMMUNITIES



"This trip was amazing. The other students and staff were amazing and the friendships formed will never be forgotten. Our location for the internship was incredible and the local people equally the same."

OVERVIEW

Engage in a global experience funded by the New Colombo Plan (NCP). This immersive, short-term program in Papua New Guinea (PNG) will provide Western Sydney students from all disciplines with the opportunity to travel to PNG for a 14-day study tour.

Based in the Sogeri community in Central Province the program will showcase and highlight our important war history and the legacy that we share. Students will connect with a diverse group of local organisations including Network Kokoda, Sogeri Community Resource Centre and Iarowari High School and work on real world research projects on local challenges aligned to their area of interest and/or discipline for credit.

DESTINATION:

Sogeri, Papua New Guinea

TRAVEL DATES:

27th June - 10th July 2020 (TBC)

SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE:

\$3,000 per student to cover your travel to PNG

NUMBER OF AVAILABLE SPOTS:

Funds are available for up to 15 eligible students

ACADEMIC CREDIT:

Students are required to enrol in an approved unit in Spring 2020 as part of the eligibility requirements. Please see more details below.

ONLINE APPLICATION DUE DATE:

[Submissions](#) close on Sunday, 29th March 2020.

QUESTIONS:

Please contact Sustainable Futures on sustainability@westernsydney.edu.au

WHO CAN APPLY?

- Undergraduate students enrolled in **any discipline** at Western Sydney University
- Have a valid passport with at least 6 months' validity at the time of travel. (No passport? That's OK!)
- Able to complete an approved unit attached to this trip
- Meet the further NCP eligibility requirements set by the Australian Government. See full details on next page.

WHY APPLY?

- Receive a funded travel grant which looks great on your CV.
- Enhance your career prospects - employers look on international experiences favorably.
- Gain academic credit for the trip.
- Learn and gain valuable skills and experience while traveling abroad.

Please read **Smart Traveller** before applying to ensure this destination is right for you.

FUNDED BY:



NEW COLOMBO PLAN

Connect to Australia's future - study in the region

MOBILITY PARTNER:



"The ascent up that last hill of the track will remain one of my fondest memories of this trip. To have successfully completed such a task has really reiterated for me that with some positive thoughts and determination the human body is capable of amazing things. We have spoken of how artefacts and people make places. In contrast, completing this small portion of the track has shown how places, and our interaction with places, can keep history and memories alive."



WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE \$3,000 TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP?

- Return economy airfares to/from Sydney
- Twin-shared basic accommodation in a secure compound with shared bathroom facilities
- Most meals daily
- Select tours and local guides
- Private transport while in-country to all activities/visits
- Academic support and supervision during the program
- WSU Corporate Travel Insurance

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE TO PAY FOR?

- Dinners some nights
- Other meals/snacks/beverages not included in your itinerary
- Any personal expenses/purchases
- Visa (required for travel to PNG)
- Passport renewal/application (if applicable)
- Vaccinations (consult your Doctor)

Your trip budget will depend on your lifestyle. We recommend to all our students to take around AUD\$300-\$500 for in-country expenses.

NCP ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Outlined by DAFT, to be eligible to apply for funding applicants must:

- be an Australian citizen. Applicants cannot undertake an NCP Scholarship in a host location in which they hold dual citizenship or permanent residency or in which they have previously been a citizen or permanent resident;
- be currently enrolled in units at Western Sydney University, and have completed at least 60 Western Sydney University credit points;
- be undertaking a Bachelor Degree or Bachelor Honours Degree during the scholarship period;
- be between the ages of 18 - 28 years old (exceptions may apply)
- not be a previous recipient of a New Colombo Plan Scholarship; and
- enrol in an approved unit of study for academic credit, preferably [102212 Internship and Community Engagement](#).

UNIT OF STUDY

This trip is supported via the unit [102212 Internship and Community Engagement](#) (ICE). This unit aims to provide students with an opportunity to develop professional identity through exposure to workplaces, community settings or research project related to their chosen field of study. Students will be encouraged to identify, examine and discuss the multiplicity of leadership factors in such environments while providing work experience.

Students must enrol in **Spring session 2020** as a mandatory requirement of travel. Exemptions have been made for non-Academy students to undertake this unit as part of the trip. Students must have a minimum GPA of 5.0 to enroll in the unit (but exceptions may apply on a case-by-case basis).

Science students can either enrol in Internship and Community Engagement as an elective, or please discuss alternate unit offerings with [Associate Professor Ricky Spencer](#) before applying.



SUSTAINABILITY IN ACTION PROJECTS IN PNG

“Reflecting back on this trip I gained many professional skills like team work, interpersonal skills, more holistic way of thinking, communicating with others of a different language. I highly recommend this experience.”

“I learnt about being a scientist, improved my public speaking and I am now more confident in myself and wanting to take opportunities which put me out of my comfort zone.”

Students will have the opportunity to work on internships in the Sogeri Community connected with fish farming, river health, food and nutrition and women’s community development.

Research projects will be arranged on your behalf through this trip. You will work in a small team of students under supervision from a Western Sydney staff member. Students will be each expected to work up to 30-hours at home (pre and post-trip) and 30-hours in country (on-site in PNG) for those undertaking ICE.

These projects are connected with Network Kokoda, Rotary Club of Richmond and Iarowari High School.



DRAFT TRIP ITINERARY: 2020

Tentative travel dates are **Saturday, 27th June to Friday, 10th July 2020 (TBC)**. Please note day-day activities are subject to change, and travel dates are dependent on flight availability and still to be confirmed. It is expected students will participate in all scheduled activities. A detailed itinerary will be provided to accepted students closer to the travel dates.

DATE	ACTIVITY
Saturday, 27 th June	Travel Day (Fly Sydney to PNG, Port Moresby). Check into hotel.
Sunday, 28 th June	Check out of hotel. Guided Tours including the National Museum and Art Gallery and Bomana War Cemetery, Port Moresby. Travel via bus and check in at Sogeri Lodge, Sogeri
Monday, 29 th June	Guided Tour to Port Moresby Nature Park, Sogeri
Tuesday, 30 th June	School Visits and Discussions, Sogeri
Wednesday, 1 st July	Cultural Activities and Discussions, Sogeri
Thursday, 2 nd July	Site Visits and Research Project Orientation, Sogeri Fish Farm Summit
Friday, 3 rd July	Full day trek on Kokoda Track (Owens Corner to Imita Ridge). Overnight camp at Goldie River camp site
Saturday, 4 th July	Half day trek back to Owens Corner. Afternoon leisure time at local Rugby League game
Sunday, 5 th July	Morning Tour to Varirata National Park (optional). Project preparation and rest time, Sogeri
Monday, 6 th July to Thursday, 9 th July	Student research projects (4 days in the field), Sogeri
Friday, 10 th July	Travel Day (Fly back to Sydney). Arrival back in Sydney. Conclusion of program.

Safety and security: Students are not permitted to leave accommodation sites at any time unless under the supervision of a Western Sydney staff member with local guide or as part of a scheduled activities listed in the itinerary. You will not be provided with time for independent exploration while on this study tour. You will be locked down in secure accommodation. Please read [Smart Traveller](#) website.

Kokoda Track: This is one of the most challenging tracks in the world. Students will need a high level of fitness and determination, good hiking boots and be prepared to camp with very basic facilities. The group will be led by experienced tour guides.



TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

- Students must ensure they possess a current passport with 6 months validity after date of return. No passport yet? No problem.
- Students without a passport or an expired passport must provide proof of lodgment for a new one with their application.
- Students require a visa for travel to PNG and are responsible for applying and obtaining one prior to departure. More details will be provided to accepted students.
- The University will make all travel bookings and arrangements on behalf of the students. We will keep students informed as relevant details emerge.
- Students are covered by Wetsern Sydney University travel insurance for the duration of the program as stipulated in the itinerary. Any personal activities outside of the scheduled itinerary may not be covered (like adventure sports) and should be done under their own insurance.

CANCELLATION AND FUNDING

- In the event that the program is canceled prior to departure due to

unforeseen circumstances or safety issues, students will not incur a cost for this program.

- Should a student decide to cancel after being accepted they may be required to reimburse the trip amount, or portion of, up to the value of AUD\$3,000.
- Should a student not complete the unit assigned to this trip they may be required to reimburse the trip amount, or portion of, up to the value of AUD\$3,000.
- A formal application to withdraw from the study tour must be emailed to the Sustainable Futures team in a timely manner with justification or certificates attached.

WHAT ELSE DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

- Application process is highly competitive and applications are assessed on their content. Spots are limited. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.
- Students are only eligible to receive **one** NCP mobility scholarship during their entire undergraduate degree.
- Students must have a moderate-high level of fitness for the Kokoda

Trail and all other activities.

- Students must participate in a mandatory per-departure workshop prior to the study tour.
- Students must attend post trip events and/or to give a short presentation about their travel experience.
- Students will be expected to participate in reflective activities while overseas.
- Students with pre-existing medical issues are strongly advised to contact their health practitioner before applying. By accepting this travel opportunity, students indicate that they are fit and able to participate in all travel related activities. Students are asked to disclose any medical conditions to staff prior to traveling that may impact on the program.
- As a representative of Western Sydney University students are at all times subject to the Student Code of Conduct, Travel Policy and Misconduct Rule Policy.
- **Please read [Smart Traveller website](#) for further information regarding travel in PNG before applying to ensure this destination is right for you.**

READY TO APPLY?

Please complete your [expression of interest form](#) online to apply. Please fill out all three sections (personal details, motivations for applying and confirmation) and submit before the submission date. It will take you approximately 15 minutes to complete. No incomplete submissions will be reviewed.

ONLINE APPLICATION CLOSE ON SUNDAY, 29TH MARCH 2020

QUESTIONS ABOUT APPLYING, ELIGIBILITY OR THE TRIP?

Please contact Helen Angelakis from Sustainable Futures on sustainability@westernsydney.edu.au or call (02) 4570 1000 with your inquiry.

Our business hours are Monday - Friday, 8am to 4pm.

IMPORTANT DATES

Online application period	2 nd March - 29 th March
Students notified of outcome	6 th April (dependent on OI)
Pre-Departure workshop	30 th April (TBC)
Arrival in Papua New Guinea	27 th June (TBC)
Return to Sydney	10 th July (TBC)
Post-trip workshop	August (TBC)