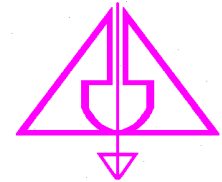


57th ANNUAL SURVEY CONGRESS

“Traversing the future: An evolutionary look at the survey industry-
past, present, and future”



Office of the Surveyor General: Roles and Challenges



Presented by:

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BACKGROUND

- ❑ Office of Surveyor General is one of the core divisions of the Department of Lands & Physical Planning that looks after all survey matters in Papua New Guinea

- ❑ The Office plays a pivotal role in economic development of the PNG.
 - Coordination of Geodetic Framework- That allows fixed positioning of infrastructure on the ground to avoid quick deterioration.

 - Registration of Cadastral survey- creating legal land parcels to increase the volume of land for economic development

 - Management of DCDB, Place Names and PSMs– the geospatial datasets that provide base data in which other social and economic datasets can be added onto for comprehensive land use planning and decision making.



LAWS AND POLICIES

SURVEY LAWS

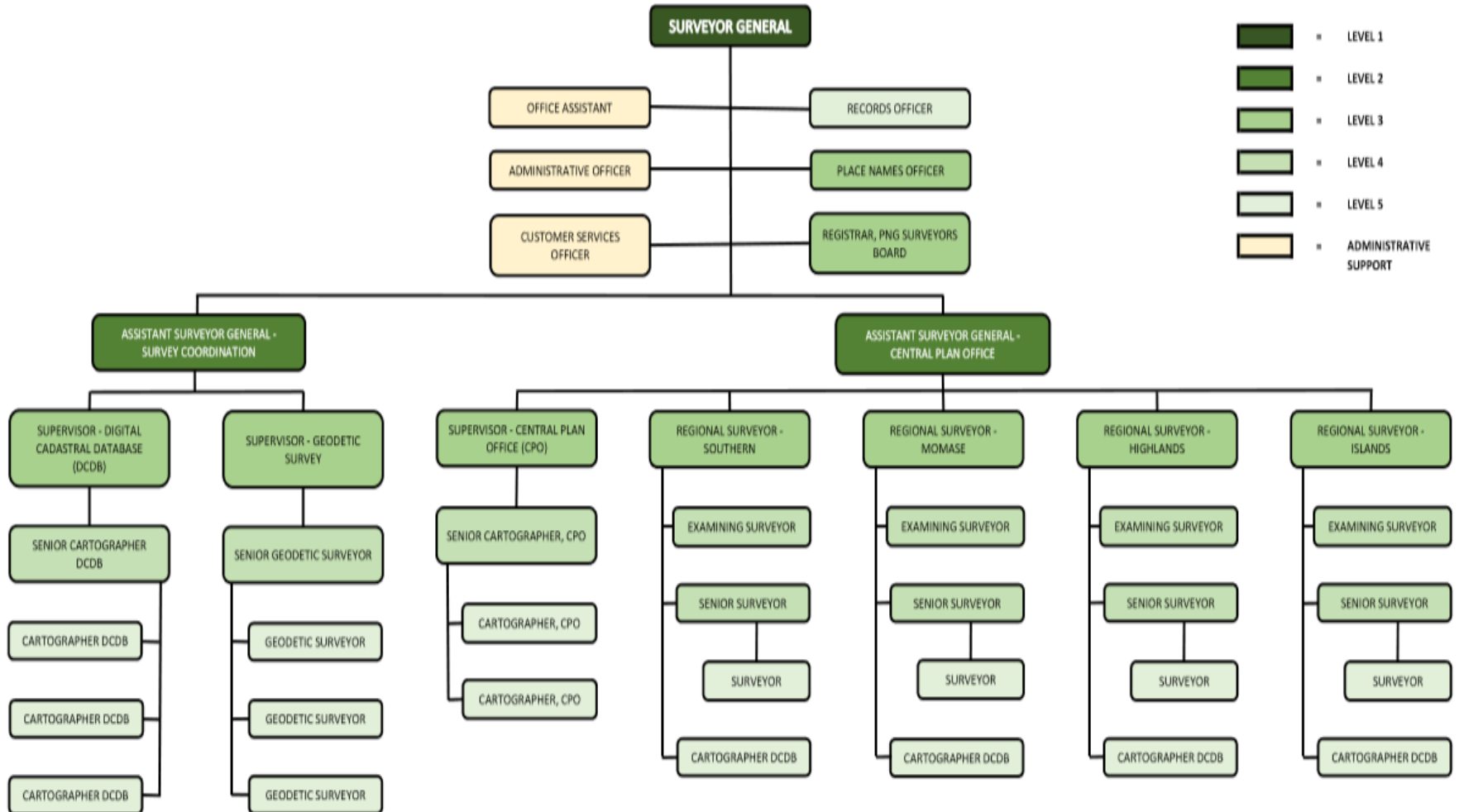
- Survey Act, 1969
- Survey Coordination Act, 1967
- Survey Regulation Act, 1970
- Survey Directions, 1990
- Place Names Act, 1965

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS, SURVEY ACTIVITIES ALIGN TO;

- Vision 2050: Pillar 2: Wealth Creation, improving productivity and ensuring that local communities benefit from land resources. This aligns with initiative aimed at developing land for agriculture, infrastructure, and other economic activity.
- MTDP IV, Strategic Priority Area 1 (Deliberate Intervention Program 10), Land Development, increasing volume of legal land parcel for productive utilisation to unlock its economic potential and engage land owners in the formal market and, SPA 10 (DIP 2), Promote PNG's Environment Sustainability.
- Department of Lands & Physical Planning Corporate Plan 2023 to 2027 Key Results Area 5, which states to provide reliable and accurate surveying and mapping services to ensure that there are orderly processes for land transactions



OSG CURRENT STRUCTURE



- LEVEL 1
- LEVEL 2
- LEVEL 3
- LEVEL 4
- LEVEL 5
- ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT



Roles and Responsibilities

OSG encompasses the fields of surveying and cartography in four main sections within the division.

- 1) Digital Cadastral Database (DCDB)**
- 2) Geodetic Survey**
- 3) Central Plan Office**
- 4) Regional Offices – Southern, Highlands, Northern & Islands.**

Attached to OSG is the PNG Surveyors Board and PNG Place Names Committee.



Roles and Responsibilities con..

- ❑ **PNG Surveyors Board functions to control and regulate the survey profession, surveying companies and the Registered Surveyors of Papua New Guinea.**
 - Total of fifty-one (51) active Registered Surveyors
 - Four (4) compliant survey companies
 - The Board currently hosts five (5) members. Three (3) private Registered Surveyors and two (2) from the Office of the Surveyor General. Annual registration fee is still at Fifty Kina (K50)
 - Number of Surveyors Registered, 1 in 2019, 2(2021), 1 (2022), 2 (2023) and 2 (in 2024).
 - Raised K8,300.00 for ASPNG this year, from the collection of K100 for each survey files lodged.
- ❑ **PNG Place Names Committee role is to make better provision for the naming of places in PNG.**
 - Surveyor General is the Chairman of the Committee, the Committee is made up of representative from PM&NEC, NSO, Dept of Works, Culture & Tourism, Provincial & LLG Government Affairs, National Museum and National Mapping Bureau
 - All Provincial Authorities are requested to proposed names of newly built developments (roads, subdivision, airports, wharves etc.) to the Committee.



Roles and Responsibilities Cont..

Central Plan Office (CPO)

The Central Plan Office major activities are centered around the registration of survey plans.

Main functions:

- Quality control for cadastral survey plan registration including mining surveys.
- Section 7, 9, 11 & 13 Declaration Notices (Settlement Claim)
- Section 201 Declaration Notices (Road Closure)
- Section 5 Declaration Notices (Underwater Lease)
- Section 24 Notices (Land Titles Commission)
- Minute for Lands File creation
- Allocation of Legal Cadastral Description (LCD)



Roles and Responsibilities Cont....

Digital Cadastral Database (DCDB)

- The DCDB major activity is capturing of registered land parcels , state and customary in PNG into the database.
- Requires collection and conversion of information from paper based cadastral survey plans into a digital format.
- DCDB is currently updating registered cadastral surveys throughout PNG.

Geodetic Survey

Geodetic Survey plays a pivotal role in laying the foundations for other types of survey – engineering, cadastral, mining as well as other forms of development

- Its purpose is to maintain and reinforce the National Geodetic Control Network in PNG.
- Management of PSMs database, and coordinate registration of new marks.



Roles and Responsibilities Cont..

Regional Offices

Four regional offices;

- **Southern** (Western, Gulf, Central, NCD, Milne Bay)
- **Highlands** (Eastern Highlands, Western Highlands, Southern Highlands, Chimbu, Enga, Jiwaka, Hela)
- **Northern** (West Sepik, East Sepik, Madang, Morobe, Northern [Oro])
- **Islands** (West New Britain, East New Britain, New Ireland, Manus, Autonomous Region of Bougainville)
- Regional office have complete staff and are station at HQ with required equipment to perform their work appropriately.
- Currently lodgment of survey files and survey plans are processed through Central Plan Office (CPO) and attended to by the respective regional officers responsible and the CPO officers.



MAIN ISSUES

Increasing error in survey coordination and drafting

- Boundary encroachment
- Displacement of coordinates- calculation for all traverse accuracy etc.
- Incomplete field report
- Non-registered using registered surveyors- registered not doing their checks well before lodging survey files

Surveys not lodge with required documents

- Referenced survey plans
- Physical planning approval
- Approval for encroaching into titled areas
- Authorization for customary landowners for customary land survey/ILG consent

Surveys are done via drone, handheld GPS or desktop mechanisms.

- Example, Use of handheld GPS in built-up areas.



CURRENT INITIATIVES TAKEN TO IMPROVE SURVEY COORDINATION

LODGEMENT OF SURVEY FILES AND PLANS

- SURVEY FILES TO BE RECEIVED BY THE CUSTOMER SERVICE OFFICER.
- FILES ISSUED RECORD NUMBER & SIGNED BY REGIONAL SURVEYOR
- SURVEY FILES LODGED FOR REGISTRATION MUST COME WITH AUTOCAD DRAWING FILES ATTACHED.
- CHECKS FOR COORDINATION, SCALE AND ENCROACHMENT CARRIED OUT USING SUBMITTED AUTOCAD DRAWINGS.
- SURVEY FILE AND PLAN ACCEPTED FOR EXAMINATION/REGISTRATION
- EXAMINATION PROCESS CONTINUES

VERIFICATION OF PSM SKETCHES BEFORE REGISTRATION OF SURVEY PLANS

IMMEDIATE RECORDING, SCANNING AND FILING OF REGISTERED SURVEY FILES AND PLANS



CURRENT INITIATIVES TAKEN TO IMPROVE SURVEY COORDINATION

- ALL CLANS INTENDING TO REGISTER THEIR ILG ARE ADVISE TO UNDERTAKE THE FOLLOWING PROCESSES;**
 - Engage District surveyor or customary lands officer to go on- site, walk the boundary and identify clan land boundary using handheld GPS
 - Develop a ILG Sketch Map and field report
 - Consent letter from the chairman
 - Letter from ward counselor confirming the verification of boundary
 - Signing of Sketch Map by Provincial Surveyor
 - Lodging of sketch map with the mentioned documents for registration at Office of Surveyor General
- ALL PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES TO PROPOSE NAMES OF NEW SUBDIVISION TO PLACE NAMES COMMITTEE THROUGH OSG FOR APPROVAL**



Conclusion and recommendation

- Going forward OSG to immediately reject survey file that does not include required documents, and that has error.
- Provincial Surveyors to work in partnership with OSG to verify large cadastral survey before registration
- Immediate rejection of ILG Sketch Map not endorse by provincial surveyors
- OSG To Establish strong linkages with stakeholders, and relevant state institutions for effective updating and sharing of survey data to boost survey coordination in the country .



The end!

Thank you

Q & A